



WEST CAP BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Monday, April 10, 2023

6:30 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Phil Verges, Dawn Christie, Kari Ives, Paula Lugar, Christian Blaisdell, Vaughn Hedlund, Barbara McAfee, Jane Jafferi, Paul Hoch, and Pam Fall.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Isaak Abdi Mohamed, Tony Willkom, Greg Tellijohn, Randy Dean, Lynn Paatalo, Chris Holtkamp, and Kwase Golliday.

STAFF/GUEST PRESENT: Peter Kilde, Tim Mather, Lisa Smith, and Kristen Curvello

Business Meeting

1. **Call To Order:** President Phil Verges called the meeting to order at 6:39 P.M.
2. **Action on the Consent Agenda:** President Verges asked Board members to review the consent agenda including March 13th minutes, Program Report, Weatherization Report, Financial Report, and Grant Applications.

Barbara McAfee made a motion to accept the consent agenda; Paul Hoch seconded. Motion carried.

3. Updates

- a. **Program Highlights** – Tim Mather shared that the regular Energy Assistance season ends May 15th, but the past month we have been processing applications the same day we receive them. We are also doing outreach to those who applied last year but have not yet this year. 5,300 applications processed by the team at this point, nearly 2,000 more than the same time last year. They also processed over 253 furnace emergencies, most of which happen after hours as someone is always on call 24/7. WERA is still at a stand still. The agency call volume is currently close to an average of 200 per day. At the EA season open, we had over 1,100 calls per day. Homeless Intervention is winding down the Dunn County Transitional program – it ends December 31st. Current staff in that program will transition to other HIP programs. Tim shared a success story from Stephanie Stark's Literacy program, and a returning Skills Enhancement client.

Vaughn also shared a story about a lady who had a furnace go out in Cumberland and was very happy with the help West CAP was able to give.

- b. **Financial Report** – Lisa Smith, Chief Financial Officer, provided an overview of the current financial information provided in the consent agenda through February 2023. This month included a new report on revenue budget to actual, which she reviewed in greater detail since the report was new.
- c. **Executive Director's Report** – Peter Kilde, Executive Director, joined us in person.

Update from DC –Legislation is a bit challenging these days, especially anything requiring bi-partisan support and related to funding. Expectation is again a Continuing Resolution at the end of the budget cycle, and possibly a year-long to get well into the next election season. Had some good conversations with staff from Senators Baldwin and Johnson and Congressman Van Orden while in DC.

1300 Residences in River Falls is becoming quite the star. It will be featured in a 4-minute video that was filmed. They also visited Melissa at the Food Pantry in Boyceville, and Kwase at our deep-retrofitted duplex in Menomonie. The rooftop solar panels did not fare well in the deep snow this winter at Dakota Meadows. Eau Claire Prairie Heights project will be tentatively closing next week and may be able to utilize geo-thermal. Xcel Energy does not want to allow this project to have a single electric meter like we have in 1300 and Dakota Meadows which makes this project much more expensive for the residents and on the construction side. Ellsworth Meadowlark Eco-Cottages quite confident of funding, and now with 17 acres and plan to be net zero or even carbon negative. Should hear about the tax credit award later this month. Still waiting on Santa Clara...May 31st closing set at this time.

We will have a booth at the Earth Fest event in River Falls on April 22nd. We will also connect with Wi Farmer's Union at "Economics of Renewable Energy" event at Northwood Tech in Rice Lake tomorrow.

Peter shared that at the National Community Action Partnership meeting, he will be spearheading an initiative to develop trainings and resources to help the network's agencies adapt to climate change.

April 24-25, David Bradley will virtually present his "War on Poverty Workshop." This condensed history of Community Action is open for anyone interested in learning more about how we got here. If you are interested in attending, let Peter know. Cost is \$200, but well worth it.

4. Committee Reports:

- a. **Executive/Board Affairs.** Several openings in multiple counties for low-income reps. Proposing raising the per diem from \$100 up to \$150 per meeting. May 8th will be our Annual meeting again at Jake's Supper Club. Conflict of Interest for board member who applied for Energy Assistance. Peter's performance evaluation was Exceeds Expectations.

Paul Hoch made a motion to approve raising the per diem up to \$150 per meeting for low-income representatives beginning May; Barbara McAfee seconded. Motion carried.

Jane Jafferri made a motion to approve Peter's performance review of Exceeds Expectations; Paula Lugar seconded. Motion carried.

- b. **Finance.** The finance committee reviewed the tax return (990, 990T, and State return) and are recommending that the board approve to file the return. Lisa explained the tax returns and gave an overview of the information provided in the returns, specifically highlighting changes from last year.

Christian Blaisdell made a motion to approve the tax return for filing; Jane Jafferri seconded. Motion carried.

- c. **Judicare.** None

5. New Business:

- a. Renew 51805, Magnolia Property – option 2. Renew for 60 months. Monthly payments of \$1,338. 8.25% interest. Paid off at end of 60 months.
- b. Renew 72906, Misty Lane Property – option 2. Renew for 60 months. 8.25% interest. Monthly payments of \$813. Paid off at end of 60 months.

Jane Jafferi made a motion to approve option 2 for both properties; Vaughn Hedlund seconded. Motion carried.

6. Adjournment: President Phil Verges adjourned the meeting. 7:57pm

Respectfully Submitted by Kristen Curvello, Recording Secretary for Kwase Golliday, Board Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristen Curvello". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name of the Recording Secretary.