



**Marion-Polk Food Share
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 20, 2017**

Board Members Attending: Frances Alvarado, Alex Beamer, Warren Bednarz, John Burt, Courtney Knox Busch, Mike Garrison, George Happ, Bernadette Mele, Cheryl Wells, Eileen Zielinski

Staff Members Attending: Eileen DiCicco, Ian Dixon-McDonald, Mel Fuller, Rick Gaupo, Julie Hambuchen, Josh Lamb, Holly Larson, Surabhi Mahajan, Auzeen Rasaie, Megan Rivera

Call to Order

Alex Beamer called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

Guest Introductions

Rick Gaupo introduced staff present.

Consent Agenda:

Alex Beamer presented the following consent agenda items:

- Board Meeting Minutes, March 23, 2017
- Financial Statements ending March 31, 2017

George Happ motioned to approve all consent agenda items. Mike Garrison seconded, and the motion was unanimously moved.

Advocacy and Board Engagement

Alex and Rick led further discussion on the topic of advocacy that Susannah Morgan, CEO, Oregon Food Bank, kicked off last month. There was consensus among members present that Rick and staff should stay mission-focused and have the freedom to advocate a Food Share position on matters directly related to food access (i.e. barrier-free access to food for all regardless of immigration status), without first getting board approval. However, the board wanted to establish a policy and system for vetting more politically charged matters related to poverty and resiliency (i.e. minimum wage, housing, health care, transportation, employment, child care, etc.). Next steps: Executive Committee will own this topic for now; an advocacy subcommittee may be formed to advance advocacy policy that aligns with our emerging strategic plan.

Adjournment

Alex Beamer adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m..



Courtney Knox Busch
Board Secretary