

**HUMBOLDT GENERAL HOSPITAL
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MAY 5, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING
MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE-VIDEOCONFERENCE**

BOARD PRESENT:

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

Kent Maher, Legal Counsel

BOARD ABSENT:

None

MEDICAL STAFF PRESENT:

Robert Johnson, PA

GUESTS:

Ashley Maden (Humboldt Sun), Nicole Maher (Public Relations Director) and Millie Custer.

CALL TO ORDER:

Board Chairman Casalez called the May 5, 2020 board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

BUSINESS ITEMS-OTHER REPORTS:

1. Hospital Administration-EMS-Finance / financial and budget report and updates / proposals and programs for dealing with revenue and expenditure projections / CFO -Administration

Interim CEO Cole advised that she and Interim CFO Powers will report. Powers said much of the prep work was done by senior staff and thanked everyone for their help. Powers explained: the AR summary; financial statistics; current initiatives to improve the finances and the progress being made. Cole noted the telehealth numbers are disappointing but believes they will improve. Cole explained that key members of medical staff, the administrative team and other key staff have considered the status of the coronavirus in the community and believe it is being managed, thus they are looking at starting elective surgeries on Thursday. A policy will be reviewed tomorrow; the protocols are similar to the emergency surgeries which are still occurring. Cole reported the EZ Lab should be helpful for immunocompromised persons and those who are age 65 and older; they anticipate beginning services on Thursday. Staff is considering an easier way for patients to get into diagnostic imaging if they are uncomfortable coming through the hospital. Powers commented on: expense reduction strategies; 2021 revenue initiatives; downward revision of the capital equipment expenditures for 2021; and, revised tentative budget.

Controller Kim Plummer went over bank fees savings, credit card payments, fuel cost, increased postage costs and operating expenses.

Board member Hammargren thanked everyone who contributed to assembling the financial information in a week. Board member Miller asked if the CARES Act funds need to be paid back. Powers said only the Medicare funds had to be paid back, not the CARES Act monies. CNO Cushway advised that the ability of family members to be present with surgical patients is considered on a case-by-case basis. Miller asked if referrals on MRI's and other procedures are being followed up. Cole advised staff is aware of the necessity of follow up and administration will make sure it happens. Powers suggested looking at strategies at finance meetings.

Board member Tipton noted there has been a substantial increase in net proceeds of mines which is not shown in the reports. Powers advised he has not seen any figures yet. Tipton advised the sales tax revenues will go down in the next couple of months.

Board chairman Casalez thanked the staff for the presentation. If there are questions, they can be emailed to financial team. Casalez said she is encouraged with Cerner's changes and thanked Powers for his leadership on it.

No action was taken.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS-STAFF REPORTS:

All Board members thanked staff for the efforts at putting together the financial information quickly.

Board chairman Casalez reminded the CEO search committee will meet Friday and Saturday to question candidates. Casalez thanked everyone on the line for attending.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

Board Chairman Casalez adjourned the May 5, 2020 meeting of the Humboldt County Hospital District Board of Trustees at 6:34 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

JoAnn Casalez, Board Chairman

Alicia Wogan, Executive Assistant