



Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2026, 4:00 PM
Sweet Home City Hall, 3225 Main Street
Sweet Home, OR 97386

Mission Statement

The City of Sweet Home will work to build an economically strong community with an efficient and effective local government that will provide infrastructure and essential services to the citizens we serve. As efficient stewards of the valuable assets available, we will be responsive to the community while planning and preparing for the future.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

Roll Call

PRESENT

Vice Chair Bob Dalton
Committee Member Dr. Larry Horton
Committee Member Wanda Jones
Committee Member Dick Knowles
Committee Member Shirley Schumacher

ABSENT

Chair Kelsey Ann Wray
Committee Member Michael Grenz

COUNCIL

Councilor Ken Bronson, Council Liaison

STAFF

Jason Ogden, City Manager / Police Chief
Cecily Hope Pretty, Deputy City Manager
Adam Leisinger, Special Projects Manager

GUESTS

Dr. Jeannie Davis, Western University

Approval of Minutes

- a) 2025-11-19 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Horton moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2025 Community Health Committee meeting. Committee Member Knowles seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Dalton, Horton, Jones, Knowles, Schumacher

NAY: None

ABSENT: Grenz, Wray

Recognition of Visitors / Public Comment

There were no visitors to be heard.

Community Partner Presentations

- a) Western University – Dr. Jeannie Davis

Vice Chair Dalton invited Dr. Davis to speak.

Dr. Davis stated that she had been with the medical school for more than 15 years and had always worked with people who were provided with information to be able to act as a patient with an assigned condition and provide a practice environment for students to interact with them. She noted that the focus was shifting to working with patients with lived experience with certain conditions. She highlighted that medical providers in rural communities in particular were exposed to all manner of patients. She invited community members with cerebral palsy and/or intellectual and developmental disabilities to sign up to attend a workshop at Western University to interact with students. She noted the focus on communication with patients in addition to caring for them.

Vice Chair Dalton asked of the desired outcome for the data gathered through the program. Dr. Davis stated that the goal was to use it to inform future curriculum development.

Discussion ensued regarding bringing the pilot program to Sweet Home in the future.

No action was required for this item.

Old Business

- a) Samaritan Health Labor & Delivery Update

Deputy City Manager Pretty shared a recent press release from Samaritan Health regarding the suspension of labor and delivery services due to workforce shortages.

No action was required for this item.

- b) Communication Board Update

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that \$875 had been raised to date with \$1,625 remaining. Discussion ensued on opportunities to raise additional funds.

No action was required for this item.

New Business

- a) Community Outreach

Vice Chair Dalton encouraged the Committee to look for opportunities for more public interaction and education.

Committee Member Horton highlighted Committee Member Jones' connecting of Linn County's suicide prevention program to the Rotary Club to generate interest and community connections.

Committee Member Schumacher expressed support for bringing additional awareness regarding emergency preparedness.

No action was required for this item.

- b) City Council Goals/Committee Goal-Setting

Vice Chair Dalton asked of the timeline for City Council goal-setting. City Manager Ogden stated that goal-setting would begin at the end of February.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that he asked Committee Members for their input regarding what a healthy community looks like and utilize that to inform Council's potential goals.

Deputy City Manager Pretty encouraged the Committee to attend the next regular City Council meeting's Public Comment period to advocate for their desired goals before the Council's goal-setting process begins.

No action was required for this item.

- c) City Council Presentations

This item was addressed with previous new business. No action was required for this item.

Committee Business for the Good of the Order

Suicide Prevention Training

Vice Chair Dalton stated that there was an upcoming suicide prevention training with details in the Committee packet. He noted that he requested input from the Committee on their accomplishments and potential future goals.

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that the Sweet Home Public Library would host suicide prevention training on March 9, 2026 sponsored by Linn County Health Services. She noted that registration is required. She added that staff was working on a grant application to install a fitness park next to City Hall and requested the Committee’s support.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 PM.

Chair

ATTEST:

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder

DRAFT