

BENEWAH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Thursday, December 19, 2024, 7:30 a.m.
Francie Walters Board Room, Benewah Community Hospital, St. Maries, Idaho

MINUTES

Attendees:	Tom Ebert	Suzy Epler	Dan Hammes
	Carol Humphrey	Gary Green	Mike LaPlante, via telephone
Staff:	Burt Keltner, <i>CEO</i>	Lori Minier, <i>CFO</i>	Becca Plante, <i>Board Secretary</i>
	Carleen Walker, <i>DNS</i>		
Other:	Bob Short, <i>County Commissioner</i>		
	Dr. Salerno, <i>ER Physician Candidate</i>		

1. **Call to Order** – Vice Chairman Epler opened the meeting 8:01 a.m.

2. **Regular Session**

3. **Positive Update/Celebrate Wins** – Keltner gave the following positive updates: Over \$25,000 was raised at the BetterCARE Gala; Jolene Scheel, Work of Heart Scholarship recipient, graduated from NIC's RN program; the permanent chiller was installed today; the long hall is shiny and looks great due to EVS staff.

4. **Approve Minutes** – A **motion** made by Humphrey, seconded by Hammes, to approve the meeting minutes from November 21, 2024. The motion passed.

5. **Open Forum/Visitors** – None

6. **Board Committee Reports**

6.1. **Performance Improvement Committee** – The PI Committee meets in January.

6.2. **Finance Committee** – The finance report was given in the Finance Committee meeting.

6.2.1. **November Financials** – A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Ebert, to approve the November financials. The motion passed.

6.2.2. **COLA/Market Adjustment** – Keltner stated that this was discussed in Finance. Further discussion regarding COLA/market adjustments. A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Humphrey, to approve the 2025 COLA/Market Adjustments as presented. The motion passed.

6.2.3. **2025 Budget** – The 2025 budget was presented in the Finance Committee Meeting. A **motion** made by Ebert, second by Hammes, to approve the 2025 Budget. The motion passed.

6.3. **Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy Committee** – Committee has not met.

6.4. **Medical Staff Committee** – Epler stated that the biggest discussion at the December Medical Staff meeting was the EMTALA survey and response. Kelter discussed the report and what the survey was focused on. Risk Manager Sunnie Jaynes and ED Director Dr. Burns worked hard to get a response completed with a solid plan.

7. Medical Staff

7.1. Initial Appointments – Plante stated that the Medical Staff approved and are recommending the following provider for initial appointment.

7.1.1. **Clinton Thurber, MD** – A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Green, to approve the initial appointment of Telecardiologist, Dr. Clinton Thurber. The motion passed.

7.2. Reappointments – Plante stated that the Medical Staff approved and is recommending the following providers for reappointment.

7.2.1. **G. Bryce Glenn, CRNA** – A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Humphrey, to approve the reappointment of PRN CRNA G. Bryce Glenn. The motion passed.

7.2.2. **Derek Khorsand, MD** – A **motion** made by Humphrey, seconded by Green, to approve the reappointment of Teleradiologist, Dr. Derek Khorsand. The motion passed.

7.2.3. **Shahla Syed, MD** – A **motion** made by Ebert, seconded by Hammes, to approve the reappointment of Teleradiologist Dr. Shahla Syed. The motion passed.

7.2.4. **Dr. Cooper Wester, MD** – A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Green, to approve the reappointment of ER Physician, Dr. Cooper Wester. The motion passed.

7.2.5. **Mazen Zawaideh, MD** – A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Humphrey, to approve the reappointment of Teleradiologist Dr. Mazen Zawaideh. The motion passed.

8. Contracts

8.1. GE Precision Healthcare, LLC, Full-Service Maintenance Agreement – Minier presented this contract, a full-service maintenance agreement for ultrasound and cleaning component. A **motion** made by Hammes, seconded by Humphrey, to approve the GE Precision Healthcare, LLC Full-Service Maintenance Agreement. Roll call vote, 5-yes, 1-no. The motion passed.

8.2. Arthrex Beach Chair and Trimano – Total cost: \$27,000. Keltner stated that they are willing to accept three equal payments of \$9,000. This request was also sent to BetterCARE. Epler stated that BetterCARE will make a funding decision in January. A **motion** made by LaPlante, second by Humphrey, to approve the Arthrex Beach Chair and Trimano purchase. The motion passed. If BetterCARE decides to fund this item, they would reimburse BCH for the purchase.

8.3. Kara Seigley, FNP – Minier stated that the contract amendment for Nurse Practitioner Kara Seigley is moving her from part-time three days a week to full-time four days a week, salaried. A **motion** made by Humphrey, seconded by Hammes, to approve the contract amendment for Kara Seigley, FNP. The motion passed.

9. Administrative Reports/Questions – The Board and Administration had discussions regarding the following items: ER transfers and recent Utilization Review (UR) committee meeting; New Pharmacist; extending a full-time contract to Dr. Ochoa; List of recent positions filled; ABNs for lab and staff training; Dietitian services and potential, future presentations.

10. Follow-Up Items

10.1. Physician Recruitment – Plante reported that we have two Physicians interested in the full-time ER positions, Dr. Ochoa and Dr. Salerno; discussion followed.

10.2. Permanent Chiller Update – Kelter stated that the chiller will be installed today.

10.3. Surgical Equipment Bid Process Update – Keltner stated that Minier will run ads next month, then a decision will be made in Jan./Feb.

11. Communications

- 11.1. BetterCARE Update** – Epler stated that the Gala went great, and the overall perception from the community was very positive. Epler added that BetterCARE does not have an official grant writer on their committee, but they would love to run grants through their 501c3. Two department requests came to the last meeting.

Epler called for a short recess at 9:06 a.m.

Salerno entered at 9:11 a.m.

Meeting was reconvened at 9:15 a.m.

12. Meet and Greet with ER Physician Candidate, Dr. Nicholas Salerno – The Board and Administration met with ER Physician candidate, Dr. Nicholas Salerno.

Minier exited at 9:44 a.m.

Plante and Salerno exited at 9:56 a.m.

13. Executive Session

LaPlante confirmed that nobody was present with him to hear executive conversations.

At 9:56 a.m., a **motion** made by Humphrey, 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: Ebert, Epler, Green, Hammes, Humphrey, LaPlante, Short, Keltner, and Walker

Walker exited at 10:05 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Rebecca Plante, Secretary

Michael LaPlante, Board Chairman