December 12, 2016

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Whidbey Island Public Hospital District was called to order at 7:02 am by Board President, Ron Wallin. Present were President Wallin; Commissioner Cammermeyer; Commissioner Fey; Commissioner Anderson; Chief Executive Officer, Geri Forbes; Chief Nursing Officer, Linda Gipson; Chief Human Resource Officer, Cindy Paget; Chief of Staff, Dr. Brenden Hansen; and several other hospital staff.

**Points of Order**

President Wallin stated the meeting will be audio and video recorded today. President Wallin stated there were no points of order for consent agenda. President Wallin stated Commissioner Gardner has been excused from attending this Board meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

President Wallin made a motion to approve the regular Board minutes from the November 14, 2016 regular Board meeting and the vouchers as presented, seconded by Commissioner Fey motion. Motion carried. Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense and reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, and have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board. #205212 to #206154 and #3642 to #3656 in the total amount of $7,065,137.28 with Capital equipment vouchers in the amount of $3,566,374.59, motion carries therefore the vouchers are approved for payment in the amount of $10,631,511.87.

**General Public Comments**

- None

**Quality and Nursing Update**

Linda Gipson, CNO/CQTO reported the following:
• We would like all managers to be at Master’s level. We are starting the Medical Surgical Certification examination preparation course and CEN preparation course again with University of Washington.

• Spending majority of our time with clinical and quality considerations with the new wing. There will be many changes in systems and processes that will require staff to be re-educated. There will be all new state of the art technology for Hemodynamic monitoring, telemetry, in-ceiling lifts. There will be changes in support staff to allow caregivers to spend as much time at the bedside as possible. This will require a lot of training to prepare for this. Thanks to the community for their support during our construction period.

• Pulse – Focus was on primary care this month. Geri Forbes, Dr. Hansen, Dr. Pham and Linda Gipson attended the IHI International Forum on Quality. The conference validated that WhidbeyHealth is ahead of the game in many cases. It also showed us how we can expand and redesign our quality program. Primary care is an essential component of the Value Based Purchasing components of quality. By February 1st we need to submit data to CMS to determine what our reimbursement will be moving forward. The equation they will be using has four elements. They will measure quality adding it to cost structure adding that to care coordination. Then combining it with electronic medical records. These items will all be put together in a composite score which will drive reimbursement. The areas that are doing well will show an improvement in reimbursement and those that are not doing well will see a reduction in reimbursement. It’s anticipated by CMS that most practices will lose reimbursement under this model due to the difficulty in making the transition. We decided to submit this data as a group rather than individual providers.
It's estimated that it will cost $750.00 per clinician to capture, aggregate and submit this data. It takes about 11 hours for a provider to prepare a report. The composite scores will be posted on the Physician Compare website.

- This month alone the number of opioid deaths exceeded the number of deaths from gun violence. The State of Washington has mandated that the Accountable Care Groups and North Sound Communities of Health to look into serious community based interventions due to loss of life from opioids. Public Health, EMS & the police will all be working together to make a plan to lower these numbers. We are working with the Board of Pharmacy to have Narcan readily available to stabilize patients. Good information on the national site www.stopoverdose.org

Medical Staff Report
A. Chief of Staff Report

Dr. Brenden Hansen, Chief of Staff reported the following:

Committee assignments for next year are in the packets. The Annual Physician Survey will be done online this year to cut down on paperwork time. Our response rate initially was about 25% and we have extended that deadline and we are at about 60% now. This will be Dr. Hansen’s last month at the Board meetings. Dr. Perera will take over starting in January. Geri thanked Dr. Hansen for his continued support with the Board.

Dr. Brendan Hansen, Chief of Staff reported the following practitioners for initial appointments:

Chase Simpson, CRNA  Provisional Advanced Clinical Practitioner
Commissioner Fey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cammermeyer to approve the Privilege Request Form as presented. Motion carried.

Dr. Hansen reported the following initial appointments:

Tarvinder Singh, MD            Consulting
Ruth Thomson, DO              Consulting

Commissioner Fey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cammermeyer to approve the provisional courtesy staff appointments as presented. Motion carried.

Dr. Hansen reported the following reappointments:

John Sherman, MD              Reappointment to Active Staff

Commissioner Fey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cammermeyer to approve the provisional courtesy staff reappointments as presented. Motion carried.

Staff and Status Reports from Administration

A. Administrative Update

Geri Forbes, CEO reported the following:

- It has been a challenge attracting new physicians to our area. We are working with HR to possibly start an ad campaign to help recruiting efforts to make Whidbey Island a more attractive place to live and work.

- We have had good improvement in primary care in November and December. We won’t see the actual numbers as of yet. Geri has heard from staff and flash reports that access to primary care has gone up. This helps keep disease under control and ER visits down.
• The President of the Washington Hospital Association, Scott Bond, will be retiring and Cassie Sauer will replace him.

• On November 22nd WhidbeyHealth provided free cancer screenings at several locations on the island. Over 90 residents were screened. Thank you to Hannah Carlson, Annette Fly, Whitney Lancaster, Lauren Bock, Jennifer Gruenwald & Dr. Langrock for giving up their time and participating in that event.

• Geri thanked Erin Simms who is a Registered Dietician/Certified Diabetes Educator for participating in an event with the Coupeville schools called Sports Mania where she spoke about exercise & nutrition, dental hygiene, protection from the sun and the danger of smoking & vaping.

• Serving seniors – Carla Jolly, Les MacCormick and Marcella Zarifis for participating at the Trinity Lutheran Church focusing on the needs of the island Seniors.

• WhidbeyHealth supported and participated in a Health Fair for 250 employees of Nichols Bros Boat Builders. Educated the staff on diabetes and blood pressure education. Kay Draper, Mike Kinman, RN and Nancy Clark, PA were in attendance.

• WhidbeyHealth participates in the Tree of Hope every year. Gifts were provided this year for 67 children & 56 seniors.

• Daisy Award Winner – Geri thanked Jolene LeVine for creating a culture of superior nursing.

• Family Birthplace – Erin Martin, RN graduated with her bachelors in nursing.

• Geri thanked George and his team for installing the new lights in the O.R. George’s team also decided to repaint and strip the floors over the weekend.
Geri also thanked Infection Control Nurse Colleen Klamm and the Surgical Services team and the House Supervisor Curtis Shumate.

- Employee Counsel – Provided food and prizes to employees for the holiday.
- Thursday January 19th at the Coupeville Library will continue the WhidbeyHealth “Town Talks”. Commissioner Georgia Gardner will be present at this meeting.
- WhidbeyHealth will be having a hiring event today from 10am-12pm and then again from 1pm-3pm. Geri thanked Cindy and her HR team for their efforts.
- General Counsel Jake Kempton went to a meeting to meet Washington State Attorney General.
- Commissioner Cammermeyer discussed two growing concerns on the island. One concern is the finding of flame retardant toxins in some wells on the island. The Navy has been mandated to check wells. If toxins are found in wells the Navy will deliver bottled water to residents indefinitely. The other concern is that the Navy will be bringing in two more Growler squadrons. The impact of the noise could be a huge concern for residents on the island including the hospital. The Board of Health is not currently talking about this issue.

Environment Impact Statement meetings are open to the public. You can find more information on the www.whidbeycis.com website provided by the Navy. Geri would like to meet with Dr. Hansen on what might need to happen with our medical staff to prepare us for any conversation that might come from patients.

**Finance:**

Geri Forbes, CEO discussed and presented the following financials for October 2016:
• Moss Adams was on-site to do some of their preliminary audit work. In addition, the annual State Auditors have been onsite and doing their review.
• We are right in the middle of budget season.
• Clinic visits are low compared to the last two years. Low month in September.
• ER is about 1900 visits per month. We are now seeing GI issues, Flu A and bronchitis on the island.
• Surgery volume is flat.
• Patient Days continue to be flat and lower than previous years.
• Even though volume is down staff is doing a great job at being more efficient.
• Days Cash on Hand are around 41 - 42 days.

**Board Items**

• The mock-up unit is almost complete. Will begin tours.
• The Board decided to keep the Board meeting at the same time.
• Due to construction Board meeting location might be changed.

**Agenda Items for next Board meeting**

President Wallin noted for the next Board meeting:

1) Next Board meeting will be held Monday, January 9th at 7:00 am.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Wallin called for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Wallin made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Fey to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 am. Motion carried.