



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1 OF KLICKITAT COUNTY**
Special Meeting of May 8, 2018; 12:30 p.m.
KVH Conference Rooms A&B

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A Special meeting of the Klickitat Valley Health (KVH) Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 12:30 p.m. in the KVH Conference Rooms A&B. Commissioner Mark Sigfrinius was the presiding officer. A quorum was present including: Commissioners Jim Daniel, Connie Pond and Dennis Carver.

President Mark Sigfrinius called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. It was explained that Dr. Garnett would be presenting information to the Board of Commissioners and Medical Staff and that following his presentation, questions and comments from the Board and Medical staff would be allowed. He explained that the Ethics Committee will be discussing this issue further and will make a final recommendation to the Board of Commissioners at a Regular Open Public Meeting of the Board of Commissioners and at that time, the public will be given an opportunity for public comment.

SPECIAL MEETING BUSINESS

Dr. Michael Garnett provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding death with dignity, he also provided several handouts including a handout titled "Why vulnerable patients need care and legal protections - not pressure for lethal solutions" from the Christian Medical Association; an article titled "Death on demand? An analysis of physician-administered euthanasia in The Netherlands" an invited review published in the British Medical Bulletin, 2018, 1-11 written by Robert Preston, as well as an article published by *the Hastings Center Report*, Vol. 14, No. 5, autonomy, Paternalism, and Community (Oct., 1984), pp. 40-42. Dr. Garnett also recommended the book "With the End in Mind". Following the presentation, there was general discussion with Commissioner Sigfrinius commenting that with respite care unavailable in our area, do we have the capacity to expand swing bed patient care areas that would allow us to break even and allow for palliative care? He noted that there are many in our area that are trying to find adequate care. Dr. Garnett noted that currently he does not believe that the District would have enough space to accommodate that need. He stated that he believes we need to do as much as we can as far as getting the best care to our patients in home for palliative care with the direction moving toward Home Health services. Commissioner Carver asked what percentage of our patients need counselling regarding end of life care? Dr. Garnett noted that it is common in his practice with

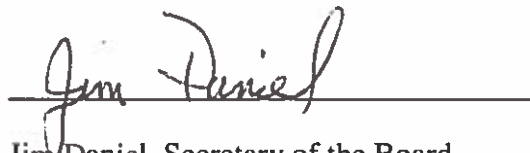
our community demographic consisting of a primarily older population. Dr. Bothamley noted that often times the discussion comes too late and that development of palliative services in our area would be a wonderful idea as the trend in medicine is moving towards more out-patient services instead of in-patient. He also stated that if thinking of building towards the future, should focus not so much on acute care and more on palliative care. Leslie Hiebert noted that there is potential for development of some palliative care services with the completion of the new acute care wing, allowing the current acute care rooms to be used for other purposes. Commissioner Pond noted that Washington State Hospital Association is very aware of the growing need for addressing palliative care issues. Dr. Baumeister noted that he was surprised that when beginning in providing Pain Management services, he had that thought that more of his patients would be suicidal due to depression associated with pain, but there has actually been much fewer than he thought. Community member Kitt Tallman inquired as to the statistics on cases that have happened where the medicine given to assist with death, did not work. Dr. Garnett noted that it is likely pretty uncommon, but that he does not have the statistics related to that.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Commissioner Daniel moved that the meeting be adjourned at 1:17 p.m. Commissioner Pond seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Mark Sigfrinius, President of the Board



Jim Daniel, Secretary of the Board