

**HUMBOLDT GENERAL HOSPITAL
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JANUARY 23, 2018 MEETING
SARAH WINNEMUCCA CONFERENCE ROOM**

BOARD PRESENT:

JoAnn Casalez, Chairman
Michelle Miller, Secretary
Bill Hammargren, Member
Jennifer Hood, Member
Richard Cook, Member
Ken Tipton, County Comm. Member

Kent Maher, Legal Counsel

BOARD ABSENT:

None

MEDICAL STAFF PRESENT:

B. Leonard Perkinson, M.D.

STAFF PRESENT:

Arthur Frable, CEO
Darlene Bryan, DON
Sandi Lehman, CFO
Alicia Wogan, Executive Assistant
Sean Burke, EMS Director
Lisa Andre, Quality Director
Theresa Bell, Materials Management Manager
Pam Wickisser, Clinic Manager
Bryn Echeverria, Radiology Manager
Shauna Barsanti, Business Office Manager
Dave Simsek, Pharmacy Manager
Lorrie Meiron, OB Manager
Robyn Dunkhorst, ED Manager
Tori Stephen, MM
Tom Stephen, EMS
Fergus Laughridge, EMS
Jeanette Grannis, PAD
Duane Grannis, Maintenance
Andrew Stephen, EMS
Anthony Pasquale, EMS
Becky Tissue, EMS
Laura Butterfield, Radiology Tech
Billie Lucero, Wellness Coordinator
Elvira Ker, Clinic Receptionist
Charity Brause, Patient Relations
Elicia Chiquete, Administrative Support
Gregory Harding, EMS

GUESTS:

Judy Adams (Auxiliary Member), Joyce Sheen (Humboldt Sun), Deborah Gay, Joel Hochhalter (MedX AirOne), Gene Hunt, Millie Custer, Robin Monchamp, Lewis Trout, Ashley Maden and Nicole Maher (Public Relations Director).

CALL TO ORDER:

Board chairman Casalez called the January 23, 2018 board meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Deborah Gay stated she is a patient of Dr. Perkinson and has had difficulty making appointments for family members which resulted in her being told to go to the Walk-In Clinic. She believes the reason for the Clinic referrals is overbooking and that something should be done about it because she does not like the Clinic.

Lewis Trout commented the appointment procedure used by Dr. Li's office may be a solution to the concerns voiced by the previous speaker.

Joel Hochhalter with MedX AirOne said the increased helicopter activity lately is due to training requirements and apologized to the community for the noise. Hochhalter stated the nonprofit consortium for EMS membership is now in place and is accepting donations, which may be made on the website.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT:

Dr. Perkinson stated the new medical staff officers are in place, he is Chief of Staff, Dr. Li is Vice Chief and Dr. Granath is Secretary. The opioids issue was discussed extensively at the last meeting. Medical staff has attempted to procure pain management providers to serve Winnemucca, with no success. The opioid issue is a national crisis. Administrator Frable stated it's important for the community to understand that the hospital is doing everything they are required to do per the applicable regulations. Perkinson noted the intake form for pain management patients is 65 pages long and each patient must have over 70 items considered at each visit. A provider can lose their license if one item is missed. Board member Hammargren confirmed that the hospital employed physicians accept Medicare and Medicaid.

EMS UPDATE:

EMS Director Burke commented on recent EMS projects. Burke explained all high school students must pass CPR prior to a certain grade level; EMS spent two days teaching 250 students. Burke said the first ambulance rebuild is almost complete. Burke explained the December dashboard, including guideline compliance, cardiac events, readiness, personnel, apparatus and budget. CFO Lehman explained the cost based reimbursement system.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT:

Quality Manager Andre stated the hospital is currently preparing for an anticipated Critical Access Hospital survey. The last survey was completed in 2011.

Administrator Frable read a letter from owners representative Mike Sheppard who reported a certificate of occupancy has been received for the recently completed construction work.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Hood to approve the consent agenda Medical Staff appointments-reappointments and board meeting minutes for December 19, 2017. Motion carried unanimously, with Board member Miller abstaining from the December 19, 2017 meeting minutes approval because she was not present at the meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

CFO Lehman presented the December 2017 financial reports and responded to questions about the timing for booking the new construction and the status of procuring an investment manager. Lehman explained the status of the billing statements which have been held up since October due to revisions to the statements. A follow-up call will take place tomorrow to have all accounts reset so they don't show as late payments. Board member Miller inquired about specific departments not appearing on the financial report.

Motion by board member Hood and second by board member Hammargren to approve the December 2017 financial reports as presented, which includes warrants and utilization reports. Motion carried unanimously.

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BUSINESS ITEMS-OTHER REPORTS:

1. Hospital Administration-EMS / proposal to submit bid to provide EMS services to the Burning Man event / Administrator-EMS Director

Administrator Frable said two months ago a community member contacted him about the hospital again participating in Burning Man. EMS Director Burke was consulted and he believes it is a good opportunity for personnel training. Frable read an email from Burning Man regarding the hospital submitting a response Burning Man's request for proposals. Hospital administration met with Burning Man representatives last week to discuss it further. Frable stated he wanted the board and community to be comfortable prior to the hospital submitting a proposal. It will take about 130 people per day to man the event and 10% of those people will be from the hospital, the remainder will be hired. Board member Hammargren said he was on the board during the initial Burning Man presentation when the board agreed to give it a try. Hammargren said he wants to make sure it's the right thing for the hospital, not the right thing for Burning Man. If the hospital is going to do it right, it may be necessary to hire someone just to oversee the Burning Man services. Hammargren said he is not happy with the way the hospital was treated the last time by Burning Man. Dr. Perkinson said he worked at Burning Man and confirmed what Hammargren stated. When the hospital ended their relationship with Burning Man, medical staff discussed the matter and Perkinson said it is important that the hospital be in control of what happens and how the healthcare services are delivered. Board member Miller believes that the relationship could be a win-win situation. Hammargren believes the hospital is capable of providing the services. Frable commented on some of his concerns. Burke explained the six outposts (satellite treatment stations) that Burning Man has put into place. Board members Cook and Tipton concurred with the comments made by the board.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Miller to authorize the Administrator and EMS Director to submit a proposal to Burning Man. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Hospital Administration / proposal to amend the MedX AirOne services contract to adjust rates and terms for payments and expenses reimbursement / Administrator

Board member Hammargren explained the proposed amendments to the air ambulance services agreement with MedX AirOne which is in the meeting packet. Joel Hochhalter with MedX AirOne also commented on the proposed changes and his agreement with them.

Motion by board member Miller and second by board member Cook to approve the amendments to the MedX AirOne services contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Hospital Administration / terms and conditions of employment agreement with William E Beckman III for OBGYN services / Administrator

Administrator Frable stated that prior to him starting with the hospital, Interim CEO Bryan had discussions with Dr. Beckman about providing obstetrics and gynecology healthcare services. A tentative contract has been prepared but has not been reviewed by Legal Counsel Maher. Frable stated the hospital is interested in the gynecology portion of the services because it is a service currently not offered and anticipates the obstetrical services will be primarily to back-up existing providers. Dr. Perkinson commented that Beckman will provide services that Granath and Perkinson do not provide, primarily diagnostic procedures. They are also excited about the potential for surgical services and training of the residents, particularly with more complicated type C-sections. Hammargren asked questions about the proposed agreement terms.

Motion by board member Hammargren and second by board member Miller to authorize staff to negotiate a contract with William Beckman to provide professional services. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Hospital Administration / proposal to secure strategic planning date / Administrator

Administrator Frable said the preferable method of doing strategic planning is to have an outside person to lead the discussion. NRHP staff may be a resource. Frable spoke with Joan Hall of NRHP and she confirmed that it may be possible for NHRP to participate, but it is dependent on the scheduling. The consensus of the board and staff was to schedule a planning meeting for February 24, 2018.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS-STAFF REPORTS:

Administrator Frable commented: (i) on issues with non-patients occupying hospital facilities; (ii) on the pharmacy remodel and the issues with the vent hoods and the potential costs; (iii) that Human Resources is proceeding with the new payroll system and is on schedule; (iv) new boilers have been installed and another one will be installed during the next budget year; (v) Great Basin College may have a grant for expansion and they will speak to the board at a future meeting; (vi) the purchase of the software for IT security implementation is proceeding; and, (vii) the quarterly Certificate of Need will be filed by the end of January 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no comments from the public.

Board chairman Casalez adjourned the January 23, 2018 meeting of the Humboldt County Hospital District Board of Trustees at 7:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

JoAnn Casalez, Board Chairman

Alicia Wogan, Administrative Assistant