

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1 OF PEND OREILLE COUNTY**

September 26, 2024

In Attendance: Commissioners: Lois Robertson, Susan Johnson, Melanie Kiss, Becky Walrath, Lynnette Elswick; Executive Officers: Kim Manus, Joseph Clouse, Jenny Smith, Benjamin Schultze; Others: RaeLynn Wellman, Chris Emond, Michelle Knight, Lori Diaz, Lori Stratton, Tina Batsch, Sara Glazier, Theresa Johnson, Jennifer Romero, Glenn Talmage, Trina Gleese, Annie Suchocki, Becky Dana, Daniel Eldred, Casey Scott, Cherie Banta, Dalene Zieske, Cassie Wise, Rachel Davis, Rhi Drake

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Robertson called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

READING OF LEGAL NOTICE:

The regular meeting legal notice was distributed as required.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA / CONSENT ITEMS:

The Meeting Agenda, Auditors Reports and Uncompensated Report (Consent Packet) were approved via motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Bad Debt/Charity: September 2024, inclusive District Write-off: \$ 264,270.51

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES,

August 22nd, minutes were approved via a motion made, seconded, and unanimously approved.

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chief Of Medical Staff: Dr. Lewis was not present.

Finance: Chris Emond introduced Cassie Wise, Director of Revenue Cycle. Cassie provided a brief update on how things have been the last four weeks since she started. She highlighted that she is looking for the group to become proactive instead of reactive. In reference to 4DX goal of clean claims, she will be reaching out to department managers when issues arise to prevent them from happening again.

Chris reviewed the financial packet, explaining there was a dip in August. An allowance adjustment was created year to date, moving forward this adjustment will be made quarterly. He advised cash on hand is 105 days. RMAC is working on revenue. The District is likely to receive \$1M by year end from SNAP, \$391K was received for the 3rd quarter. Chris highlighted contract/agency expenses at \$585K, this is for 3 FTE. He explained this amount would be equivalent to 5-6 staffed FTE.

Kim shared information about a firm that will audit sales tax paid on items that should not be taxed. She is hoping to have a contract signed within the week for them to start before the end of the year. This would allow them to review invoices back in 2020. The firm would reach out to the vendors and have them remove sales tax moving forward, they will refile taxes and get a refund back. Their fee would be 38% of the refund.

Quality/Performance Improvement – Rhi provided an update on the DNV corrective action plan being approved. She explained that the life safety evidence is due to DNV October 15th, the other objective evidence is due December 20th.

Administrative Services Report: Joseph provided an update on the report. He addressed the FTE from agency staff previously mentioned during financials. He explained that overtime is non-budgeted and still being monitored and continuing to see improvements. He shared appreciation for Aron Hutchison. A lot of good work is being done.

KUDOS: Jenny reviewed the letter received from a patient about great care. She advised the Board that SLT is continuing to receive kudos from departments, these are discussed weekly and handled internally. Joseph called out physical therapy for receiving/sharing a lot of recognition.

Clinical Services Report: Ben Schultze shared August saw a dip in patients. He reviewed the divert report. He advised that nursing staff is almost full.

CEO Report – Lois thanked Kim Manus for accepting the interim CEO role. Kim reviewed her report. She advised a podiatrist interviewed last week. He specializes in wound care and diabetes. Kim will discuss further with Dr. Lewis and Dr. Fisher.

District project update – The quote from the architect’s resolution to the storm drainage issue was \$250K, the engineering team met and developed a plan that should be around \$10,000. This plan was tested in the storm on 9/25. Kim and the engineering team are confident that their plan is the answer to prevent further issues and will not need to move forward with the architect’s plans.

Kim advised the District received notification from Inland Imaging. They have not been able to negotiate an agreement with Regence or Asuris Insurance, starting in October these insurances will be out-of-network for Inland Imaging. Kim and the team met with Inland to discuss this further and was advised that anyone that lives on the east side of the cascade mountains with Regence insurance will be considered as those claims will be processed through Premera. This is not an option for Asuris Insurance patients.

The team is working on sending a response to the AG. The AG is requesting scripting, documents and website screenshots about the RPA.

Med Staff has activated their Bylaws Committee per the medical staff bylaws. This committee will work on updating the bylaws and discuss recredentialling processes.

Kim advised many of the providers contracts are due for renewal. She is working with the attorneys to clean up language as there have been some federal changes such as the PA practice agreements. PA agreements will no longer be in effective as of July 2025, instead they will have collaboration agreements with the employer with physician oversight. Also need to remove language about non-compete.

Kim explained that she has received news from the ACO. The group had bad results for 2023, the District may owe \$390K penalty, this has not been finalized. She will provide updated information as she learns more.

ACTION ITEMS:

Motion to ratify the motion from August 15th approving the Chairman to finalize severance agreement on behalf of the District was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Motion to approve capital purchase of the PFT machine in the amount of \$73,077.28 plus tax and shipping was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Motion to complete district projects: replace hospital chiller, Seeber's remodel, storm water drainage and to move forward with architects for east parking lot, surgical area remodel and clinic reception remodel made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Motion to approve capital purchase of 3 Hamilton Medical ventilators estimated at \$66,000 was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

As permitted by RCW 70.41.205, the meeting was moved to the Executive Session at 12:00 pm for approximately a half hour to review quality improvement committee reports.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

The Commission returned to Open Session at approximately 12:30 pm to extend the executive session for an additional fifteen minutes. The Commission returned to Open Session at 12:45 pm.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be on October 24, 2024.

Per the recommendation of the Medical Staff Executive Committee, the Board of Commissioners approved the following privileges by motion made, seconded, and passed unanimously:

Provisional - NHHS

Kevin McNamee, MD – NPI #1437771169 - Clinic – 09.26.2024 to 09.26.2025

Re-Appointment – NHHS

Michael Schicker, DO – NPI #186177429 - 09.27.2024 to 09.27.2026

Eric Renk, PAC – NPI #1568659910 - 09.28.2024 to 09.28.2026

Re-Appointment – Off-Site Teleneurology - Providence

Mohammad Hirzallah, MD – NPI #1922440981 - 11.18.2024 to 11.18.2026

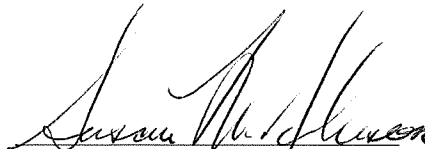
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 pm.

Minutes recorded by RaeLynn Wellman, Executive Administrative Assistant.



Lois Robertson, President
Board of Commissioners



Susan Johnson, Secretary
Board of Commissioners