GOVERNING BOARD MEETING, BENEWAH COMMUNITY HOSPITAL
Thursday, August 27, 2026, 7:00 a.m.
Francie Walters Board Room, Benewah Community Hospital, St. Maries, Idaho

MINUTES

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| Attendees: | Kris Brock | Andy Doman | Tom Ebert |
| | Suzy Epler | Doug McKelvey | Jessica Sprute |
| | Wendy Stansbury, *via Telephone* | | |
| Staff: | Burt Keltner, *CEO* | Lori Minier, *CFO* | Becca Plante, *Board Secretary* |
| | Amy Edwards, *DNS* | Shenelle Pugh, *RN* | |
| Other: | Mark Reynolds, *County Commissioner* | | |
| | Jordan Peters, *Admin. Intern* | | |
| | *Community Members:* Kim Schwanz, Anthony Boe, Amy Boe | | |

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman McKelvey opened the meeting at 7:00 a.m.

2. **Regular Session**

3. **Positive Update/Celebrate Wins** – Edwards reported that Nursing hit 100% completion on ED transfer paperwork in July (25 transfers). Discussion regarding positive updates with the school district providing more opportunities for youth in the community.

4. **Approve Minutes** – A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Ebert, to approve the meeting minutes from July 23, 2026, August 6, 2026, August 13, 2026. The motion passed.

5. **Board Committee Reports**
   ***5.1.*** **Finance Committee** – Ebert reported that the finance committee met on Tuesday.
      5.1.1. **July Financials** – Minier gave a brief overview of the Financial Scorecard. Minier noted that there was a formula error in kilowatt usage, and this has been updated *(expense was accurate).* Avista rates increased in April. Working within guidelines of the new county budget. New report included in the financials: OT by department. Balance sheet: added a firewall upgrade *($20,000 under plant, property, and equipment).* Minier explained the payroll liability, which includes PTO and EIB. EIB is not paid out at time of resignation, but PTO is *(up to 200 hours*). *Stansbury entered via conference line at 7:08 a.m.* Discussion regarding Income Statement compared to budget and prior year. Discussion regarding shift in salaries and wages and contracted providers due to employment status changes. Discussion regarding RFP letters for prospective auditors. Keltner added that we have grossed more charges, but write-offs continue to grow. Kelter reported that we continue to work with insurance companies. He has spoken with legislature to try to get this conversation move in the direction of better reimbursement levels. ER volumes are up, but Keltner reminded the board that the reimbursement percentage in the ER is the lowest in the facility. Discussion regarding appeal process for denials and how frustrating it is to try to fight for these. A **motion** made by Ebert, seconded by Sprute, to approve the July financials. The motion passed.

5.1.2. **2027 County Budget – Modified** – The Commissioners asked for the Bond Payment to be listed in the budget *(the Interest portion already was, and the Principal is technically a Balance Sheet item, not an Income Statement (Budget) item)*. It was agreed to input the Principal item per the County's request. A **motion** made by Ebert, seconded by Epler, to approve the modified 2027 County Budget. The motion passed.

5.1.3. **Resolution 2026-01 – Modified –** Original Resolution was requesting $400,000, and the County Attorney requested we update with the actual shortfall of $372,809.57. A **motion** made by Ebert, seconded by Epler, to approve Resolution 2026-01- Modified. Roll Call Vote: Doman: Yes, Brock: Yes, Sprute: Yes, Epler: Yes, Ebert: Yes, Stansbury: No, McKelvey: Yes. The motion passed *(6 in favor, 1 opposed).*

***5.2.*** **Performance Improvement Committee**

5.2.1. ***Future Board PI Project Discussion*** – Item tabled until next month.

***5.3.*** **Board Nominations and Bylaws/Policy Committee –** No updates.

***5.4.*** **Medical Staff Committee** – Brock stated that the annual Medical Staff Bylaws review was completed this month.

**6. Open Forum/Visitors**

***6.1. Public Comment*** – Shenelle Pugh (RN at BCH for 17 years) shared an experience as a patient at a Hospital in Southern Idaho regarding the nursing staff at that hospital looking up BCH and seeing the community negativity on Facebook. Pugh stated that the negative things being said on Facebook are harming us when it comes to potential new hire candidates; discussion followed. Schwanz stated that the ER wait times at BCH are great compared to other areas, adding that "we have a good story to tell here." Discussion regarding obtaining specialists. Stansbury added that Dr. Davis did a great job on her surgery, and our PT department is also great.

**7. Medical Staff**

***7.1.*** **Initial Appointment –** The Medical Staff approved and is recommending the following provider for initial appointment.

7.1.1. **Chen Yin, MD** – A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Ebert, to approve the Initial Appointment of Teleradiologist Dr. Chen Yin. The motion passed.

***7.2.*** **Reappointments –** The Medical Staff approved and is recommending the following providers for reappointment:

7.2.1. **Allyson Sterling, DO** – A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Doman, to approve the reappointment of General Surgeon Dr. Sterling. The motion passed.

7.2.2. **Shawn Taylor, DO** – A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Ebert, to approve the Initial Appointment of Telecardiologist Dr. Shawn Taylor. The motion passed

7.2.3. **Mark Troiano, DO** – A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Sprute, to approve the Initial Appointment of Telecardiologist Dr. Mark Troiano. The motion passed**.**

***7.3.*** **Medical Staff Bylaws Annual Review/Revision** – Plante emailed the Medical Staff Bylaws Annual Review and Revision that was approved by the Medical Staff earlier this month, to include a summary of changes. A **motion** made by Ebert, seconded by Brock, to approve the Medical Staff Bylaws Annual Review/Revision. The motion passed.

**8. Contracts**

*8.1.* **InReach Dx –** Discussion regarding this Lab agreement, to include expectations and a very favorable ROI anticipated. A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Doman, to approve the InReach Dx agreement. The motion passed.

*8.2.* **Blue Eagle Consulting Discussion –** A lot of our reporting is currently very manual and limited with Cerner. Keltner stated that the cost of this consulting group is currently unreasonable; discussion followed regarding importance of access to reporting. May look into other vendors. *Pugh exited at 7:49 a.m*.

**9. Administrative Reports**

***9.1. Chief Executive Officer*** – Keltner gave updates on the following:

- Reductions and changes in workforce were effective this Sunday.
- UHC contract negotiations.
- RevSpring moving forward *(current statement vendor – will be upgrading to better product).*
- InReach Dx *(shooting for November start).*
- Rural Health Transformation Project applications are finally open.
- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) *(meeting with commissioners in September as would have to be applied for by the county).*

***9.2. Director of Nursing Services*** – Edwards gave updates on the following:

- Nursing students back in school *(1-graduates in December and 1-graduates in May).*
- CNAs to PRN.
- No front desk on weekends will be more work for the ER staff.
- Michelle Byers, RN at Beacon Cancer all week doing hands on chemo. training.
- Dr. Campbell, ED Director, ER Board certified.
- Mock event in September, KH asked us to present.
- Camera in ER waiting room to be able to keep an eye on patients waiting.
- Panic Button updated.

***9.3. Clinic Manager/ Medical Staff Coordination*** – Plante gave updates on the following:

- Skills Day for Assistants/Nursing.
- New Docs start next week.
- QC MA starts next week.
- NP student with Kara Seigley, FNP.
- Surgery crew to Marimn this Fall.
- KH Liaison at next Med Staff meeting.
- Marketing assistant pulled for Reception.
- PB Days Parade.

**10. Follow-Up Items –** None currently.

**11. Communications**

*11.1.* **BetterCARE Update** – Epler stated the BetterCARE Gala will be Dec. 4th. Our Grant Writer has been very busy applying for grants.

**12. Executive Session –** *McKelvey verified with Stansbury that nobody was present with her to hear executive conversations.*

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At 8:31 a.m., a **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Epler, 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: Brock, Doman, Ebert, Epler, McKelvey, Sprute, Stansbury, Reynolds, Minier, Edwards, Plante, Peters, Schwanz, Amy Boe, Anthony Boe.*

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*Minier, Edwards, Plante, Peters, Schwanz, Amy Boe and Anthony Boe, exited at 8:31a.m.*
*Keltner exited at 9:38a.m.*

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:55 a.m.

**13. Adjourn** – A **motion** made by Brock, seconded by Doman, to adjourn the August General Board Meeting. The motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

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Rebecca Plante, Secretary

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Doug McKelvey, Board Chairman