Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
August 11, 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.

Board members present were J. Bachmeier, S. Peterson, J. Duckstsad, S. Vonesh, G. Willhite, P. Reese, K. Shaugobay, K. Hassel, T. Oistad, L. Hall, D. Svaren, C. Spisak

Staff members present were M. Hedden, N. Aaker, A. Aubol

Special Guest: Karl Eck

Quorum was established with 12 voting members present.

S. Peterson moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which included the current agenda, June 09, 2026 meeting minutes, status report for April and May 2026. Seconded by P. Reese. Motion carried.

G. Willhite moved to approve the Financial Reports for May and June 2026. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

J. Bachmeier presented the Executive Committee Report that included:

- Tri-Valley Head Start is requesting a budget revision in order to replace two mini splits at the Bethel Center. The replacement cost is $15,900 (bid included below). These mini splits are used to keep two classrooms cool in the summer. Without it, the program may have to close the rooms for an extended period of time as the weather has already been in the 90's. This will impact 16 children. Tri-Valley is requesting to move $15,600 from other – office supplies to equipment. -Approved on June 26, 2026.
- Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging AAA Grant Title III – B Renewal for $20,000.00 from January 01, 2027, through December 31, 2027. The funds will be used to offset the cost of transportation to non-MA clients of people without transportation assistance through their insurance, aged 60 and older. -Approved on June 29, 2026.
- Approval for the MSHS Nutrition Supplemental Grant in the amount of $174,759 to address major nutrition needs across the centers. -Approved on June 29, 2026.
- MN Department of Human Services Grant Request in the amount of $200,000.00 from January 2027 through December 30, 2027. The funds will be used to assist families, individuals, and youth in preventing homelessness or assisting in ending homelessness. -Approved on June 30, 2026.
- Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Grant Request in the amount of $420,000.00 from July 01, 2026, through December 30, 2026. The funds will be used to assist families, individuals, and youth in preventing homelessness or assisting in ending homelessness. -Approved on June 30, 2026.

- Southern Minnesota Initiative Grant Request in the amount of $4,680.00 from July 2026 – September 2026. The funds will be used to support rural health fairs, to provide food and art/stress supplies for staff, volunteers, and community participants to get together to improve mental health trauma related to Operation Metro Surge. -Approved on July 06, 2026.
- Amendment Resolution Authorizing Application and Funding for Minnesota Housing and Finance Agency Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program 10-1-2025 to 9-30-2027. -Approved on July 08, 2026.
- Operation Round Up – MVEC Grant Request in the amount of $5,000.00 for a one-year duration. The funds will be used to help cover expenses for activities for the students (mentoring, college visits, etc). -Approved on July 20, 2026.
- City of Crookston Grant Request in the amount of $19,000.00 from January 01, 2027 through December 31, 2027. The funds will be used to match support for capital/operating expenses. Approved on August 06, 2026.

K. Shaugobay moved to approve the Executive Committee Report. Seconded by D. Svaren. Motion carried.

Treasurer J. Duckstad reported the fiscal documents were reviewed and were satisfactory. Starting next month the Financial Committee will be meeting in advance to review the financial documents together.

M. Hedden presented the Chief Executive Officer report. Highlights include:

- Tri-Valley is beginning the process of becoming a Bronze-level organization through Pathways to Excellence.
- Confirmation regarding the Uniform Guidance changes has not yet been received.
- M. Hedden reviewed the Senior Accountant job description with the Board.
- Tri-Valley looked at different options for health insurance but has decided to stay with the co-op at this time.
- Discussion on future plans for Board training.

Motion to approve the report by J. Duckstad. Second by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

N. Aaker Presented the Program Director Report. Highlights include:

- Karl Eck, an audit partner with Wipfli, presented the Tri-Valley Opportunity Council Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Information for the year ended December 31, 2025. The report included an unmodified opinion and no findings. Tri-Valley was noted to be in very good financial condition.

G. Willhite moved to approve the Program Director Report. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried.

M. Hedden provided the Head Start, Child, and Family Programs report.

- Office of Head Start – Policy and Regulations

D. Svaren moved to approve the Head Start, Child, and Family Programs Report. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion Carried.

M. Hedden requested Board approval for the Medica Rural Health Grant Request in the amount of $20,000.00 from January 01, 2027, through December 31, 2028. The funds will be used to provide reduced or free rides to individuals who have no other means of paying for transportation.

Motion by G. Willhite to approve the grant application. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

M. Hedden asked for Board approval to apply for the MN Department of Education Grant Request for an estimated $552,310.00 from October 01,2026 through September 30, 2027. The funds will be used for salaries, benefits, admin expenses, food & non-food items.

Motion by J. Duckstad to approve the grant application. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

D. Svaren moved to approve the 2025 Tri-Valley Opportunity Council Audit Review. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried.

M. Hedden asked for Board approval for the Tri-Valley Opportunity Council, Inc Federal & State Transportation Program Procurement Policy.
S. Peterson to approve. Seconded by K. Shaugobay. Motion carried.

The Board of Directors reviewed the Annual Report draft.

G. Willhite moved to approve the Office of Head Start CLASS Video Review Results. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on September 08, 2026, at 6:30 p.m.

J. Duckstad moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by S. Peterson. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawna Peterson
Secretary of the Board

SP: AMA