

Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation  
Board of Director's Meeting  
TVDS Administrative Office, 521 W. 35<sup>th</sup> CH Pkwy, Chanute, KS 66720/Zoom  
June 24, 2025

Present: Judy Brigham, Sandi Eggers, Vic Anderson, Lynette Emmerson, Joel Porter, Joel Norris, Mike Hofer, Lary Coleman Bill Fiscus

Not Present: Phil Newkirk, Steve Sewell, Mike Reid

Staff Present: Joe O'Rourke, Lea Chickadonz, Tricia Campbell

1. Call to Order

Chair Judy Brigham called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. Adoption of Agenda

The next meeting should be September 23, 2025. Motion made to adopt the agenda as amended (Joel Porter/Sandi Eggers). Motion passed.

3. Minutes

The minutes from the March 25, 2025 meeting were presented. Motion made to accept minutes as presented (Vic Anderson/Mike Hofer). Motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Lea Chickadonz, VP of Administration presented the financial report for the period ending May 31<sup>st</sup>. Motion made to accept treasurer's report (Mike/Joel). Motion passed.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 Program Report

Bill Fiscus, CEO, gave the programming report for Melissa Cannon-Smith, VP of Programming, as she was unavailable.

- Two staff have completed the course work and on-the-job training for the DSP+ Apprenticeship Program, which leaves just one from the inaugural class working to complete the program. Eight staff have signed up for the new program, which starts this fall. The DSP+ Apprenticeship program is sponsored by a grant through InterHab and the Kansas Department of Commerce.
- Tri-Valley's state license expires in one week. The state surveyor completed her review last month; we have not heard from her. We expect to receive a one-year license.
- On September 4, 2025, Brenda Harrison, Programming Director, will retire. She began her career with Tri-Valley on September 4, 1990. It is fitting that she is retiring on her 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Melissa and Lea have interviews scheduled for next week to find her successor.

## 5.2 Operations Report

- Joe O'Rourke, VP of Operations, reported that he is in the process of replacing several big items such as appliances, HVAC systems, and vehicles for Tri-Valley.
- Thanks to a grant through KDADS, Tri-Valley will be able to purchase vehicles, create a sensory room in Chanute, and add ADA complaint doors to the service centers.
- Tri-Valley has a fleet of 65 vehicles. Out of these 65 vehicles, thirteen are connected to KDOT. In the past five years, twenty-seven high mileage vehicles have been replaced. In a year's time, Tri-Valley staff will travel 595,000 miles in company vehicles. The average vehicle's mileage is 95,000. Judy asked about the process used to determine vehicle replacement. When deciding which vehicles to sell, Joe looks at the year, mileage, and past repair history.
- On June 30<sup>th</sup>, a crew is coming to lay new vinyl flooring at the Moline Service Center. The building was built in 1910.
- We have a roofing project underway in Fort Scott.

## 5.3 Administration Report

- On Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, Tri-Valley staff will attend final rule trainings. KDADS is providing the trainings, which are from 9 am to 3 pm.
- Lea received notification that Elk County Development Corporation's annual HUD review will be on July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- All six HUD rooms are filled at Brentwood. The new housemate's HUD voucher went into effect on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Brentwood still has one room available, but it is not part of the HUD program.
- Lea was excited to announce that Tri-Valley hired an Employee Relations Coordinator, a position which has been in the works for over one year. While interviewing applicants for another position, the perfect candidate was found. Brenden Spillman accepted the position and began the first of June. His job is to serve as a staff liaison and find resources for staff. Brenden has worked with 4 County Mental Health and plans to continue his education in the mental health field. His main goal is to become a social worker. Melissa and Lea are both very excited about Brenden and the possibilities for this new position.

## 5.4 CEO

- Bill gave an update on this year's legislative session.
  - The legislature approved funding for 200 persons to come off the waiting list.

- The legislature approved a 1.67% rate increase. Though InterHab was advocating for a larger increase, we are pleased that the system received an increase, some areas were not so lucky.
- As was mentioned during the Operations report, Tri-Valley was awarded a day services grant from KDADS. The grant award was in the amount of \$140,887 and must be spent between July 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>. The unbundling grant will be used for the following:
  - Purchase three vehicles
  - Vehicle maintenance
  - 20 tablets for community outings
  - Building renovation – Sensory Room
  - Automatic door openers for Service Centers
  - Reference library for staff; to be maintained by the Employee Relations Coordinator.

## 6. Old Business

### 6.1 Fundraiser Update

- Boardwalk BBQ
  - The 2025 event was held on April 4<sup>th</sup> at the SEK Impact Center. We successfully moved the event to Friday night.
  - One hundred fifty-eight guests attended.
  - Entertainment was provided by Robbi Bell.
  - The meal was catered by C & S Traveling Kitchen with dessert provided by Brenda Harrison.
  - Dave Petersen served as MC and Larry Holman as photographer. Hitch & Hoe Down Party Rentals provided table décor.
  - The auctions included thirty-nine silent; twenty-seven stretch; and ten live items. Thanks to a donation from Monarch Cement, we auctioned off a trip to Las Vegas and two trips to Nashville.
  - We estimate a profit of \$13,568.
  - On a positive note, we already have a trip donation for the 2026 event. Kelly Stephens, Farm Bureau agent in Fredonia, offered use of her Branson's Nantucket timeshare for three nights and two days.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Raffle Drawing
  - The annual drawing ended on Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - Brenden Spillman drew the winning ticket.
  - The winner was Joe Love from Colorado. He is coming on Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup> to collect his prize.
  - The 25<sup>th</sup> drawing saw a decrease in the number of entries. We received 1,638 total entries. Our profit was \$1,600. Once again, Kansas had the highest number of entries, followed by California and Texas. We heard from all but three states: Hawaii, Delaware, and Rhode Island.

- In April, we had an issue with our credit card processing. We came up with a work around and the issue is now resolved.
- We have received our raffle license for 2026.
- For next year, we will stay with a full size truck, but will cut back on the options.
- We will also look at ways to improve the drawing's visibility.
- 2025 Golf Tournaments
  - The Fredonia Golf Tournament is Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. We have eight teams signed up, eight-hole sponsors and two corporate sponsors. G & W is sponsoring lunch. Sonic of Fredonia has donated water. Several other local businesses have donated door prizes. Several hole games are planned for the tournament.
  - The Erie Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. We have five teams signed up and two-hole sponsors.
  - The Fort Scott Golf Tournament is set for Saturday, September 13<sup>th</sup> with two hole sponsors already.
- Tri-Valley's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
  - On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Tri-Valley celebrated it's 50th anniversary by holding a party/awards ceremony. Approximately 175 guests attended the event. Entertainment was provided by Robbie Bell, who performed songs from 1975. Punch and cupcakes were served.

## 6.2 Residential Lease

During the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, the board reviewed the residential lease. The proposed changes in the lease were recommended by the Foundation's attorney, Kurt Kluin. The main changes are to the rent and tobacco use sections. Motion made to approve the residential lease as presented (Lynette Emerson/Sandi). Motion passed.

## 7. New Business

### 7.1 FY26 Budget

Bill presented the FY26 budget to the board. Motion made to accept the FY26 budget as presented (Vic Anderson/Joel P.) Motion passed.

### 7.2 FY26 Officers

Motion was made to retain the current slate of officers for FY26 (Chair Judy Brigham; Vice Chair Mike Hofer; Secretary Sandi Eggers; Treasurer Vic Anderson) (Joel Norris/Lynette). Motion passed.

## 8. Board Member Reports

None

9. Acceptance of All Donations

For the period from March 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup>, the Foundation received \$53,320 in donations. Motion made to accept donations as presented (Joel P./ Mike). Motion passed.

10. Announcements

The next meeting will be September 23, 2025.

11. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn the meeting (Mike/Joel P.). Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Eggers

Secretary

9/9/2025

Date