

BENEWAH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Thursday, May 23, 2024, 7:30 a.m.
Francie Walters Board Room, Benewah Community Hospital, St. Maries, Idaho

MINUTES

Attendees: Dave Cox Peggy Cuvala Suzy Epler
Gary Green, *via phone* Dan Hammes Carol Humphrey
Mike LaPlante

Staff: Lori Minier, *CFO* Carleen Walker, *DNS* Becca Plante, *Board Secretary*
Chuck Lloyd, *CEO* Dr. Cooper Wester, *Chief of Staff*

Other: Mark Reynolds, *County Commissioner*

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Cuvala opened the meeting at 7:30 a.m.
2. **Regular Session**
3. **Approve Minutes** – A **motion** made by Humphrey, second by LaPlante, to approve the meeting minutes from April 25, 2024, May 7, 2024, May 8, 2024, and May 10, 2024. The motion passed.
4. **Open Forum/Visitors** – Epler stated that the landscaping out front was discussed at the last meeting. Master Gardeners said it was too big of a project for them to take on. Discussion regarding cleaning up this area. Discussion regarding hospital housing units.
5. **Board Committee Reports**
 - 5.1. **Performance Improvement Committee** – Humphrey stated that PI’s next quarterly meeting will be in July.
 - 5.2. **Finance Committee** – The finance report was given in the Finance Committee meeting.
 - 5.2.1. **April Financials** – A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve the April financials. The motion passed.
 - 5.2.2. **2023 Medicare Cost Report** – Minier stated that the 2023 Medicare Cost Report must be filed by May 31, 2024. We are expecting a receivable of \$1,153.00 A **motion** made by Cox, second by Hammes, to approve having the CEO sign the 2023 Medicare Cost Report. The motion passed.
 - 5.3. **Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy Committee**
 - 5.3.1. **Board Appointment Letter to Benewah County Commissioners** – Cox distributed and recited a letter stepping down/retiring from his role on the Board. The Nominations Committee met and discussed the four applicants who applied. Cox added that Suzy Epler will be nominated to be Vice Chair (unanimous) at the next meeting. Cox reviewed candidates who applied for Board seats. A **motion** made by Cox, second by Hammes, to approve sending the appointment letter to the County Commissioners. The motion passed.

5.4. Medical Staff Committee – Epler stated that the Medical Staff meeting was quick and went well. Nothing major to report.

5.5. Executive Committee – Nothing to report.

6. Medical Staff – Dr. Wester offered his input regarding Provider recruitment/retention. The Medical Staff is recommending the following appointments and privilege modifications to the Board for approval:

6.1. Initial Appointments

6.1.1. **Coralynn Furr, FNP** – A **motion** made by Cox, second by Hammes, to approve the initial appointment of Coralynn Furr, FNP, Quick Care Provider. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

6.1.2. **Patricia Ojeda, MD** – Dr. Ojeda is a Teleradiologist with KH. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve the initial appointment of Patricia Ojeda, MD. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

6.1.3. **Kara Phelps, MD** – Dr. Phelps is the Pathologist who will be taking over for Dr. Fandel. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve the initial appointment of Kara Phelps, MD. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

6.1.4. **William Wheeler, MD** – General Surgeon Dr. Wheeler has agreed to come back to do scopes in the interim, on a PRN basis. A **motion** made by Hammes, second by Cox, to approve the initial appointment of William Wheeler, MD. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

6.2. Privilege Modifications

Adding Quick Care Privileges – The following providers have requested modified privilege sheets to include Quick Care. A **motion** made by Cox, second by Hammes, to approve adding Quick Care privileges for the following providers: Jordan Day, PA-C, Patrick Marvil, MD, Tim Ochoa, DO, Kara Seigley, FNP, W. Scott Spence, MD, D. Cooper Wester, MD. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

7. Contracts

7.1. Stephanie Arar, MD – Item tabled.

7.2. John Schirmer, CRNA Contract Amendment – CRNA John Schirmer’s initial agreement was only for a period of 6-months. This Amendment will extend his agreement to a 1-year agreement with auto-renew. A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Humphrey, to approve the contract amendment for CRNA John Schirmer. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

7.3. William Wheeler, MD – A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Epler, to approve the PRN agreement with Dr. Willaim Wheeler. Roll call vote: all ayes. The motion passed.

8. Administrative Reports/Questions – The Board and Administration had discussions regarding the following items: ER Transfer paperwork PI project, EKG paperwork 95% complete, Medical Assistants for the RHC. The board expressed their appreciation to Administration as the recent CMS Survey only had 3, minor deficiencies.

9. Follow-Up Items

9.1. Physician Recruitment – Plante gave a recruitment update. Dr. Davis and Dr. Gandy are both waiting on all their Idaho licensure. Cora Furr, Quick Care FNP, is credentialed and ready to start in July. Discussion regarding General Surgery candidate. Discussion regarding ER recruitment.

9.2. Quick Care – Lloyd stated that the Quick Care construction is on schedule.

9.2.1. *Local employer meetings* – Lloyd and Plante went to PotlatchDeltic and met with Bonnie Siron and Bucky Shoemaker to talk about the future Quick Care.

9.3. CEO Recruitment – Two Zoom interviews were held recently with CEO candidates Mike Cooper and Burt Keltner. Keltner will be onsite to interview next week.

10. Communications

10.1. IHA Updates – Cuvala stated the regular IHA board meeting was cancelled due to regional leadership meetings. IHA had a legislative update phone call yesterday.

10.2. BetterCARE Update – Epler stated that BetterCARE is working on the Memorial Walk fundraiser on June 8th; discussion followed. The golf tournament fundraiser will be August 10th (organized by Kristi Masterson). *Waker exited at 8:18 a.m.*

11. Executive Session - Lloyd confirmed that nobody was with him to hear executive conversations.

At 8:18 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 Matters. Roll Call Vote: All ayes. The motion passed.

Present at this time: Cox, Cuvala, Epler, Green, Hammes, Humphrey, LaPlante, Lampert, Reynolds, Lloyd, Wester, Minier and Plante.

Plante and Wester exited at 8:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Rebecca Plante, Secretary

Peggy Cuvala, Board Chairman