

August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Whidbey Island Public Hospital District was called to order at 11:01 am by Board President, Commissioner Golder. Present were Commissioner, James Golder; Commissioner, Greg Richardson; Commissioner, Marion Jouas; Chief Financial Officer, Paul Rogers; Chief Executive Officer, Nathan Staggs; Executive Director of Quality and Transformation, Shanna Harney-Bates; Executive Director of Ancillary Services, Tim Waldner; Medical Chief of Staff, Dr. David Lemme; Chief of Staff Elect, Dr. Robert Rookstool; Administrative Chief of Staff, John Gleason. Dominic Symes from HealthTech was also in attendance. Commissioners Ron Wallin and Kate Rose were not in attendance.

**Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the July 18 board meeting minutes. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. July board meeting minutes are approved.

**Call to Order/Points of Order**

Resolution #471 - Revised board meeting dates for 2024. This resolution would move the regular board meeting to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month with the meeting starting at 11:00 am.

Resolution #472 - Revised board meeting dates for 2024. This resolution would move the regular board meeting to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month with the meeting starting at 12:00 pm.

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve Resolution 471, moving the board meeting to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month starting at 11:00 am.

With the passing of Resolution #471, the board elects not to take up Resolution #472.

## Public Comments

No public comments were made.

## Medical Staff Report

Chief of Credentials, Dr. David Lemme

Dr. Lemme presents the credentials report to the board.

## INITIAL APPOINTMENTS

- Jorge Alchammas, MD, Skagit Radiology (*Onsite*), Provisional Courtesy
- Allen Chen, MD, Skagit Radiology (*Onsite*), Provisional Active
- Deepjot Singh, MD, WH Hematology/Oncology, Provisional Active
- Tyler Willis DNP, Hospitalist, Provisional Active
- Janice Hesler PMHNP, Tele-Psych, Critical, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)
- Lien Nguyen, DO, Tele-Stroke, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)
- Binod Wagle, MD, Tele-Stroke, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Initial Appointments. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. Motion is approved.

## ADVANCEMENTS

- Ashley Browning PA-C, Walk-In Clinic - Clinton, Active
- Simi Kohli, MD, Primary Care - Cabot, Active
- Neza Bharucha, MD, Tele-Psych - Critical, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)
- Heidi Bradley, PMHNP, Tele-Psych - Critical, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)
- Mary Embrescia, MD, Tele-Psych - Critical, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)
- Tara Kane PMHNP, Tele-Psych - Critical, TeleMedicine (*by proxy*)
- Tao Wang, MD, PHD - Sound Physicians Hospitalist Locum, Courtesy

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Advancements. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. Motion is approved.

## REAPPOINTMENTS

- John Plastino, MD, Emergency Medicine, Active

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Reappointments. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. Motion is approved.

**Privilege Request Form - Emergency Medicine** - Emergency Medicine physicians who are board certified are not required to maintain certain board certifications. The privilege request form has been updated to reflect this.

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Emergency Medicine Privilege Request form. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. Emergency Medicine Privilege Request form is approved.

**Privilege Request Form - Hematology/Medical Oncology** - The form has been updated. This form is for physicians, MDs or DOs. The second form is for nurse practitioners, MSNs and DNPs.

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Hematology/Medical Oncology Privilege Request form subject to the administrative change to update the label on the form. Commissioner Richardson motions to approve both the Hematology/Medical Oncology Privilege Request Form and the Hematology/Medical Oncology MSN/DNP Privilege Request Form. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. The Hematology/Medical Oncology Privilege Request Form as well as the Hematology/Medical Oncology MSN/DNP Privilege Request Form are both approved.

**Privilege Request Form - Pediatric/Newborn** - This form was reviewed by Dr. Gladstone. The most specific change in this form is in regard to pediatricians. Commissioner Jouas raises questions about the minimal formal training listed in the form but is not listed in reappointments. Commissioner Richardson requests a copy of the documents that include a red-line copy showing changes made.

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Pediatric/Newborn Privilege Request Form. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. Pediatric/Newborn Privilege Request Form is approved.

**Medical Staff Policy #17 - Proctoring Policy** - This applies to both providers coming in and providers who are returning to practice.

Commissioner Richardson motions to approve the Medical Staff Policy #17 Proctoring Policy. Commissioner Jouas seconds the motion. Medical Staff Policy #17 is approved.

### **HealthTech Update**

Dominic Symes, HealthTech

The HealthTech CEO meeting is coming up in November 14-15 in Globe, Arizona. It will take place at a HealthTech hospital. Dominic presents a financial turnaround hospital award to board president Golder.

### **Quality and Compliance Report**

Executive Director of Quality and Transformations, Shanna Harney-Bates

Shanna Harney-Bates updates the board on highlights from the past month. Lab Cap survey was completed in July. Commissioner Richardson requests clarification between whether workplace violence events were staff events or patient events.

Patient experience scores are currently above the national average. Marketing for the CNA program will start later this fall, likely in November.

### **Financial Report**

Chief Financial Officer, Paul Rogers

July had a net surplus of almost \$24k. Meditech Expense accounts for a lot of these costs, and those costs will go away once we go live with Expense in October. Current days cash-on-hand is at 24.2. Net days in Accounts Receivable dropped slightly in July. The month of August will have three payrolls, so we expect to have a deterioration in the cash on hand because of this.

## **IT and Facilities Report**

Executive Director of Ancillary Services, Tim Waldner

The IT department continues with the Meditech Expanse project.

The facilities department has been working on improvement, particularly with the flooring in the front lobby. We are also getting several buildings painted. We continue to work on signage throughout the facility. Irrigation outside of the hospital has been updated and improved. The Fluoroscopy imaging project is now complete. We are expected to have PET scanning installed and operational by the end of the year. DNV Life Safety survey went well returned very few findings.

Tim has put together a plan to put in new flooring, ceiling, tiles, lighting, cabinetry, and other improvements in the Emergency Department. He has received two bids from companies to do the work. Because of the costs of the upgrade, Tim is looking for board approval for this work. We will also be working with the Foundation to fund a portion of this work. Commissioner Golder expresses concern that he has not heard about this project and feels that it should go through the Finance Committee before approval. Tim will bring the proposal to the September Finance Committee meeting for review.

## **Operations and Outpatient Services Report**

Chief Executive Officer, Nathan Staggs

We have multiple providers starting in the coming weeks including a General Surgeon, Orthopedic Surgeon, and Oncologist. We have hired a Behavioral Health department manager who will start in the coming weeks. We are working to expand the pharmacy hours to include Saturdays. The Rehab clinic has re-opened in Oak Harbor.

We also have a Midwife program that will start in October.

### **Nursing Report**

Chief Executive Officer, Nathan Staggs

No nursing updates at this time.

### **Human Resources Report**

Chief Executive Officer, Nathan Staggs

Nathan presents a report showing how the Human Resources department assesses the local area market and uses that information to set our pay rates. These rates are typically compared to Jefferson, Island Health, and Skagit Hospitals.

### **Administration Report**

Chief Executive Officer, Nathan Staggs

Nathan has been pushing managers to assess their departments to optimize how they charge and make sure we are collecting as much as can be reasonably expected. The employee picnic will take place next Thursday from 11:00 am -2:00 pm.

### **General Board Items**

There are no general board items at this time.

### **Executive Session**

The board moved to Executive Session at 12:21 pm and expected to be in executive session for 30 minutes. The board discussed Personnel and Real Estate in this session, as allowed by RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) and 42.30.110 (1)(b) respectively. Executive Session started at 12:25 pm. The Executive Session ended at 12:54 pm. The board returned to regular session at 12:55 pm. No votes were taken, and no decisions were made.

### **Commissioner's Comments**

Commissioner Richardson expresses delight in the improvement to the billing and claims process.

Commissioner Jouas feels that things are moving in a positive direction, as seen by the amount of community members that are returning to WhidbeyHealth. The Tour De Whidbey is this weekend, be careful on the roads as there will be over 500 cyclists on the roads.

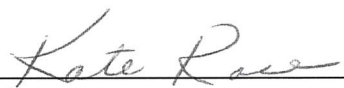
Dr. Lemme discusses concerns with the credentialing process around the new board meeting date. This change in date will require a change to the Medical Executive Committee, Medical Staff Meeting, and Credentialing Committee.

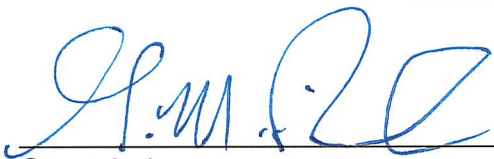
**Adjournment**

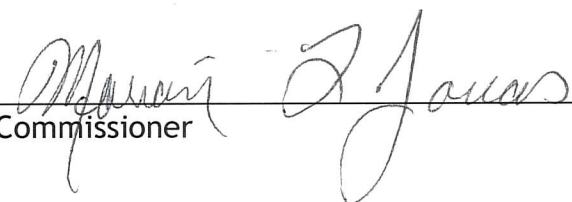
Commissioner Golder adjourns the board meeting at 1:01 pm. Minutes taken by John Gleason.

  
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President of the Commission

  
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