

4/20/2023

Morrow County Board of Commissioners  
110 N. Court Street  
Heppner, OR 97836

To the Morrow County Board of Commissioners:

I am writing again to convey Morrow County Health District's formal objection to Commissioner Jeff Wenzholz voting on issues concerning Morrow County Health District, to include issues concerning ambulance services, due to a conflict of interest. (See previous letter dated 4/17/2023.)

Commissioner Wenzholz actively serves as a member of Good Shepherd's Board of Trustees, a position he has held since 2019. This presents a conflict of interest for the following reasons:

1. Boardman Fire Rescue District has publicly stated as part of their rationale for becoming a licensed ambulance provider that they wish to contract with Good Shepherd for non-emergent transfers.
2. Good Shepherd has stated their intent to expand services in Boardman in competition with Morrow County Health District and has taken action (purchasing property) along these lines.

Creating a new ambulance service area in Boardman to be awarded to Boardman Fire Rescue District will cause severe financial implications with regard to the District's overall ambulance service to Morrow County, which ultimately harms Morrow County Health District overall as an entity. De-stabilizing the Morrow County Health District would give an advantage to competitors, such as Good Shepherd.

Morrow County Health District is requesting:

1. A formal determination or statement from Commissioner Wenzholz in the next Board of Commissioners meeting (May 3, 2023) addressing this conflict.
2. That this letter, and the previous letter dated 4/17/2023, be incorporated into the public record for the May 3, 2023 meeting.
3. That all of Commissioner Wenzholz's previous votes on issues relating to MCHD, to include ambulance services, be invalidated due to an unacknowledged and unmitigated conflict of interest.

Respectfully,



Emily Roberts  
Chief Executive Officer  
Morrow County Health District