

**HUMBOLDT GENERAL HOSPITAL
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 28, 2020 REGULAR MEETING
SARAH WINNEMUCCA CONFERENCE ROOM**

BOARD PRESENT:

Michelle Miller, Secretary
Bill Hammargren, Member
Gene Hunt, Member
Alicia Cramer, Member
Ken Tipton, County Comm. Member

Kent Maher, Legal Counsel

BOARD ABSENT:

JoAnn Casalez, Chairman

MEDICAL STAFF PRESENT:

Rommel Adajar, MD
Robert Johnson, PA
Merleen Grover, APRN

GUESTS:

Ashley Maden (Humboldt Sun), Nicole Maher (Public Relations Director), Judy Adams (Auxiliary) and David Grover.

CALL TO ORDER:

Board Secretary Miller called the January 28, 2020 board meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments from the public.

MEDICAL STAFF – HOSPITAL DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Medical Staff report:

There was no report.

Administration Department reports:

Interim CEO Cole reported on the following:

Staff updates: Tiffany Love, COO, started January 13, 2020; and, Leeann Cushway, CNO, started January 27, 2020.

Physician-Clinic updates: Dr. Andrew Wesley, Pain Management clinic, had 48 patient contacts in January; Dr. Draper and Dr. Lindstrom, Podiatry clinic, had 98 patient contacts in January; the Sleep

Medicine clinic equipment will be installed January 30, 2020; Dr. Subha Rajan, an FPOB provider, will start in April, and she has obtained the Nevada license and started relocation efforts; and, Dr. David Masuck, an FP provider, will start next fall.

Physician recruitment: Brittani Smith, MD, FPOB, visited again in January; and, contact was made with Robert Crawford, MD, an FP provider, Ellen Ouellette, MD, an FPOB provider who will graduate in 2022, and Deepthi Ciddi, MD, a Nevada licensed Internal Medicine provider.

Other providers: Arthur Johnson, PA, will start in the Walk-In Clinic; Raafat Khani, DO, and Pamela Sherwill-Navaro, NP, both locum providers, are currently providing services in the clinic; and, Tom Mouritsen, CRNA, has been hired to fill the third CRNA position.

Staff recruitment: HR Director Didi Almendares will start February 13, 2020; Rachel Lara, RN, a seven-year HGH employee, has accepted the Clinic Nurse Supervisor position; Kat Ourada, RN, a twenty-five year HGH employee has accepted the Interim OB Manager position; and, a recruiting firm has been retained to provide OR Manager candidates.

Remodel project: The Pharmacy hood and pressurization issue is proposed to be solved by increasing the size of VAV box and ductwork; the PT and Cardiac Rehab remodel is going well; and, the Cafeteria work will begin after completion of PT remodel.

Air Ambulance services: There was a meeting with the MedX AirOne flight crew representatives to clarify staffing issues; some facility needs in the flight crew house were addressed; and, the communications center closure is scheduled to occur in February.

Long Term Care survey: The plan of correction for the clinical portion of survey was accepted; and, administration is awaiting clarification on some potential items of concern regarding the facility.

Other: The Board mini retreat to discuss various matters affecting the district is scheduled for February 28-29, 2020; and, the Western Regional Trustee Symposium is scheduled for June 10-12, 2020 in Reno, Nevada.

No action was taken.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Miller to approve the consent agenda consisting of board meeting minutes for December 17, 2019 and the Medical Staff applications for appointments, reappointments, provisional and temporary privileges for: Rufus Ed Mohr, CRNA, Provisional-Anesthesia; Veronica Janhunnen, MD, Active Staff-Pediatrics; Ajeet Mahendernath, MD, Active Staff-Emergency Medicine; Maryellyn Gilfeather, MD, Consulting Staff-Teleradiology; and, Peter Verhey, MD, Consulting Staff-Teleradiology. Motion carried unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Interim CFO Gentry presented: the November-December 2019 financial reports; the financial improvement plan; an update on the Cerner system; on-going training updates; an update on the long term care billing; an update on Hospital billing system and self-pay issues; and, the tentative calendar for the next fiscal year budget as follows: March 14, 2020 for the budget workshop; March 24, 2020 to

consider proposed budget changes; April 15, 2020 to submit the tentative budget to the State; May 26, 2020 for the public budget hearing; and, June 1, 2020 for submission of the final budget to the State.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Cramer to approve the November and December 2019 financials, warrants, and disbursements as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS-OTHER REPORTS:

1. Hospital Administration / proposal to employ and enter into an employment agreement with Brittani Smith, MD to provide family practice obstetrics physician health care services / Administration

Motion by board member Hammargren second by board member Hunt to approve the employment agreement for Brittani Smith, MD, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Hospital Administration / proposal to enter into an employment agreement with Landon Mouritsen, CRNA to provide CRNA staff services / Administration

Motion by board member Hunt and second by board member Hammargren to approve the employment agreement for Landon Mouritsen, CRNA as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Hospital Administration / proposal to enter into an employment agreement with Tom Mouritsen, CRNA to provide CRNA staff services / Administration

Motion by board member Hunt and second by board member Tipton to approve the employment agreement for Tom Mouritsen, CRNA as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Hospital Administration / proposal to appoint Janet Sturtz as Infection Preventionist / Administration

Interim CEO Cole said new regulations require the Board to be aware of who will be overseeing the onsite infection control programs.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Hunt to approve the appointment of Janet Sturtz as the Infection Preventionist. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Hospital Administration / proposal to appoint Cody Bright as Chair of the Antibiotic Stewardship Committee / Administration

Interim CEO Cole said new regulations require the Board to be aware of who will be responsible for stewardship of antibiotics kept on the premises.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Cramer to appoint Cody Bright as Chair of the Antibiotic Stewardship Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Hospital Administration / proposal to amend agreement with Roger Brecheen, M.D., Arroyo Medical, Inc. to provide OBGYN services for an extended term / Maintenance Director-Administration

Board member Miller said she spoke with Board chair Casalez who suggested the matter be tabled.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Hunt to table discussion and action on the proposal to amend the agreement with Roger Brecheen, M.D.-Arroyo Medical, Inc. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Hospital Administration / proposals to amend employment agreements with Echo Mathews, APRN (benefits-compensation), Robert Johnson, PA-C (benefits-compensation), Veronica Janhunen, MD (benefits-compensation), Robert Westling, MD (benefits-compensation), Rommel Adajar, MD (benefits-compensation), Subha Rajan, MD (benefits) and David Masuck, MD (benefits) to eliminate payment for the healthcare benefits for persons other than the employed provider and to adjust the base compensation to account for the reduction in the benefits / Administration

Board member Hammargren asked if adjusting the compensation to offset the elimination of healthcare benefits for persons other than the provider is acceptable. Interim CEO Cole indicated it is allowed and the fair market value of the provider compensation with the adjustment will not be exceeded.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Cramer to amend the employment agreements (as indicated in the parentheses) with Echo Mathews, APRN (benefits-compensation), Robert Johnson, PA-C (benefits-compensation), Veronica Janhunen, MD (benefits-compensation), Robert Westling, MD (benefits-compensation), Rommel Adajar, MD (benefits-compensation), Subha Rajan, MD (benefits only) and David Masuck, MD (benefits only) to eliminate payment by the employer of the healthcare benefits for persons other than the employed provider and to adjust (increase) the base compensation of the providers to account for the reduction in the benefits as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS-STAFF REPORTS:

Board members Tipton and Miller expressed appreciation for the additions of the various providers over the past several months.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments from the public.

Board secretary Miller adjourned the January 28, 2020 meeting of the Humboldt County Hospital District Board of Trustees at 6:03 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

JoAnn Casalez, Board Chairman

Alicia Wogan, Executive Assistant