

BENEWAH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, June 25, 2020, 8:00 a.m.  
Francie Walters Board Room, Benewah Community Hospital, St. Maries, Idaho

MINUTES

Present: Dan Hammes Carol Humphrey Mike LaPlante  
Richard Schumacker Peggy Cuvala Ron Hodge  
Dave Cox

Staff: Lori Minier Chuck Lloyd Rebecca Plante  
Andrew Wadsworth Dr. Lauren Wikholm

Other: Phil Lampert, Benewah County Commissioner

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Hammes opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m.
2. **Regular Session** – Dr. Lauren Wikholm introduced herself to the Board and gave her background. *Wikholm exited at 8:06 a.m.*
3. **Approve Minutes** – A **motion** made by Hodge, second by Humphrey, to approve the meeting minutes from May 28, 2020. The motion passed.
4. **Open Forum/Visitors** – Hammes reported that Lloyd, Hammes, and Humphrey went to PotlatchDeltic to meet with their management team; discussion followed. Hammes thanked Lloyd and Plante for the follow-up. One item discussed was Dr. Sutherlin and Occupational Medicine. Discussion regarding Administration being closed to the public on Fridays due to the COVID pandemic and the phones not being answered.
5. **Medical Staff** – In the absence of Dr. Wheeler, Lloyd brought forth the following Medical Staff files that were approved by the Medical Staff at their June meeting:
  - 5.1. **Initial Appointment**
    - 5.1.1. **Lauren Wikholm, M.D.** – Lloyd stated that Dr. Wikholm is a PRN General Surgeon who is here currently covering for a provider vacation. Her goal is to move to Northern Idaho in the near future. Lloyd gave her schooling/training background. The Medical Staff has recommended Dr. Wikholm’s initial appointment. A **motion** made by Hodge, second by Cuvala, to approve the initial appointment of Dr. Lauren Wikholm. The motion passed.
    - 5.1.2. **Juergen Lang, M.D.** – Dr. Lang is our new ER Physician. He will be working 6 shifts a month. Dr. Lang lives in Moscow and has worked at Tristate Memorial Hospital in Clarkston for over 25 years. Lloyd gave his schooling/training background. The Medical Staff has recommended Dr. Lang’s initial appointment. A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by Humphrey, to approve the initial appointment of Dr. Juergen Lang. The motion passed.
    - 5.1.3. **Twyla Masterson, FNP-C** – FNP Twyla Masterson worked at BCH previously. She has been recredentialed as a PRN for back-up clinic/inpatient. Her primary job is at Northwest Specialty Urgent Care/Family Medicine. Lloyd gave her schooling/training background. The Medical Staff has recommended Twyla Masterson’s initial appointment. A **motion**

made by Cuvala, second by Cox, to approve the initial appointment of Twyla Masterson, FNP-C. The motion passed.

## **6. Board Committee Reports**

**6.1. Performance Improvement Committee** – No recent meeting due to COVID.

**6.2. Finance Committee** – The Finance Committee met this morning prior to the Board meeting.

**6.2.1. Approve May Financials** – A **motion** made by Humphrey, second by Schumacker, to approve the May Financials. The motion passed.

**6.2.2. 2019 Audited Financial Statements** – The Audit presentation occurred at the beginning of the Finance Meeting. A **motion** made by Humphrey, second by Hodge, to approve the 2019 Audit Financial Statements. The motion passed.

**6.2.3. 2019 Medicare As-Filed Cost Report** – A **motion** made by Humphrey, second by Schumacker, to approve the 2019 Medicare As-Filed Cost Report, allowing Chuck Lloyd, CEO, to sign this document. The motion passed. Minier reported that two of our Medicare notes have been paid off, so we have two outstanding. We will pay the 2019 payable of \$243,000 in full. The outstanding notes are 2016 and 2017-2. We are due to receive approx. \$476,000 from the Medicaid program. Once received (should be here by the end of the month), we will pay off the outstanding debts and apply the remaining dollars to the Bond payments; discussion followed. Minier stated that the goal is to have this all paid off by mid-July.

**6.3. Medical Staff Committee** – Hodge stated that Plante covered all Medical Staff items in her Board report. Plante gave an update on FP candidate, Dr. Ruppel.

**6.4. Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy Committee** – Cox stated that LaPlante and Hammes were both approved for reappointments by the County Commissioners. Their new terms run 07/01/2020 – 06/30/2023. Plante will check with the County Clerk to make sure the Commissioners sent a letter thanking the other candidate who submitted a letter of interest. Discussion regarding the Committee and Administration getting together to look at any needed Board policies.

## **7. Contracts**

**7.1. Pacific Northwest General Surgery, PLLC (Lauren Wikholm, M.D.)** – Minier stated that she and Lloyd met with Dr. Wikholm to discuss her contract and came to an agreement. This was also discussed at the last meeting. A **motion** made by Hodge, second by Humphrey, to approve the contract with Pacific Northwest General Surgery, PLLC (Lauren Wikholm, MD), effective June 22, 2020. The motion passed. *(The Board completed a poll vote via email prior to Dr. Wikholm starting at BCH and agreed to approve her contract with an effective date of June 22, 2020. There was a special meeting that was scheduled that the contract was to be approved at prior to this date, but due to conflicting obligations, the special meeting had to be cancelled).*

## **8. Board/CEO Staff Communications**

**8.1. Board Rounding** – Rounding tabled due to COVID.

**9. Administrative Reports/Questions** – The Board and Administration had discussions regarding the following items: Chemotherapy department meeting, Pharmacy changes, recent Pharmacist interview, Dr. Beaton retiring (in need of ENT services), surgical services, DNS interviews next week, the Radiology Manager position, and potential county growth. The Board thanked Lloyd for his report with Hospital transfers (K. Masterson and L. Minier helped with this data). The board gave kudos on Machado’s great nursing report.

**10. Follow-Up Items** – Cuvala had an IHA call on Wednesday. COVID report: COVID cases in the west are going up. We have seen a 50% rise in cases in our state. Ada county in Southern Idaho moved back to stage 3 (bars closed). We are now seeing regional decisions being made versus state-wide. It is estimated that every COVID infected person is infecting approx. 7-20 people. Many people are asymptomatic, which is how this can spread so easily. Cuvala discussed the Idaho Patient Act regarding patient billing; IHA will be getting informational handouts to hospitals. They will be asking for input from hospital CFOs. IHA is working on Medicaid managed care, working with ACO organizations to come up with a way to manage that population. There will be IHA work sessions in the fall instead of the annual convention that has been cancelled.

**11. Communications**

**11.1. BetterCARE Report** – Nothing at this time.

**11.2. Board Education** – Nothing at this time.

**12. Executive Session**

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At 8:47 a.m., a **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Humphrey, to adjourn into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) Personnel and Idaho Code 74-206(1)(j) Provider Contract and Other Contract Matters. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. The motion passed.

*Present at this time: Hammes, Humphrey, LaPlante, Cox, Schumacker, Hodge, Cuvala, Lloyd, Minier, Plante, Lampert.*

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*Plante exited at 8:48 a.m.*

*Minier exited at 9:04 a.m.*

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

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Rebecca Plante, Board Secretary

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Dan Hammes, Board Chairman