Eastern Plains Community Pantry Board Meeting Summary

January 7, 2019

Fourteen board members and four guests were present. An executive session was called to discuss some volunteer issues. When the Board came out of executive session, the 2019 election ballot was finalized and voting followed. Election results are; Ken Antons, Carl Finney, Cheryl Lopez, Richard MacKay and Bob Selle were elected to three year Trustee terms, Sharon Agun and Peggy Somers were elected as one year Trustee Alternates. Elected officers are; Bob Selle – President, Ed Bridges – Vice President, Janie Antons – Secretary, and Joan Lawson – Treasurer. The Coordinators are: Cheryl Lopez – Pantry Operations, Richard MacKay – Volunteers, Barbara McFerren – Clothing and Small Household Items and Carolyn Gardner – Public Relations.

The December 3rd minutes were approved. Pantry revenues were greater than expenses for the month of December. Revenues were up because of donations from Paul's Custom Canvas, Oleum Drilling and several individuals.

The Pantry provided food to 1,645 people in December which included Christmas meals. Volunteers donated 1,023.5 hours. More hours were donated to the Pantry last December than in any previous month. Total hours donated in 2018 were 9,049.25. Multiplying minimum wage (\$10.20) times the total number of hours donated amounts to \$92,302.35. Without our volunteers the Pantry would not be able to serve the community with the amazing quality and quantity that it does – thank you to the 87 volunteers that donated time in 2018.

At the EPCP Holiday Toy Giveaway, 210 children received toys and 40 teenagers received "Angel" packages. Christmas dinners were provided for 117 families (424 people).

The Board eliminated the 3 emergency boxes per year per family rule. There is no limit on how many emergency boxes a family can receive in a year's time as intended by the EPCP Mission Statement.

The Board approved an increase in Pantry operation hours. Starting in January, the Pantry will be open on Saturdays following the 3rd Friday of the month Mobile Food Pantry from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

The Board approved the 2019 EPCP budget. It is a deficit budget of \$1,600.

The Board approved a \$1,000 buy-in donation for the community message board sponsored by Calhan School District. Half of the funds were donated by the Calhan United Methodist Men.

The Pantry is in need of a portable air conditioner for the storeroom, a large van or truck to haul donated food (currently \$575 raised), a storage shed, a chest freezer, coats, winter clothing, blankets, bed linen, pots & pans, men's jeans, and winter recipes for the website.

The Care and Share Mobil Food Pantry will be on Friday, January 18th, staring at 9:00 a.m. The Pantry will be open on Saturday Jan. 19th from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon.

Future agenda items include the contract renewal of the facility lease agreement between EPCP and the Calhan Fire Protection District, appointment of Assistant Coordinators and a truck lease presentation from Penske Truck Rentals.

The next Board of Directors meeting is Monday, February 4, 2019, 6:00 pm, at the Pantry.