

BENEWAH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Thursday, January 26, 2022, 7:30 a.m.
Francie Walters Board Room, Benewah Community Hospital, St. Maries, Idaho

MINUTES

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

Staff: Chuck Lloyd Lori Minier Rebecca Plante
Rachel Ewert Dr. Cooper Wester Dr. Ralph Sutherlin

Other: Phil Lampert, County Commissioner

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Humphrey opened the meeting at 7:57 a.m.
2. **Regular Session**
3. **Approve Minutes** – A **motion** made by Hodge, second by LaPlante, to approve the meeting minutes from December 21, 2021, January 11, 2022, January 12, 2022, January 13, 2022, January 19, 2022. The motion passed.
4. **Open Forum/Visitors** – No comments or questions.
5. **Board Committee Reports**
 - 5.1. **Performance Improvement Committee** – Schumacker gave a report highlighting some of the department PI projects presented at the January PI meeting, to include ER, Med/Surg, HR, Risk Management, and Materials Management. Humphrey added that the employee survey, which is part of Administration’s PI project, shows that staff satisfaction with communication has improved over the last year.
 - 5.2. **Finance Committee** – Hammes stated that the finance report was given in the Finance Committee meeting prior to the Board meeting.
 - 5.2.1. **December Financials** – A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Schumacker, to approve the December Financials. The motion passed.
 - 5.2.2. **2022 Budget** – Minier stated that Administration is proposing the 2021 budget be moved over for 2022 with some modifications, to include Orthopedics, salaries, etc. Discussion followed. Item tabled. A Special Board meeting for budget discussion, to include capital items, will be scheduled within the next couple weeks.
 - 5.2.3. **Stryker Defibrillators (2)** – A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Cuvala, to approve the purchase of 2 additional Stryker Defibrillators (1-Med/Surg, 1-OR). The motion passed.
 - 5.2.4. **IV Pumps** – Our current IV pumps are at end of life. A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by Hodge, to approve the purchase of 14 IV Pumps. The motion passed.

5.3. Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy Committee – Cox stated that the BNPB Committee has not met. The annual review of the Bylaws was completed in December.

5.4. Medical Staff Committee – Hodge stated that he had nothing to add to Plante’s Medical Staff report. *Sutherlin exited at 8:16 a.m.* Hodge added that Dr. Wester ran a great Medical Staff meeting for his first meeting as Chief of Staff.

6. Medical Staff – Dr. Wester stated that he has no comments or issues to bring forward from the Medical Staff.

7. Contracts

7.1. Jordan Day, PA-C Amendment – Jordan Day’s contract amendment adjusts the language related to medical insurance coverage. A **motion** made by Cox, second by Cuvala, to approve the contract amendment for Jordan Day, PA-C. The motion passed.

7.2. Rebekah Myers, FNP, Amendment – Rebekah Myers’ contract amendment adjusts the language related to medical insurance coverage. A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by Cox, to approve the contract amendment for Rebekah Myers, FNP. The motion passed.

7.3. Rebekah Myers, FNP Contract – Rebekah Myers’ contract is due for renewal in March. Her new agreement will move her from 4 days a week to 3 days a week in the clinic. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Hodge, to approve the new 2022 contract for Rebekah Myers, FNP. The motion passed.

8. Administrative Reports/Questions – The Board and Administration had conversations regarding the following items: ABN notices, New Chemo Nurse and relationship with Dr. Bartels’ office, self-funded insurance plan, Nursing shortages and onsite Blood Drive March 22.

9. Follow-Up Items

9.1. COVID Update – Ewert reported that we have 35 positive COVID tests last week with a positivity rate of 32%. Kootenai Health’s positivity rate is at 41.2%, and as of yesterday, they had 90 COVID patients in the hospital. Ewert stated that we are no longer able to do rapid COVID tests at BCH, and we are no longer doing the daily 1:00 p.m. testing. We do have some Vault tests (the saliva tests) that we can hand out to patients. The few rapid tests we have left are set aside for patient transfers and critical staffing. Ewert added that we continue to have major issues transferring patients.

10. Communications

10.1. IHA Updates – Cuvala recently attended an IHA conference call meeting. Skilled Nursing Facilities are full, so hospitals are struggling to discharge patients to these facilities. Other discussions: COVID, to include staff testing of unvaccinated staff with exemptions when supplies are not available, blood shortages, and county indigent funds.

10.2. BetterCARE Update – Hodge stated that BetterCARE has not met recently. Lloyd confirmed that the new vision machine has been delivered and is in use in the Clinic. The Pelvic Table was ordered but has been delayed.

10.3. KH Symposium – Plante stated that the symposium date has been moved due to a rise in COVID cases. The new date for the Symposium is May 20-21. *Ewert exited at 8:45 a.m.*

11. Executive Session

At 8:45 a.m., a **motion** made by LaPlante, 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: Humphrey, LaPlante, Cuvala, Schumacker, Hodge, Hammes, Cox, Lloyd, Minier, Plante, Wester and Lampert.

Minier exited at 8:50 a.m.

Wester exited at 9:22 a.m.

Schumacker exited at 9:23 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Rebecca Plante, Board Secretary

Carol Humphrey, Board Chairman