

4/17/2023

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

To the Morrow County Board of Commissioners:

I am writing 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.

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 (Wednesday, April 19, 2023) addressing this conflict.
2. That this letter be incorporated into the public record for the April 19, 2023 meeting.

Respectfully,



Emily Roberts
Chief Executive Officer
Morrow County Health District