

BENEWAH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING  
Thursday, July 29, 2021, 7:00 a.m.  
Francie Walters Board Room, Benewah Community Hospital, St. Maries, Idaho

MINUTES

Attendees:	Dan Hammes Dave Cox Peggy Cuvala	Carol Humphrey Ron Hodge	Mike LaPlante Richard Schumacker
Staff:	Chuck Lloyd Dr. Bill Wheeler	Lori Minier Rachel Ewert	Rebecca Plante
Other:	Phil Lampert, County Commissioner		

**1. Call to Order** – Chairman Humphrey opened the meeting at 7:37 a.m.

Humphrey requested a motion to amend the agenda, adding action item: Staff COVID Vaccine Requirement Discussion. Reason for amending agenda: Increase in COVID cases and shortage of staffing in the region. A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Cuvala, to approve amending the agenda to add this item. The motion passed.

**2. Regular Session**

**3. Approve Minutes** – A **motion** made by Hodge, second by Cox, to approve the meeting minutes from June 24, 2021 and June 28, 2021. The motion passed.

**4. Open Forum/Visitors** – Lloyd stated that staff very much appreciated the COVID bonuses and thanked the Board for making this happen.

**5. Medical Staff**

**5.1. Initial Appointment**

5.1.1. **Direct Radiology Updated Schedule 1** - A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cuvala, to approve Direct Radiology's Updated Schedule 1, adding provider Samuel S'Doia, MD. The motion passed.

**5.2. Reappointments**

5.2.1. **David Bartels, DO** – Dr. Wheeler stated that the Medical Staff approved Dr. Bartels' reappointment at their July meeting. A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by Hodge, to approve Dr. Bartels' reappointment to the Medical Staff. The motion passed.

5.2.2. **Leslie Rogers, FNP** – Dr. Wheeler stated that the Medical Staff approved FNP Leslie Rogers' reappointment at their July meeting. A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by Hodge, to approve FNP Leslie Rogers' reappointment to the Medical Staff. The motion passed.

**5.3. Policy and Bylaws Update** – Dr. Wheeler stated that Idaho changed their rules for Physician Assistants, and instead of requiring a registered Supervising Physician, they now must

“Collaborate” with Physicians, (any Physician within the practice, not one specific Physician). An adjustment to the Medical Staff Bylaws was made to reflect this change, as well as policy Mid-Level Providers and Physician Collaboration. A Physician will still review charts as they have been. A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by LaPlante, to approve the update to the Medical Staff Bylaws, as well as the update to the policy Mid-Level Providers and Physician Collaboration. The motion passed.

## 6. Contracts

**6.1. VersaBadge, LLC** – Minier stated that the VersaBadge, LLC agreement will help with ER provider time studies by providing more accurate face-to-face time; discussion followed. Contract cost: \$36,000/year. QHR will pay the implementation cost of \$10,000. Minier stated that this should generate about \$150,000/year. A **motion** made by Cox, second by Hodge, to approve the Versa Badge, LLC agreement. The motion passed.

*As Cox will be leaving the meeting early, Humphrey jumped to agenda item # 9.1 – Policy Approval Discussion.*

**Policy Approval Discussion** – Lloyd requested to discuss with the Board how they want to receive operational policy updates requiring their approval. To be efficient, Lloyd requested that Administration supply the Board with a summary of the policy update. Cox stated that he supports this process as the CEO should be the one developing and bringing policies to the Board. Cuvala added that financial oversight of the board for policies with major financial impact is important.

**7. Staff COVID Vaccine Requirement Discussion** – Lloyd would like Board’s stance on requiring the COVID vaccine for staff. A lot of hospitals are moving in this direction, so we need to decide what we would like to do; discussion followed. Discussion regarding employee health and patient safety. The Board would like to continue the discussion on employee health. The Board agreed that COVID vaccines are not required at this time. *Cox exited at 8:03 a.m.*

## 8. Board Committee Reports

**8.1. Performance Improvement Committee** – Schumacker stated that PI did not meet in July.

**8.2. Finance Committee** – Hammes stated that the finance report was given in the Finance Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting.

**8.2.1. June Financials** – A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Hodge, to approve the June Financials. The motion passed.

**8.3. Medical Staff Committee** – Hodge stated that at the Medical Staff meeting, Ewert let the providers know that Respiratory completed ventilator training with nursing staff. They also discussed the challenge of transferring patients due to hospitals being at capacity.

**8.4. Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy** – Policy process discussed above.

**9. Administrative Reports/Questions** – The Board and Administration had conversations regarding the Nursing shortage as well as the humidity levels in surgery.

**9.1. Policy Approval Discussion** – Discussed above.

**9.2. Authority in Absence of CEO Policy Update** – Policy update explanation provided in Board packets. A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Hammes, to approve the Authority in Absence of CEO policy update. The motion passed.

**9.3. Liability Insurance Renewal - Policy Term: August 1, 2021 – August 1, 2022**

Professional & General Liability – Physician’s Insurance A Mutual Co.

Management Liability (D&O) – Darwin Select Insurance Co.

Commercial Crime – Travelers Casualty & Surety Co. of America

Security & Privacy Liability – HSB Specialty Insurance Co.

Minier stated that our malpractice insurance premium has an increase of \$9,300, but we have a savings on the D&O policy with a new carrier, so this year’s Liability Insurance renewal has a total premium increase of \$2,064. Hammes attended the renewal meeting with Administration; discussion followed. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cuvala, to approve the Liability Insurance Renewal as presented by Administration. The motion passed.

**10. Follow-Up Items** – The Cerner contract change is complete.

**11. Communications**

**11.1. IHA Updates** – Cuvala stated that there will be a regional leadership team meeting in August, so there was no meeting in July.

**11.2. BetterCARE Update** – Humphrey stated that the golf tournament was a success!

**12. Executive Session**

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At 8:13 a.m., a **motion** made by Schumacker, second by Hammes, to adjourn into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(b) Personnel and Idaho Code 74-206(1)(j) Provider Contract & Other Contract Manners. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. The motion passed.

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

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*Ewert, Wheeler, and Plante exited at 8:13 a.m.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

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Rebecca Plante, Board Secretary

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Carol Humphrey, Board Chairman