



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Hospital district No. 1 of Klickitat County
DBA Klickitat Valley Health (KVH)
Regular Open Public Meeting
December 20, 2017

COPY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Klickitat Valley Health (KVH) Board of Commissioners was held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 4:00 p.m., in the KVH Conference Rooms A&B. Commissioner Dennis Carver, President of the Board of Commissioners, was the presiding officer. A quorum was present including: Commissioners John Quinn, Connie Pond, Jim Daniel, and Mark Sigfrinius.

Also present were: Leslie Hiebert, CEO; Jamie Eldred, Director of Finance; Annie Stone, ARNP, Family Medicine Clinic Director, Jacinto Orozco, MD, Chief of Medical Staff; Jonathan Hatfield, Director of IT; Kasey Schneider, CNO and Director of Quality and Risk and Barbara Bostick, Executive Administrative Assistant & Recorder.

CALL TO ORDER, APPROVAL OF AGENDA, & CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Board President Carver called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Sigfrinius made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. Commissioner Daniel seconded, the motion carried unanimously. Board President Carver requested disclosure from the Commissioners of any conflict of interest with items on the Agenda. All Commissioners present noted that they had no conflict of interest.

BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Darrell Watson, KVH Chaplain reported that he had recently met Pamela Hughes, a volunteer chaplain at Skyline Hospital. He noted that she had come to KVH to get information regarding our spiritual care and employed chaplain program and was favorably impressed. He noted that she is planning to present information to Skyline to see if they would consider employing a chaplain as well.

CONSENT ITEMS

Commissioner Sigfrinius moved that the consent agenda be approved as follows:

- Regular Meeting Minutes from November 15, 2017; and
- Accounts Payable in the amount of \$1,129,167.76; and
- Payroll in the amount of \$45,283.87 and
- Electronic Transfers in the amount of \$1,471,988.82; and
- Bad Debt in the amount of \$4,605.90

The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pond. The motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Medical Staff Report.

Dr. Orozco provided a brief overview of his submitted written report.

Family Medicine Clinic Report.

Annie Stone, ARNP, Family Medicine Clinic Director gave a brief review of her written report.

Community Health Improvement Plan.

Leslie Hiebert, CEO, reviewed the previously presented Community Health Needs Assessment. She noted that because we are a 501 (c) (3) it is a requirement that the governing board officially approve the District's Community Needs Improvement Plan. She noted that KVH is currently working on the top three of five areas of access to health services determined by the Community Health Needs Assessment and the Columba Gorge Regional Community Health Improvement Plan by researching options to increase dental care access at the clinic, increased provider availability through same day and Saturday appointments, increasing Jeff Teal, Psychologist, clinic days and adding the services of Jen Bomberger, licensed mental health counselor. Commissioner Sigfrinius made a motion to approve KVH's Community Health Needs Improvement Plans on the top priority items including: Improving access to dental care, improving, access to mental health services, and improving access to primary care. Commissioner Quinn seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2018 Meeting Dates

Upon reviewing the proposed 2018 meeting date schedule, Commissioner Pond motioned to accept the proposed dates with the exception of November 21, 2017. She noted that as Thanksgiving would be the next day it would be preferred to change that meeting date to the following Wednesday, November 28, 2017. Commissioner Sigfrinius seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The proposed 2018 meeting schedule will be update to reflect the change from November 21, 2017 to November 28, 2017 and then will be disseminated as appropriate.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Resolution 2017-16 Surplus Property.** Commissioner Quinn made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-16 Surplus Property as presented. Commissioner Sigfrinius seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- **EMS District Board Member Confirmation.**
Upon reviewing a letter presented to the Board from Robb Kimmes, KCEMSD1 Board Chair, advising that the KCEMSD1 Board was nominating himself for reappointment to the KCEMSD1 Board, Commissioner Pond made a motion to approve the reappointment of Robb Kimmes to Position No. 1 of the Klickitat County EMS District No. 1 Board of Directors. Commissioner Daniel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- **Energy Grant Funding.**
 Jamie Eldred, Director of Finance, reviewed the Energy Grant financing options including Riverview Community Bank and DA Davidson. After discussion it was determined that the total fees and interest rates with DA Davidson were approximately \$17,824 less over the 7 year term than those proposed by Riverview Community Bank. Commissioner Quinn made a motion to authorize Leslie Hiebert, CEO to move forward with the energy project and to execute the required documents for the Energy Grant Funding with DA Davidson not to exceed \$380,000. Commissioner Daniel seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- **DZA Engagement Letter.**
 Jamie Eldred, Director of Finance reviewed the quality of service that has been provided in the past by DZA and the quote that was given by DZA for the 2017 Audit and Cost report. Jamie noted that the cost was an increase from the previous year, but is still competitive with previously received quotes. She noted that there is also an increase of \$3,500 due to the inclusion of the single audit that is required for USDA funding. Jamie recommended that the District continue with DZA for the Audit and Cost report for the 2017 year. Commissioner Sigfrinius made a motion to approve the Dingus, Zarecor & Associates (DZA) engagement letter as presented. Commissioner Pond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- **Home Health Discussion.**
 Leslie Hiebert, CEO thanked the Home Health and Hospice staff in attendance for coming to the meeting. She shared that when she had spoken to Dr. Bothamley previously he had noted that he was impressed with the staff's commitment to the program. Leslie reviewed information that had been gathered with the help of Kyna Bighorn, Home Health Hospice Director. Leslie noted that the financial issues regarding Home Health Hospice is not new, it had been discussed with Jeanette Madsen, former Home Health and Hospice Director, several years ago. Leslie noted that consultants have come in twice and both questioned why there are two agencies providing services in the same area. She noted that Visiting Health Services (VHS) from MCMC has been providing services for 40 years and have been in Klickitat County since 1985. She noted that since meeting with the Home Health and Hospice staff, the staff have been working hard to find options to increase volumes. She explained that there are many challenges that have impacted volume and financial stability for the program including a length of time without an Occupational Therapist, difficulty recruiting part time staff to fill open positions, new Medicare requirements, etc. Leslie reported that she met recently with Dennis Cox, the CEO from MCMC to discuss Home Health. She learned that Klickitat County is currently 25% of VHS volume. She noted that their program had been losing 1.7 million and were looking at options including selling their business to an outside agency, but the staff pulled together and put focused effort into their program and have since turned

it around and are no longer interested in discontinuing the service. Leslie noted that there are different options to consider including continuing on with Home Health and Hospice as it is currently, continue Hospice without Home Health, or discontinue actively pursuing providing services county-wide. She advised that the intent of providing information at this meeting is for the Board to digest the information, and then come together at a special Board meeting in January to determine the future direction of the program.

General discussion was had with Kyna Bighorn providing information regarding the future requirements and the potential impact they will have on the program. Leslie asked the staff in attendance if they would like to comment or add to the discussion.

Artine Cordis, LPN expressed concern that closing the Home Health program would have a negative impact on other programs at KVH, i.e. Physical Therapy as they refer many of their Home Health patients for additional services provided at KVH. She noted that Home Health and Hospice caregivers have been the face of KVH and are able to provide positive community outreach while providing care to their patients. Additionally, she noted her concern for the elderly population in the local community. She expressed that the staff is willing to do what is needed if the board decides to keep the program. Leslie agreed that there could be a loss to ancillary departments if the Home Health program is discontinued as outside agencies providing that service would be less likely to refer patients to KVH for those additional services.

Darrell Watson, Chaplain commented that there is a crisis in the community for the elderly with the lack of assisted living and nursing home availability. He noted that it would take at least a year commitment to keep the program going to see if increased efforts to reduce cost and increase income are able to mitigate the current financial loss in an amount that would justify continue providing the service in the future.

Willard Cordis, community member and spouse of employee Artine Cordis shared his concern that if Home Health were to close, Hospice would follow. Additionally, he noted that he felt that if Visiting Health Services could turn around a \$1.7 million dollar loss, this program should be able to as well.

Commissioner Quinn inquired if the 2018 budget included a projected loss over the year. Jamie noted that it was. She noted that a loss was projected in the Budget for the program. She also expressed her appreciation to the staff for the suggestions they have given, and their thinking outside of the box to help with finding a solution. Jamie provided additional information regarding three potential financial options for consideration. (see handouts) and analysis regarding the Home Health Hospice Program.

Artine Cordis noted that many patients have told her that they have had to insist on

being referred to Goldendale Home Health and Hospice if they are seen at a medical facility for services outside of KVH. She noted that there are also some places that are not aware that Goldendale can provide the services. Leslie noted that there could be improvement in marketing outreach in those areas. She noted that the lack of referrals from outside agencies, i.e. MCMC, has been a challenge for many of our business lines. Jamie Eldred noted that there is opportunity to improve reaching out to our own inpatients with the help of our Care Coordinators.

Leslie reported that Dr. Bothamley expressed to her that he likes having our own agency and that the communication is better for our patients care within our own program. Leslie also noted that WSHA and DOH are looking into options for rural health clinics in underserved areas. She noted that she is not sure that Klickitat County would qualify as an underserved area, she will provide additional information as it becomes available.

Artine Cordis noted that the Home Health program feeds the Hospice program as well. She commented that while other agencies may be able to offer more services because of their size, they do not have local care providers and so they have a longer response time to assist patients in our area. She noted that to many patients local care and the ability to receive quicker response for their care needs is an important consideration.

After discussion, Board President Carver called for a special meeting to occur on January 4th at 5:15 to discuss the Home Health and Hospice Program at greater length.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Written reports were presented from Leslie Hiebert, CEO; Jamie Eldred, Director of Finance; Kasey Schneider, CNO and Director of Risk and Quality; Charis Weis, Human Resources Director; Jonathan Hatfield, IT Manager; Jeff Teal, Ph.D., Director of Safety and Compliance, Annie Stone, ARNP FMC Director and Jacinto Orozco, MD Chief of Medical Staff. Commissioner Daniel made a motion to accept the reports as presented; Commissioner Pond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

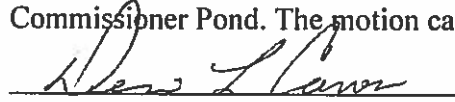
The Board elected to again defer completion of the Board self-evaluation and will include it on the agenda of the special meeting to be held on January 4, 2017.

EXECUTIVE SESSION


- Board President Carver announced that an Executive Session would not be held at this meeting and the topic that had been noted to be discussed on the agenda would be tabled to a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Sigfrinius moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:14 p.m.. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pond. The motion carried unanimously.



Dennis Carver, President


John Quinn, Board Secretary