

Oregon Coast Humane Society
Board of Directors Open Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2025, 11:00 am
OCHS, Modular Building

Present: Mary Henry, President; Joe Zarate (at 12:05), Vice President; Cynthia Beck, Treasurer; Shauna Robbers (via Zoom), Leslie Garretson, Jan Pizzaro, Mitzi Hathaway, Susan Williams, Board Members; Elizabeth Thompson, Executive Director.

Check-In/Opening thoughts/Kudos:

Meeting was called to order by President Mary Henry at 11:01am.

Announcement of Deb Ripley's resignation from the board

Oregon is considered number one in animal protection laws

Introduction of Interim Board candidate Susan Williams

Executive Session – (Minutes taken by Leslie to be filled in)

Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: A copy of the minutes of the regular meeting was sent out prior to this meeting. Motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously. Susan abstained.

Fundraising & Marketing –

Upcoming: Appeal; Newsletter/Annual Report; President's Club event in March

Community Outreach Committee- Marketing and Fundraising (committee chair is appointed by the President, must be a board member)

Adoption of draft Committee Charter (document attached to end of document)

Approval of Committee Charter: Motion to approve the draft was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Elizabeth – appeal letter ready to go found a company who will do all the mailing, full process with a two-day turnaround.

Adopters from Pet Point (platform for adoptions) added into the mailing list

Annual report due in April (in report)

President's club for \$1,000 + donors (Dr. Crome to speak)

Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee – Cynthia Beck:

OCHS finished 2024 in a strong position. Numbers are still being calculated since January is a busy time of year for bookkeepers. An ambitious budget was set for last year and that budget is being met. See financial reports attached at end of this document.

Animal Welfare Committee

Adoption policies: changing to move towards a kinder verbiage / conversation based

Cynthia changed some verbiage –

Susan suggested to put a footer “revised” “effective by x date”

Approval of New Adoption Policies: Motion to approve the policies was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Current Committees: Strategic Planning, finance, Community Outreach, Animal Welfare, nominations

Board Secretary Nomination: Leslie Garetson. **Approval of Secretary nomination:** Motion to approve nomination was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

10 min break 11:55 -12:05

Executive Director Report (copied and entered) - Elizabeth Thompson:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

(AS ALIGNED WITH OCHS STRATEGIC GOALS)

Current animals in care: 68

Current memberships: 287 (160 individual, 100 family, 27 lifetime)

Adoptions YTD: 91

Community animals seen at clinics: 124

Lost animals reunited with families: 25

I. Build and operate an animal shelter for our community that will:

a. Be a model of excellence in the care and sheltering of dogs and cats.

JANUARY 2025 INTAKE:

- 43 Owner Surrenders including three litters of puppies and a local colony of 15 cats
- 1 Returned Adoption (small dog who was quickly adopted again)
- 4 Seized/Custody (hospitalized owners)
- 25 Strays
- 7 Transfers In (2 small Cali dogs, 1 long-term dog from Josephine County, OR, and 4 large dogs from Marion County, OR)

JANUARY 2025 OUTCOME:

- 65 Adoptions including long-term dog Xena and FIV cat Grover
- 1 Euthanasia (medical stray dog named Mia)
- 15 Return to Owner
- 3 Transfer Out (behavior dog to Sanctuary 101, 2 small bite history dogs to Josephine County, OR)

b. Enhance the provision of veterinary care in the shelter and our community.

- Oceanside inspections and appraisal continue towards our purchase of the vet hospital. So far, we've had a general inspection, HVAC inspection, roof inspection, sewer scope, Phase 1 environmental inspection, and appraisal. We are waiting on bids for several repairs that were flagged during the general inspection.
- February 13-15 spay/neuter clinic with Dr. Thurk saw 70 community cats for surgeries! Huge thanks to our volunteers who assisted at the clinic and fed our medical team.
- ET is currently working on grants for upgraded medical equipment for Oceanside.
- Willamette Animal Guild has offered for OCHS team members to come shadow their High-Quality, High-Volume Spay/Neuter clinic as we look to model our program at Oceanside after their business model.

c. Maintain healthy pet population levels in our service area.

- February 8 microchip/vaccine clinic saw 54 community pets
- Next microchip/vaccine clinic is on March 1st
- OCHS to participate in Lane County Stand Down on March 22nd at the Elks in Florence. We'll be providing free microchips/vaccines to attendees with pets, sharing about our available programs (Pet Food Bank, Spay/Neuter Vouchers, SARAH Fund), and offering pet blankets/food/toys, etc. for community pets.

II. Strengthen the organization to support building and operating of a model animal shelter by:

a. Building the capacity of our organization to sustain growth.

- Shelter and Thrift Store are now on "summer hours" as of February 16th. Shelter is open 10am-5pm 7 days a week, and the thrift store is open 10am-5pm Monday through Saturday and 11am-5pm on Sunday.
- ET is planning to post and interview for Fundraising Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator/Receptionist, and two more Animal Care Technician positions within the next month - along with veterinarians and CVT's for Oceanside project.

b. Deepening relationships with our community.

- Volunteer orientation on January 19th brought in 16 new volunteers!
- Arts & Cats Fair February 15-16 at the Vintage House brought in lots of visitors and raised money for the animals. The thrift store had a busy weekend, too, with its 20% off storewide sale!
- Our next President's Club Circle event will be held in March, hopefully at Oceanside Vet Hospital. Dr. Krome has agreed to be our speaker. Date TBD.
- Junior Interact volunteers did an afternoon of service for the shelter on January 25. They socialized cats, kittens, and puppies; filled kongs for the dogs; and created adoption bags for animals.
- Kitten de-stresser event at the high school was a huge hit! Two kittens found homes because of it and one student volunteer has joined us because of it. Valerie got great feedback on the event, too.

- Florence Fences for Fido group is hosting an informational event at Homegrown on March 1st at 4pm. Several team members and volunteers will attend. You are welcome to join us!

c. Ensuring adequate resources for operating and capital expenses.

- \$800 donation received from Heidi White from TR Hunter for properties sold in 2024.
- The 2024 holiday appeal letter featuring Lindsay, Luna, and Jasper has now raised \$19,035 with 124 donations. \$5,270 of that came in January. The 2024 winter newsletter brought in \$350.
- 2025 clinic total money raised is \$6,575. This is a good indicator of an income stream that will improve with more access to care through Oceanside.
- We just requested a check from Bottle Drop for almost \$3k.
- Appeal letter will be mailed by the end of the month featuring our purchase of Oceanside and Baxter, a recently adopted OCHS dog.

- Current online estate sale of Greentrees West home is almost finished. We'll have a total raised for the March meeting.
 - Estate sale team about to start the next house. The sale will be held on February 28 and March 1st.
 - The Thrift Store team met for a brainstorming session about events and sales strategies for 2025. The team agreed to raise the sales goal from \$350k to \$375k after seeing year-end totals for 2024. Go team!
 - ET and potential legacy donors met with the Executive Director from Western Lane Community Foundation in January about establishing a fund to support veterinary care for Florence pets.
- d. Upholding financial responsibility in the use of our resources.
- Furnace in dog kennels replaced this week.
 - Currently waiting on bid to pressure wash the shelter building. They will also replace downspouts that have fallen from our gutters and extend the drain behind the dog kennels so that it drains outside of the concrete pad by the patio.
- e. Being an employer of choice.
- January's team training covered harassment, bullying, goals for OCHS growth (including career advancement opportunities), and upcoming events.
 - Congratulations to Nicci from our kennel team who has been accepted into the Karen Pryor Academy. When she finishes, she'll be a certified dog trainer! OCHS is helping to pay for her tuition for this program through our training budget.

ACTION ITEM: Appraisal for Oceanside

Roo's Story – Elizabeth shared why we should have more compassionate intake verbiage and mindset for the community.

Next meeting – Special Meeting 3/5, 4pm, OCHS Modular Unit to celebrate purchase of Oceanside – **ACTION ITEM: Resolution**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50