



Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
February 10, 2026

The Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc. Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at the Tri-Valley Administrative Office in Crookston, MN and remotely via Microsoft Teams.

The board members present were J. Bachmeier, S. Peterson, J. Duckstads, S. Vonesh, G. Willhite, P. Reese, T. Anderson, K. Shaugobay, K. Hassel, N. Myers, D. Svaren, C. Spisak

The staff members present were M. Hedden, M. Hams, and A. Aubol

A Quorum was established with 12 voting members present.

S. Peterson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the current agenda, January 13, 2026 meeting minutes, financial report, and Status Report. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried.

T. Anderson moved to approve the Executive Committee Report that included Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry YST Grant Request in the amount of \$100,000.00 from July 01, 2026, to June 30, 2028. The funds will be used to provide additional services for eligible youth by providing outreach, education, training, and supportive services. The goal of the YST program is to create pathways for students to gain high-growth in-demand occupations and support industry with future talent. Approved on January 30, 2026. Seconded by J. Duckstad. Motion carried.

Treasurer J. Duckstad reported the fiscal documents were reviewed and in order.

M. Hedden presented the Chief Executive Officer report.

- Update on the funding increase for CSBG, Head Start, and LIHEAP
- On 1/30/26 the Senate passed the House version of (FY) 2026 spending bill for Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) programs, providing \$77.3B for HUD programs in FY26, a \$7.2B increase over FY25.
- Key rental and homelessness assistance programs received funding increases, including \$34.9B to renew Tenant-Based Rental Assistance contracts (including Housing Choice Vouchers), \$600M+ for new Tenant Protection Vouchers, and \$4.4B for Homeless Assistance Grant (a \$336M increase).
- USDA Programs – Funding Freeze that impacts several programs including SNAP, Administration of Children and Families, TANF, SSBG, and CCDF.

N. Myers moved to accept the Chief Executive Officer report. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried.

M. Hams presented the Program Director Report. Highlights include:

- Overview on the different housing programs that are offered in the Community Assistance Program.
- Family Resource Center located in East Grand Forks. Possibly adding another Resource Center in Norman County.
- Different ways to support our clients include one-on-one visits and training sessions.
- Other programs offered include SNAP, Energy Assistance, and MNsure.

S. Peterson moved to approve the Program Director Report. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried.

A Aubol provided highlights from February 03, 2026, Regional Head Start / Early Head Start Policy Council meeting. Highlights include:

- J. Tangen went over the Budget in Place, Credit Card Statements, in Kind and Program Data Report.
- 1 new staff have been hired within the Regional Head Start/Early Head Start Program since our last meeting.
- P. Fernandez provided 3 different trainings, Family and Community Services Area Training, Child Abuse and Neglect Training-Maltreatment of Minors Mandated Reporting, and ERSEA Training.

M. Hedden informed the Board that starting next program year, we will not be offering Head Start services at Washington School or in Fisher. They will be adding additional classrooms at the Crookston Head Start Center. N. Myers moved to approve the Head Start, Child and Family Programs Report. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion Carried.

Board approval was requested to apply for the AARP Community Challenge Grant Request in the amount of \$15,000.00 from June 2026 through December 2026. The funds will be used to offset the cost of transportation to non-MA clients or people without transportation assistance with their insurance.

J. Duckstad moved to approve. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

M. Hedden reviewed the Transportation Drivers Handbook Policy Revision – Differential Pay that will increase the differential pay from \$1.00 to \$5.00 an hour for non-exempt transportation employees on Saturdays and Sundays. N. Myers moved to approve. Seconded T. Anderson. Motion carried.

P. Reese moved to approve the Minimum Job Requirements – Acceptable MVR Results. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

M. Hedden reviewed Tri-Valley Opportunity Councils Mission Statement.

M. Hedden informed the Board that she is working with Program Directors to update the Strategic Plan.

The Board of Directors reviewed the Risk Assessment Checklist.

M. Hedden reviewed the Agency Wide Budget Review. J. Duckstad moved to approve. Seconded by S. Vonesh. Motion Carried.

M. Hedden provided Bylaws training for the Board of Directors. Highlights include:

- What members make up the Board of Directors
- Rules, Residency, Conflict of Interest, and Powers
- Terms
- Removals
- Meetings
- Quorum
- Roberts Rule of Order
- Executive Committee and Officers

M. Hedden reviewed therecommended update to the By-laws to include additions to the following statement:

Before any such meeting may be held, the date, time, place and purpose of the meeting shall be published at least once on social media and the TVOC website within the community with the last publication being at least ten (10) days before the published date of the meeting.

M. Hedden provided an Org Standard Update.

S. Peterson moved to approve update to the Bylaws. Seconded by N. Myers. Motion carried.

M. Hedden informed the Board that the Org Standards have been submitted to the Office of Economic Opportunity.

A Aubol asked the Board of Directors for volunteers to help judge Tri-Valleys Chilli and Chocolate Cookoff on March 3rd at the Crookston AO.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be March 10, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

S. Vonesh moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawna Peterson
Secretary of the Board

SP: AMA