

Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation
Board of Director's Meeting
TVDS Administrative Office, 521 W. 35th CH Pkwy, Chanute, KS 66720/Zoom
March 25, 2025

Present: Judy Brigham, Sandi Eggers, Vic Anderson, Mike Reid, Lynette Emmerson, Joel Porter, Bill Fiscus

Not Present: Phil Newkirk, Steve Sewell, Joel Norris, Mike Hofer, Lary Coleman

Staff Present: Melissa Cannon-Smith, 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

Motion made to adopt the agenda as presented (Joel Porter/Sandi Eggers). Motion passed.

3. Minutes

The minutes from the December 10, 2024 meeting were presented. Motion made to accept minutes as presented (Mike Reid/Joel). Motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Lea Chickadonz, VP of Administration, presented the financial report for the period ending February 28, 2025. Motion made to accept report as presented (Vic Anderson/Lynette Emmerson). Motion passed.

5. Staff Reports

5.1 Program Report

- Melissa Cannon-Smith, VP of Programming, reported that Tri-Valley received a grant through the Fort Scott Community Foundation. The funds were used to purchase a Friendship and Dating program through the University of Alaska. Our first co-hort group has started and the feedback is positive. The class meets twice a week: classwork on Monday and community outings on Friday. Some of the session topics include: feelings, relationships types, communication, and personal boundaries.
- Three staff are currently enrolled in the DSP+ apprenticeship program. One staff has completed her course work through Wichita State University. She is now finishing up the on-the-job portion.
- Staff have begun gathering documentation for our annual licensing review.

5.2 Operations Report

- Joe O'Rourke, VP of Operations, reported that we have completed internal paint jobs at several locations. Joe has been in contact with Eric Methvin to paint and freshen up sites in Chanute, Humboldt, and Fort Scott.
- The exterior cedar siding at 10th Street needs to be stained. The work is scheduled for April.
- All nineteen sites were reviewed by the state fire marshal's office. Our fire extinguishers were also updated and reviewed.
- We hope to have the sale of the Eureka Service Center finalized in April.

- We have installed vinyl planking to Foundation properties. Judy inquired if staff and persons served were excited about the improvements. Joe responded that staff have appreciated the work; there have been no complaints. Vinyl floor planking will be installed at the Moline Service Center as well.
- During a recent storm, a limb fell and took out a power line near the Rankin house in Moline.
- Work is being done at the Western home in Chanute. We have taken out a huge tree and have removed the garage. We are in the process of moving in a shed for storage. A new electrical panel has been installed on the house.
- Mud and drywall have been added to newly created rooms at Pecan and Mulberry in Humboldt.
- Tri-Valley purchased a new box truck for Neodesha.

5.3 Administration Report

- Lea Chickadonz, VP of Administration, reported that the MCOs conducted their annual audit on the staff background checks.

5.4 CEO Report

- Bill Fiscus, CEO, gave the board an update on KDADS proposed system changes.
 - KDADS is proposing the following changes:
 - New Assessment Tool – which would affect funding.
 - Split the current single day rate into seven areas: each with their own rates.
 - Resolve the conflict of interest between CDDO, CSPs, and Case Management. CMS is pushing the state to resolve the conflict of interest.
 - InterHab spoke to the legislators about the proposed changes and the speed in which the state is moving. Their response was the approval of a bill that would slow the state’s progress down. There was enough support for the bill to override a potential governor veto. The legislature also met with KDADS and InterHab staff to try to resolve the issues. As a result, three committees were developed to look into each of the areas. The three committees quickly split into 8 subcommittees. The committees have a short window to resolve these issues.
 - Judy suggested that staff invite the legislators to come visit our facilities. Lynette Emmerson asked follow-up questions regarding case management.
- The FY26 state budget is under review of the conference committee. Money has been added to take an additional 500 individuals off the waiting list. The senate also put in a 3.4% rate increase for HCBS rates. InterHab is confident that these items will remain in the budget; we have several supporters on the committee.
- The bill that would remove the fire marshal review from licensing is dead in the water. This is the second attempt for the proposed legislation that would remove fire marshal inspections from the licensing process.

6. Old Business

6.1 Fundraiser Update

- Drawing Update

Tricia Campbell, Special Projects Coordinator, reported that the truck is in. We have received 562 entries. Currently, we are experiencing an issue with our credit card processing. The issue is under review.

- Boardwalk BBQ

The annual fundraiser is a few weeks away. We have sold 149 tickets so far. Robbie Bell will be the evening's featured entertainment. We have received \$4,050 in sponsorships as well as 2 in-kind sponsors, 6 table sponsors, 10 live auction items, 22 stretch auction items, and 34 silent auction items. C & S Traveling Kitchen will provide the meal. The evening's wait staff will be volunteers from Neosho County Community College. Invitations have been sent out.

7. New Business

7.1 Friends Visionary Award

On May 1st, Tri-Valley will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Plans are underway to hold a celebration along with our annual awards ceremony. One of the awards presented during the ceremony will be the Friends Visionary Award. Last year, the award was presented to Max McReynolds. By general consent, the board selected Mike Reid to be the recipient for the 2025 award. The ceremony will be held at 1 pm at the Central Park Pavilion in Chanute on May 1st. Invitations will be sent out.

7.2 Residential Lease

Bill presented the board with an updated lease for the Foundation properties. Kurt Kluin reviewed and made suggestions to the lease. The board asked that the lease be brought back for final review and approval in June.

8. Board Member Reports

Terry Harper has resigned from the Foundation board effective immediately. The board has several openings that we are looking to fill.

9. Acceptance of All Donations

For the period from December 1st through February 28th, the Foundation received \$19,855.17 in donations. Motion made to accept donations as reported (Lynette Emmerson/Sandi). Motion passed.

10. Announcements

The next board meeting will be June 24, 2025.

11. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting (Joel/Vic). Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Eggers

Secretary

6/5/2025

Date