

**DALLAS EMERGENCY FOOD CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
Friday, March 21, 2025**

MEETING FORMAT: In-person, WaFd office, 11:30 a.m.

Attendees: Debbie Cochrane, Eileen DiCicco, Eddie Nelson, Sheila Peirson, Jason Thornton, Sherrie Titus

Jason called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m..

1) Consent Agenda Calendar

ACTION: Jason moved and Sheila seconded a motion to approve the Feb. 28, 2025 minutes, February food distribution report and February treasurer's report. Motion unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2) Property Update

Eddie gave an update on the LaCreole property. The appraisal has been shared with UMC, but no discussion has occurred yet. City of Dallas Pre-Application Meeting confirmed that if the property is developed the driveway would be expanded and shared with UMC, no exit onto Academy St and eventually sidewalks and street improvements on Academy could be required. The lot line study is underway in preparation for submitting the partition application.

3) Fundraiser Updates

Eddie reported Rotary will hold its Epic Day of Service Food Drive on May 17; Fill the Pantry bulk mailing is in the works for June; Independence from Hunger will get additional volunteer support in July; Eddie's presentation to Polk County Republican Women resulted in a \$1K donation; Eddie will present to the Episcopal Church on May 4.

4) Grant Update

Grant Awards: Pacific Power – \$5K for food purchase; Dallas Community Foundation – \$5K (\$4K for food purchase, \$1K for personal items); Walmart – \$700 to highest need.
Pending: Oregon Community Foundation – submitted request for \$15K operating support; decision May
Prospects: The Ford Family Foundation; Federal Readiness and Leverage Fund.

5) Negotiate Rent with current building owner

Eddie is researching prevailing rental rates and has enlisted the help of realtor Jennifer Hand in preparation for future meeting with our landlord. So far, the range downtown is 47 to 86 cents per sf, far less than we are paying. Eddie also is reaching out to the Nazarene Church District about possibly renting space at the Nazarene Church on Kings Valley Hwy. if we need to move at the end of our current lease.

NEW BUSINESS

6) Filling Board Vacancy

- a. No action was taken on the application we received. Eileen will reach out to the applicant to see if she's interested in taking on a volunteer project.
- b. Filling board vice president position

ACTION: Eddie moved and Debbie seconded a motion to elect Sheila Peirce as vice president of the board. Motion approved with Sheila abstaining.

7) Letter of Support

ACTION: Eddie moved and Jason seconded a motion to write a letter to President Trump that addresses the impact that a reduction in USDA commodities will have on our community. Eileen to draft the letter. Motion unanimously approved.

8) WaFd CD's

Eddie reported that our WaFd CD's that had rolled over to lower rates upon maturity have been moved to higher yield 5-month and 7-month CD's.

9) Check signer change needed

ACTION: Eileen moved and Jason seconded a motion to remove Marianne Moore as a signer on all food bank financial accounts. Motion unanimously approved.

ACTION: Eddie moved and Debbie seconded a motion to add Sherrie Titus as a signer on food bank financial accounts. Motion unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: 11:30 a.m. April 18, 2025 at WaFd

Minutes, as approved by the board via email on March 21 and 22, 2025, are respectfully submitted by board secretary Eileen DiCicco.