

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

MINUTES

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

Staff: Chuck Lloyd, *CEO* Lori Minier, *CFO* Dr. Cooper Wester, *Chief of Staff*
Rachel Ewert, *DNS* Rebecca Plante, *Exec. Assistant/Board Secretary*

Other: Phil Lampert, County Commissioner
Debby Blake, Community Member

1. Call to Order – Chairman Humphrey opened the meeting at 7:43 a.m.

2. Executive Session

At 7:43 a.m., a **motion** made by Hodge, second by Schumacker, to adjourn into executive session per Idaho Code 74-206(1)(j) Contract Discussion. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. The motion passed.

Present at this time: Humphrey, LaPlante, Cuvala, Hammes, Cox, Schumacker, Hodge, Lloyd, Ewert, Minier, Plante, Wester, Lampert, and Blake.

Plante, Minier, Ewert, Lloyd, Wester, and Blake exited at 7:43 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:03 a.m.

Plante, Minier, Ewert, Lloyd, and Blake entered at 8:03 a.m.

3. Regular Session

4. Approve Minutes – A **motion** made by Hodge, second by LaPlante, to approve the meeting minutes from April 28, 2022, May 5, 2022, and May 20, 2022. The motion passed. *Wester entered at 8:05 a.m.*

5. Open Forum/Visitors – Visitor Debby Blake, St. Maries community member, expressed her concern regarding staffing, to include recent resignations. Discussion regarding staffing and the nation-wide labor shortage. The Board thanked Blake for coming and asking questions.

6. Board Committee Reports

6.1. Performance Improvement Committee – Schumacker stated that the PI committee did not meet this month. The next quarterly meeting will be July 12th.

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

6.2.1. **April Financials** – A **motion** made by Hammes, second by LaPlante, to approve the April Financials. The motion passed.

6.2.2. **2021 Medicare Cost Report** – Minier reported that we have not yet received the 2021 Medicare Cost report. Administration is requesting Board approval authorizing the CEO to sign the report once received (due May 31, 2022). Discussion followed. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve allowing the CEO to sign the 2021 Medicare Cost Report once received. 6 in favor/1 opposed. The motion passed.

6.2.3. **PPP Loan Forgiveness Return of Funds** – Lloyd has filed an appeal with the SBA. Item tabled.

6.2.4. **ER Safe Room Quote** – Ewert stated that the room in the ER was evaluated last week, but we have not yet received a quote. Item tabled.

6.2.5. **PT Aquasizer Quote** – Minier stated that the underwater treadmill was installed during the hospital build, and it is no longer repairable. Current quote: \$71,285 (purchased for \$83,000 in 2012). The Board requested a proforma to see how much this equipment is utilized. Item tabled.

6.2.6. **Work of Heart Scholarship** –Ewert reported that the two scholarship recipients within the program currently are doing great! One of them will be eligible to apply for the Nursing program in June/July, and the other has another semester of prerequisites to complete. Ewert requested Board approval for two more scholarships for Fall of 2022. A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Cox, to approve two additional Work of Heart Scholarships for Fall 2022. The motion passed.

6.3. Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy Committee

6.3.1. **Upcoming Board Terms, Request Letter to Commissioners** – Cox stated that the committee met last week. Three Board members’ terms are up for renewal July 1, 2022. Discussion regarding the possibility of creating a community advisory board. Lampert added that the county has received two applications for the committee to review. Item tabled until applications are reviewed; discussion followed regarding Board terms.

6.4. Medical Staff Committee – Hodge stated that Drs. Wester and Burns are going to help in the Clinic a few days in July when we are short on providers due to vacations. The Same Day appointment model in the clinic is going well. *Lampert exited at 8:25 a.m.*

7. Medical Staff – Dr. Wester presented the following Medical Staff files, stating that there are no issues or concerns with either file.

7.1. W. Scott Spence, MD – A **motion** made by Cuvala, second by Hodge, to approve the reappointment of Dr. W. Scott Spence. The motion passed.

7.2. William Wheeler, MD – A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve the reappointment of Dr. William Wheeler. The motion passed.

8. Contracts

8.1. VVCC CEO Agreement Amendment- A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Hammes, to approve the new Amendment to the VVCC CEO Agreement. The motion passed.

8.2. Rebekah Myers, FNP PRN Agreement- Minier stated that Rebekah is terminating her part-time agreement in the clinic but has agreed to stay on PRN. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve new contract terms for Rebekah Myers, FNP, moving to PRN status. The motion passed.

9. Administrative Reports/Questions – The Board and Administration had conversations regarding the following items: Dr. Shellack’s wide orthopedic scope; transfer difficulties (*Wester explained taking care of acute patients while we wait for beds*); Employee medical plan costs; food truck during hospital week; Kootenai Health’s new EHR; Chemotherapy services; COVID funding (*state grant funding*); new COVID testing machine in Lab.

10. Follow-Up Items

10.1. COVID Update – Ewert stated that COVID is slightly coming back. There are increasing cases across the US. BCH had zero COVID admissions in May. *Blake exited at 8:43 a.m.*

11. Communications

11.1. IHA Updates – Cuvala stated that the recent IHA phone meeting was a recap of the election. Discussion regarding county funding. Issues discussed at the Regional Leadership meeting: Financial issues, attracting/retaining staff, training/education, regulatory relief, state and statute.

11.2. BetterCARE Update – Hodge stated that BetterCARE has not had a recent meeting. Kristi Masterson is planning the Scrubby Bear Scramble golf fundraiser for August 13 at the Golf Course. BetterCARE also sponsored a staff game during Hospital Week.

11.3. Brief KH Symposium Recap. – Hodge, Humphrey, and Cuvala attended the KH symposium. The symposium had great presenters this year and gave some great education on the Board’s role in strategic planning (oversee and monitor progress), to include governance vs management. *Wester exited at 8:50 a.m.* Cuvala recapped a presentation given by an Economist from the Idaho Department of Labor.

12. Executive Session

At 9:00 a.m., a **motion** made by Cox, second by LaPlante, 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, Hammes, Cox, Schumacker, Hodge, Lloyd, Minier, Ewert, and Plante. Ewert exited at 9:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Rebecca Plante, Board Secretary

Carol Humphrey, Board Chairman