

# **WSNA Meeting Minutes**

April 18, 2022,

# **Call Meeting to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 7:01PM

#### **AGENDA**

Agenda was reviewed and no additions were made to the agenda

Motion was made by E.M to approve agenda and second by Leroy, motion passed.

#### **Minutes Approval**

No corrections, deletions or additions were made to the February minutes. Matt made a motion to approve the minutes and second by Jason and motion passed.

#### **Discussions**

#### Kathleen Harder

She is running for congress for the new district, Kathleen provided background on herself, expanded on mental care stated that we need to work on physical and mental health, also need to work on climate change and closed on stating 9 people running for this office and she is the only person from the Salem area.

# **Rep Evans**

2022 Session Toplines:

Of the 131 total votes on the House Floor during the 2022 Legislative Session

- 31 (23.66%) votes were unanimous
- 78 votes (59.54%) Bipartisan (w/3 or more Republican)
- 12 votes (9.16%) Bipartisan (<3 Republican votes)
- 10 votes (7.63%) Party line vote

 Rep. Evans voting record 136 (91.89%) Ayes 12 Nay (8.1%) 2 Excused for House Business

#### Addressing Homelessness:

We continue to address the homelessness and affordable housing crisis we face with proven solutions. I supported targeted investments: connecting people with shelter and critical services, innovative partnerships to increase the supply of affordable housing, and support for Oregonians. We secured opportunities for micro-shelter communities on existing state lands (HB 4037 Chief Sponsored by Hoy we were a Regular Sponsor). I Co-Chief Sponsored House Bill 4123 to improve regional coordination of services in rural communities (Polk County is one of the selected counties for this pilot). These efforts will make a real difference for real people.

### Stronger Schools:

Our kids learn best in safe, healthy classroom alongside their peers, which is why I'm committed to keeping schools open. We must provide our teachers, school staff, and students with resources or success, so I supported a \$300M investment in K-12 schools. We will provide more summer learning experiences, improve workforce shortages, and expand the availability of school counselors, mental health professionals, and necessary support staff for all students. The 2022 Legislative Session made real progress for our students and schools.

#### Disaster Preparedness:

House Bill 4068 reformed our emergency preparedness systems, by establishing training requirements for appointed and elected leaders, implementing regular scenario-based exercises, and building a statewide stockpile of critical resources. This completes the work we started in 2021 with House Bill 2927.

## Supporting Working Families and Small Businesses:

Working families and small businesses remain the backbone of Oregon's economy. This session focused on expanding broadband access to help our businesses compete in the global marketplace. We also recognize the critical value of accessible capital for small businesses, so we passed legislation to make small business capital more accessible through Business Oregon. We made investments in infrastructure, supporting both local economies and creating jobs, and we invested in career pathways and proven programs to attract, retain, and sustain workers in sectors experiencing worker shortages. Oregon businesses will be more competitive because of the 2022 Legislative Session.

# **House District 20: 2022 Session Investments**

- \$80,000 to the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks Independence, Lodge No. 1950 for Veterans' Outreach
- \$525,000 to the City of Monmouth to support the skate park replacement and park improvements
- \$540,388 to the City of Salem for the Salem Municipal Airport upgrade
- \$695,000 Western Oregon University Student Success Center
- \$996,262 to the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency to support their homeless shelter projects
- \$1 million for the Ella Curran Food Bank expansion
- \$1.5 million to the Salem Housing Authority for Yaquina Hall
- \$2 million for the City of Independence to support the 9th Lift Station upgrade
- \$2.4 million for Marion-Polk Food Share for the AWARE Food Bank
- \$5.15 million to the City of Salem for shelter services and infrastructure (hygiene services and homeless outreach)
- \$16.5 million for Western Oregon University to support their main steam line project

### **Upcoming Town Halls!**

- April 26th at 5:30pm located at Center 50+, 2615 Portland Rd NE, Salem, OR 97301
- May 3rd at 6:00pm located at Loucks Auditorium at the Salem Library, 645 Liberty St SE, Salem, Oregon 97301

### Food Insecurity in West Salem:

Our office participated in a community meeting around Food Insecurity in West Salem at the Foursquare Church hosted by Polk County and attended by several community partners on Thursday, March 31st. The conversation revealed a lot of gaps in West Salem around food availability. Currently, there are only six places to access food in West Salem; they are all in churches and are usually not accessible after work hours or during the weekends. The county has put together a survey to collect data on this issue. I would encourage you to feel it out. Our office is looking at potential legislative fixes to make the process of expanding food banks easier as well as grants and other opportunities to support the county and organizations committed to addressing this issue.

Follow up with requests from West Salem Neighborhood Association

#### Officer Kofoid

Provided updates on Wallace Marine Park and the homeless that they have been relocated, provide an update on recent crimes in the area.

Discussed how the police department is in the process deciding which type of body camera to purchase

Polk county jail has space to take people now.

# Chair (Mike)

Discussed how we would like to move away from Facebook and our in the process of designing a Web page and we are looking for looking for some help from the community. We re also going to obtain quotes from web designers and bring back to the community for discussion and vote approval.

# **Next Meeting:**

Our next meeting has been moved from Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May starting at 7:00 PM

The purpose of moving the meeting is to allow the community to listen to the city council discuss the upcoming Bond

Meeting was adjourned