



OCHS Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2026, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
OCHS, Modular Building

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 11:03
2. **Roll Call:** Tim Franklin, Krisi Maderos, Cynthia Beck, Susan Williams, Mitzi Hathaway, Marchel DeMersseman
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Approved
4. **Reading/Approval of February Public Meeting Minutes:** Approved
5. **Executive Director's Report:**
 - Current animals in care: 68
 - Current memberships: 346 (201 individual, 115 family, 30 lifetime)
 - Adoptions YTD: 114
 - Community animals seen at clinics: 343
 - Lost animals reunited with families: 13
 - 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.**
 - FEBRUARY 2026 INTAKE:**
 - 18 Owner Surrenders
 - 3 Returned Adoptions
 - 6 Service In
 - 16 Strays (4 dogs, 12 cats/kittens)
 - 147 Clinic patients
 - 6 Transfer In (2 Great Danes, 2 small dogs, 2 cats from Central Coast Humane Society in Waldport)
 - FEBRUARY 2026 OUTCOME:**
 - 49 Adoptions
 - 3 Return to Owner
 - 1 died in care (hypothermic "stray" dog found in a ravine, Candy - owners later located)
 - 2 euthanasia (owned dogs taken to clinic)
 - 147 Clinic
 - 1 Transfer Out (cat to Sanctuary 101)

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

- OSU 4th year vet students are still touring and arranging their preceptors with us. Our next two tours are scheduled for March 23 and 26. Our first week-long preceptor will be with us April 13-17.
- During the three-day clinic with Dr. Schaad and Dr. Guevera, 51 community animals were served - along with lots of OCHS animals. We are starting to increase our dog spay/neuter appointments to get through the wait list.
- The laser therapy equipment is being used daily now for a myriad of reasons - an OCHS kitten with "swimmer's syndrome," a senior community dog with spine issues, and other general healing treatments. Volunteers are currently being trained to use the equipment so that even more animals can be served.

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

- Our next Vaccine/Microchip clinic is March 19th. The schedule is already full with a waiting list for cancellations.

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.

- The "Love Letter" newsletter has been mailed. **Did everyone receive it in their mail? I am checking our mailing list so please confirm when you can!**
- Our next appeal letter will be mailed by the end of the month. It will feature a "Lucky" animal for St. Patrick's Day and the month of March.

b. Deepening relationships with our community.

- Valerie and Elizabeth held two volunteer orientations (March 4 and 7) with 33 attendees. New volunteers are already showing up to help in all of our areas!
- OCHS Volunteer Ann Martin took kittens to Siuslaw High School again to spend time with the students with special needs. This is a great collaboration!
- Our next volunteer celebration is April 4th at the Yurt at Woahink from noon til 3pm. Volunteer of the Year awards will be announced at 2pm. Please attend if you can! Postcards should be mailed by next week to all of our volunteers.
- Instead of Elizabeth, Valerie will be speaking with the Peace Harbor volunteers this week for their luncheon.
- Our next two Pop-Up Boutiques are scheduled for March 20-21 and 27-28. Stop by and shop for some designer clothing and accessories!

c. Ensuring adequate resources for operating and capital expenses.

- The estate sale that just finished on Terrace View Drive raised almost \$12k, and all the money goes to OCHS instead of being split with the family!
- The next estate sale in Heceta South is March 27-28. Thanks to the volunteers who were able to finish the house in record time!
- ET is meeting with estate donors regularly. She can be reached at #541-915-8619 to schedule an appointment for estate planning or enrolling pets in A Plan For My Pets. Two new families have enrolled their pets in the last few weeks!

d. Upholding financial responsibility in the use of our resources.

- The side yard repair at the shelter was postponed and we are still waiting for it to be done.
- The flooring bid for the vet clinic was accepted and new flooring will be installed in July. During that time clinic operations will move back to the shelter and be scaled down accordingly.
- The bids for the Thrift Store garage update and Vintage House have been received. ET would like approval to move forward with the garage update. The Board still needs to discuss our long-term plans for the Vintage House.

e. Being an employer of choice.

- Elizabeth was accepted into a Maddie's University Instructor-led course about sheltering in rural communities. It will be credited towards her future CAWA (Certified Animal Welfare Administrator) certification, and help us troubleshoot some blind spots in our processes and policies.
- We've given Dr. Tamay an employment contract to bring her onto the team (instead of as a contracted veterinarian). Paws crossed we have that signed by our next meeting!
- Elizabeth is currently working on job descriptions to hire another receptionist at the vet clinic. The new team member has already been chosen and is completing a Work Experience program with us already.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 18: Valerie speaking to the Peace Harbor volunteers at their monthly luncheon

March 19: Vaccine/Microchip Clinic

March 19: New Animal Care Technician starting with OCHS

March 27-28: Estate sale (details to follow)

April 4: Volunteer Celebration at the yurt at Woahink (Volunteers of the year will be presented)

April 19: Elizabeth speaking to the PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization)

May 1: President's Club event (location TBD)

May 17: Rhody Days parade

June 4: Business After Hours at the Thrift Store

June 24: Eugene Emeralds Baseball game with shelter dogs

June date TBD: Annual Members' meeting to introduce new board members

August 15: Annual Volunteer Picnic at East Woahink shelter

September date TBD: Rubber Duck Round-Up

October 21: Public Board Meeting (location TBD)

December 31: Black Cat Ball at Florence Events Center

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS DEADLINES

May 1, 2026: Nomination forms due

May 15, 2026: Ballots mailed to members

June 15, 2026: Ballots due at humane society for voting

6. Committee Reports:

- a. Financial: Cynthia - The initial report shows we are a little behind. On the income side we have received a Western Lane Community Fund donation of 123K and 300k from the Presidents Club. The Board approved a provisional budget for clinic updates of 100K. The Board must approve the design. Decisions regarding the Vintage House were put on hold for the time being.
- b. Animal Welfare: Cynthia - Play yards need privacy screening, raising the fence and a gate change.
- c. Community Outreach: Marchel - Activities are mainly focused on the Black Cat Ball. The other activities are listed in the E.D. report.

7. Executive Session: entered at 12:33 ended at 12:51.

8. Unfinished Business: *Due to time over-runs, this agenda item was not addressed*

- a. Status of converting OCHS donor and volunteer data from Salesforce to Bloomerang
- b. Approve Clinic Code of Conduct
- c. Status of property signage

9. New Business:

- a. Staff request for play yard upgrade funding. Potential cost up to \$10,000 requires board approval: Approved
- b. Allow Venmo as a form of payment: Approved
- c. Move the first public meeting of the year to March going forward. Between the January retreat and the February public meeting regular business was not addressed for two months in a row.
- d. 2026 Nominations Committee: Established
- e. Zoom meeting access for COC/Gala meetings - Can be set up as needed

10. Future Vision: At the annual retreat, many good ideas were brought forth for discussion. Unless a separate committee is formed to address these, the Secretary believes they should remain on the agenda in some form (perhaps action items). Some can be implemented relatively quickly and inexpensively. Others can be considered within the future upgrade and expansion project. The list below details some of the suggestions but is not all inclusive.

- a. Identify a volunteer coordinator - Complete!!
- b. Improve volunteer orientation and onboarding processes, develop set schedules, recruit more youth volunteers

- c. Identify and mark property boundaries
- d. Build property barriers
- e. Improve flow for dog walks (fencing, remove washer, define one-way walk pattern)
- f. Create a kennel space for long term dog residents
- g. Create a dedicated area for adoption activities
- h. Create 'Real Life' rooms
- i. Create an indoor quiet space for dog meet and greets
- j. Identify and market 'turnkey' dogs
- k. Increase social media presence for adoptable pets; for example put a GoPro camera on a dog's collar for a 'day in the life' profile
- l. BIG DREAM - free clinic for all pets in need

11. Announcements:

12. Adjournment: 1:00 p.m.

13. Action Items: not reviewed

Assigned	Action	Status Date	Status
All	Establish short term committee to review apparel possibilities	1/21/2026	new
Marchel	Update documents, submit drafts to board for approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Charter templates ● Nominations form ● By-laws 	1/21/2026	new
Marchel	Print confidentiality agreements and bring to the March regular business meeting for all to sign. (Note: it would be cool if this could be made and E-sig process)	1/21/2026	new
Board	Add update to Mission Statement to Strategic Planning committee agenda when it restarts	1/21/2026	new
Elizabeth and Susan	Report results of meeting with capital campaign assistance volunteer at the March meeting	1/21/2026	new

Next Meeting: April 15, 2026, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. OCHS Modular Building