

**HUMBOLDT GENERAL HOSPITAL
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL 22, 2014 MEETING
SARAH WINNEMUCCA CONFERENCE ROOM**

BOARD PRESENT:

Moe Hanzlik, Chairman
Mel Hummel, Secretary
Ed Hopfer, Member
Kevin Chatfield, Member
Marlene Brissenden, County Comm. Member

Kent Maher, Legal Counsel

BOARD NOT PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

James Parrish, Administrator
Sandi Lehman, CFO
Eddy Davis, Controller
Rose Marie Green, Human Resource Director
Darlene Bryan, Director of Nursing
Mike Bell, IT Director
Alicia Wogan, Administrative Assistant
Lonnie Hammargren, Clinic Manager
Leonard Perkinson, M.D.
Robin Gillis, SNF Manager
Debbie Whittaker, EMS
Theresa Bell, Materials Management Manager
Jackie Gonzalez, OR Manager
Pam Wickkiser, Administrative Director
Mike Cogsdill, EMS
Shar Pedersen, Quality Manager

GUESTS:

Nicole Maher (Public Relations Director), Paige Brooks (City Council), Joyce Sheen (Humboldt Sun), Cecil Martin, Jim French (County Commissioner), Tori Stephens, Ken Tipton (City Council), Lewis Trout, Mike Owens (City Council), De Anna Owens, Steve West (City Manager), Jim Billingsley (City Council), Doug Cain (City Council), Alison Green and Mike Sheppard (Owners Representative).

CALL TO ORDER:

Board chairman Hanzlik called the April 22, 2014 board meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Lewis Trout thanked the EMS team of Ken Whittaker, Debbie Whittaker, Tim Spangler, John Foster, Tammy Harding, Gregory Harding and Dr. Chet Stringham for the outstanding support provided to the City and Shooting The West during the recent airport open house. Trout commented on the Hospital Board meeting held last Saturday regarding the proposed hospital expansion and offered his opinion that the Board should have given more notice than was required by law to allow for what Trout believes would have been greater public input. Trout suggested there are other projects proposed for Winnemucca which may affect the phasing of the proposed project. Trout also said the Hospital may not have followed the proper entitlement process for the parking during the last construction project.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT:

Dr. Perkinson said things are running smoothly. There is a lot of excitement from medical staff regarding the proposed hospital expansion project and including them on the oversight and input. Medical staff agrees with the hospital expansion, the Saturday meeting was very informational and he got a lot out of the meeting.

EMS UPDATE:

Administrator Parrish advised that leadership is not present as they are in Salt Lake City meeting with the Utah Department of Health to present the telemed program and Burning Man program. There was no report.

Administration Report:

Administrator Parrish said the March data for the charity care program indicates the number of applications has dropped off and the total charity care cost was \$157,000. The Patient Access Department assisted 73 patients with Medicaid applications, and no Access to Health Care Network applications, in addition to responding to 371 questions and making 39 adjustments to billings.

Board member Chatfield asked when the Affordable Care Act takes effect. Pam Wickkiser, Administrative Director, advised that the Patient Access Department processed a lot of applications before January but not much activity has taken place since that time. Chatfield asked if the Hospital knows how many persons actually have used Medicaid. Wickkiser advised the state has been behind on processing, so there is no way to determine that number. Chatfield is interested in seeing how it will affect the charity care program. Board member Hopfer asked why charity care was \$157,784 when there were only five applications. Parrish advised the bills were high. Sandi Lehman, CFO, said that it was also due in part to bills from previous months that were pending.

Parrish presented a letter from the State Department of Health which resulted from a complaint about discharge practices. The letter advised there were no adverse findings, and the hospital is doing everything correctly.

Parrish presented report card on risk assessment and quality assurance. The highest possible score is an 8, and the Hospital scored a 7.50.

Parrish explained the survey information from the Emergency Room exit questionnaire, and discussed the pain management survey information.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by board member Brissenden and second by board member Chatfield to approve the medical staff appointments-reappointments. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by board member Hopfer and second by board member Hummel to approve the March 25, 2014 board meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION REVIEW/ APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Administrator Parrish presented the March 2014 financial report.

Motion by board member Brissenden and second by board member Hummel to approve the March 2014 financial reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ON ITEMS OF BUSINESS & OTHER REPORTS:**1. City of Winnemucca presentation of Hospital District planning and expansion options / City Representative-Administrator**

Steve West, City Manager, distributed information of his presentation and advised he will stick to it closely (it is attached to these minutes). West said he wanted to explain the City's proposal in detail which arises from a City concern with current parking and future parking in the area of the hospital. West gave the

history of past proposals. West suggested long term parking for the hospital campus has not been addressed. The City has a park to operate, and is unable to run it if hospital employees and patients are parking in the park parking lot. The City is willing to work with the Board to come up with long term parking solutions that will work for the entire community.

Administrator Parrish gave a presentation on the proposed hospital expansion plans and the history of the park property acquisition proposals. Parrish suggested keeping the park proposals separate from current expansion.

Board member Hopfer asked West about the proposed future expansion of recreation facilities behind the high school. West advised there is a group called Winnemucca Community Improvement Group made up of community members donating their time and they are looking at a recreation complex that has a recreation center and a boys and girls club. The City expects a full recommendation soon. Board member Chatfield asked West if the hospital doesn't buy the park property, will that property still be for sale. West responded the City will eventually consider whether or not they want to sell the property. If it becomes excess property, they may consider selling it. Chatfield asked West if the City will be willing to work with the hospital to come up with a solution on the parking problem. West said the City is willing to help find a solution, but he is not sure there is a solution. Hopfer asked if there would be a chance the City will sell a smaller portion of the park which does not include the park area. West advised if the City did sell the park in pieces, it will limit the types of events held in the park. Board member Hummel commented to West that at this time the City doesn't have a place to put the ball parks. West responded that in the next two months, he thinks there will be a lot of progress on the recreation center. Board chairman Hanzlik asked what the City and hospital could do to provide more parking. West said in his opinion that moving onto the little league fields is the only adjacent property that makes sense for the parking. Parrish asked West if he is saying that temporary parking across the street (Haskell Street) is not going to meet the needs of the City. West said when the hospital expansion is eventually built, parking in the area will be worse. Parrish noted the design of the expansion project includes 300 parking spaces. Parrish suggested the hospital architects could sit down with the City to discuss parking. Hanzlik and West agreed with the suggestion. No action was taken.

2. Presentation of telemedicine program / Clinic Manager

Lonnie Hammargren, Clinic Manager, provided a presentation on the telemedicine program at the hospital which is offered in collaboration with Renown in Reno, Nevada. Hammargren advised that 17 patients have used the program this month.

Board member Chatfield asked if Renown is the only provider that can participate in telemed services in the hospital. Hammargren said yes, they are the only provider that has the capability at this time. There was discussion on expanding the telemed services. No action was taken.

3. Determination that various items of equipment, including computers and a stove, are no longer required for public use / CFO-Administrator

Administrator Parrish provided a list of computer equipment and a stove (in the meeting packet) that are no longer used by the hospital, and are in need of being disposed of. Mike Bell, IT Director, said that the computer equipment can no longer be used by the hospital. Bell advised he usually goes to the schools or other public entities and asks if they want the equipment donated to them.

Motion by board member Chatfield and second by board member Brissenden to approve disposal of the equipment listed as it is no longer of use by the hospital for public use. Motion carried unanimously.

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4. Purchase of DR portable x-ray imaging equipment / Administrative Director-Administrator

Administrator Parrish advised he is seeking approval to purchase new portable x-ray machine in the amount of \$153,000 from Care Stream. The equipment was budgeted at \$225,000. Pam Wickkiser, Administrative Director, gave a presentation on the proposed new equipment and noted the current unit is 23 years old. The life expectancy of the proposed new unit is at least 10 years, and it will available before the end of June. The old machine will be traded in.

Motion by board member Hummel and second by board member Chatfield to approve purchase of one DR portable x-ray imaging equipment in the amount of \$153,000.00 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Purchase of medical offices modular unit / Administrator

Administrator Parrish advised that it was anticipated bids would be received for this meeting, but they were not. Parrish said the item will be on a future agenda. Mike Sheppard, Owners Representative, explained why the bid solicitation did not go out. There was discussion on the building and the site details. Board Member Brissenden asked a question about her conversation with Legal Counsel Maher, and asked if Maher would explain. Maher advised that at the last meeting the board authorized solicitation of bids for the modular unit. Brissenden asked if the board will be voting to approve the modular and the proposed expansion. Maher advised that there is no modular bid to consider and the proposed expansion is not on the agenda. Board member Hummel inquired if anyone has looked into other buildings. Parrish advised they have, and at this time there are no available clinic buildings. There was discussion on costs of revamping an existing office building. Board Member Hopfer advised he had procured purchase price information on the old Kafoury Armstrong building. Sheppard said he will put together potential cost numbers for remodeling the Kafoury building prior to the next meeting. Mike Bell, IT Director, advised that the cost to run IT services which are compatible with the existing IT system will be very expensive. No action was taken.

6. Physician Recruitment / Administrator

Administrator Parrish advised he intends to have a contract for board approval on a physician assistant at the May meeting. An advanced practice nurse will be interviewed, and there has also been interest from a family practice obstetrician, who will be interviewed.

HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEE COMMENTS / STAFF REPORTS:

Board member Brissenden suggested it is important to be good neighbors with the City.

Board member Hummel advised that the board needs to understand the parking and sit down with the City and get things decided.

Board chairman Hanzlik agreed they need to speak with the City regarding the parking issue, and they also need to discuss parking with employees.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY:

Lewis Trout said the City forgot to mention that there is an 18 inch water main that runs entire length of Haskell that has had five breaks and created sink holes in the past five years. Trout said City Manager West believes the water main poses a possible threat to the site where the proposed modular structure will be located. Trout said employees and doctors should be mandated to park away from the hospital.

Mike Sheppard, Owner's Representative, discussed the 18 inch water line and advised that the civil engineers, Summit Engineering, are aware of the pipe and the breaks. The engineers believe due to the proximity of the line, if it breaks, the water will likely run across the pavement but any pooling of the water

will be at least five feet below the ground level of the modular structure. Board Member Hummel asked about replacing the pipe, Sheppard advised it would be a very big and expensive job.

Board chairman Hanzlik adjourned the April 22, 2014 meeting of the Humboldt County Hospital District Board of Trustees at 7:28 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Maurice Hanzlik, Chairman

Alicia Wogan, Administrative Assistant