



Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2025, 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

Chair Kelsey Ann Wray
Vice Chair Bob Dalton
Committee Member Michael Grenz
Committee Member Wanda Jones
Committee Member Shirley Schumacher (4:03 PM)

ABSENT

Committee Member Dr. Larry Horton
Committee Member Dick Knowles

COUNCIL

Councilor Ken Bronson, Council Liaison

STAFF

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

Approval of Minutes

- a) 2025-08-27 Community Health Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Member Grenz moved to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2025 Community Health Committee meeting. Vice Chair Dalton seconded the motion. The motion carried by the following vote:

AYE: Wray, Dalton, Grenz, Jones, Schumacher

NAY: None

ABSENT: Horton, Knowles

Recognition of Visitors / Public Comment

There were no visitors to be heard.

Committee Member Schumacher entered at this time.

Old Business

- a) Community Health Forum Subcommittee Appointments

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

b) Fluoride Vote Process Update

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that as of August 28th, 1,165 valid signatures of Sweet Home voters would be needed to place a public vote regarding fluoride on the ballot. She noted that in order for City Council to reconsider their previous vote to remove the fluoride, someone who voted in favor of removing it would need to move to reconsider, receive a second, and then receive a majority vote to place it on an agenda for reconsideration.

No action was required for this item.

New Business

a) Park Communication Board

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that she wanted to install a communication board to help people who were non-verbal or who had challenges with communication. She asked if the Committee would be interested in supporting a fundraising effort in the amount of approximately \$2,000 to purchase the board for installation in Sankey Park. There was consensus for same. Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that she would develop a more concrete fundraising plan and return to the Committee with details.

Committee Business for the Good of the Order

a) Suicide Prevention Month – Linn County Resources

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that September is Suicide Prevention Month and provided various local and nationwide resources to support mental health.

No action was required for this item.

b) Letter of Support – Strawberry Park Wetland Improvement Grant

Deputy City Manager Pretty stated that staff was preparing to submit a grant to wetland improvements at Strawberry Park and requested a signed letter of support from the Committee to include with the application.

There was consensus for Chair Wray to sign the letter of support.

Vice Chair Dalton stated that the Committee had previously focused mainly on health services in Sweet Home but he felt the Committee needed a more holistic view of what constitutes a healthy community. He noted the importance of strong community, public safety, environmental health and sustainability, and physical health.

Chair Wray asked the Committee to consider their meeting schedule going into the winter holidays.

Discussion ensued regarding opportunities for the Committee to expand their participation in the community and gain more support for health-related initiatives.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 4:27 PM.

Chair

ATTEST:

City Manager – Ex Officio City Recorder