

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Jean Turner, District Board Chair.

PRESENT

Jean Turner, Chair
Robert Sharp, Vice Chair
Jody Veenker, Secretary
Mary Mae Kilpatrick, Treasurer
Topah Spoonhunter, Member-At-Large
Kelli Davis MBA, Interim Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer
Tracy Aspel RN, BSN, Chief Nursing Officer
Will Timbers MD, Interim Chief Medical Officer
Stacey Brown MD, Chief of Staff (via online conference)
Vinay Behl, Interim Chief Financial Officer (via online conference)
Keith Collins, District Legal Counsel

OPPORTUNITY FOR
PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Turner announced at this time persons in the audience may speak on any items not on the agenda on any matter within the jurisdiction of the District Board. Members of the audience will have an opportunity to address the Board on every item on the agenda, and speakers will be limited to a maximum of three minutes each. The Board is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included on the agenda for the meeting. Public comments were heard from the following:

- Michelle Scott
- Kaylyn Rickford
- Samantha Bumgarner
- Heleen Welvaart
- Eva Judson

REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS FOR
AUDIT SERVICES

Interim Chief Financial Officer Vinay Behl reported the District is in process of renegotiating various contracts, including the contract for audit services. Mr. Behl provided an overview of the projected costs of services from the following submitted proposals:

- Eide Bailly
- BKD
- Wipfli
- MossAdams

It was moved by Topah Spoonhunter, seconded by Robert Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve the selection of Eide Bailly for the provision of audit services to the District.

REQUEST FOR
PERMANENT CHIEF
MEDICAL OFFICER
POSITION AT NIHD

Interim Chief Executive Officer Kelli Davis called to attention a request for a permanent Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for the District. The CMO would be an integral part of the executive team and would form a strong conduit between administration and the medical staff. Dr. Brown, Chief of Staff, reported that the medical staff is supportive of the CMO role.

Concerns from board members were heard regarding the financial impact of a permanent CMO position. It was moved by Robert Sharp, seconded by Mary Mae Kilpatrick and unanimously passed to table this item for addition to the next Special Board Meeting agenda at which time the 2020-2021 budget will be presented.

TUITION
REIMBURSEMENT
POLICY AND
PROCEDURE

Chief Nursing Officer Tracy Aspel called to attention an update to the *Tuition Reimbursement* policy and procedure which would allow benefitted employees (full-time and part-time) of the District to apply for tuition reimbursement. It was moved by Mary Mae Kilpatrick, seconded by Jody Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve the policy for approval as presented.

AED (AUTOMATED
EXTERNAL
DEFIBRILLATOR)
PURCHASE

Tracy Aspel presented to the Board of Directors a request for the purchase of two Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) for the Joseph House and the Birch Street Annex District properties. It was recommended that the request for purchase of the AEDs be presented to the NIHD Foundation Board and the Auxiliary for possible funding. It was moved by Robert Sharp, seconded by Jody Veenker, and unanimously passed to table this item.

RETURN ON
INVESTMENT
ANALYSIS
COMMITTEE UPDATE

Vinay Behl presented to the Board a summary sheet of the clinical and administrative service lines and contracts that are currently under review by the Return on Investment Analysis Committee for their cost to the district, as well as the proposed action plans to address the listed items.

Tracy Aspel reported that the committee determined the NEST program will be discontinued due to its annual loss of \$250,000. Moving forward, the community can expect to receive these newborn support services from the District's pediatric providers in the outpatient clinic setting.

Comments from the audience were heard regarding the closing of the NEST program.

BOARD AGENDA ITEM
REVIEW AND
APPROVAL PROCESS

Ms. Davis called to attention the proposal for the Board agenda item review and approval process and policy. It was moved by Jody Veenker, seconded by Topah Spoonhunter, and unanimously passed to approve the policy and forms as presented.

CEO SIGNATURE
AUTHORITY

Ms. Davis reported that she and the Compliance Office are reviewing past meeting minutes from the Board of Directors to determine whether the CEO had been previously granted signature authority on behalf of the Board. More information will be presented after further review.

REQUEST FOR SPECIAL
BOARD MEETING

Ms. Davis proposed the scheduling of a Special Board meeting for the review of the District operating and capital budget for 2020-2021. Mary Mae Kilpatrick further requested that the budget review include information pertaining to expenditures made by the Board of Directors. It

was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve the scheduling of a Special Board meeting on Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 5:30pm.

SOUTHERN INYO
HEALTHCARE
DISTRICT AND
NORTHERN INYO
HEALTHCARE
DISTRICT PEDIATRICS
AND ORTHOPEDIC
SERVICE AGREEMENT

Ms. Davis called to attention the agreement between Southern Inyo Healthcare District (SIHD) and Northern Inyo Healthcare District for the provision of pediatric and orthopedic services signed on February 11, 2020 by former NIHD CEO Kevin S. Flanigan, MD and SIHD CEO Peter Spiers. It was reported that there are some concerns in the District's capacity to provide these services on a regular basis.

PEPRA PLAN –
REQUEST FOR REFUND
OF PLAN
CONTRIBUTIONS TO
KEVIN FLANIGAN, MD
AND DISCUSSION OF
FUTURE OF PEPRA
PLAN

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve the addition of this agenda item as it was found that there was a need to take immediate action on this item and the need arose after the posting of the Board agenda.

Ms. Davis reported that former CEO Kevin S. Flanigan, MD submitted a request for a refund of his PEPRA plan contributions in the total of \$57,000. Comments from Dr. Kevin Flanigan were heard. It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve the request for refund of plan contributions.

Additionally, it was recommended by the Board that the CEO Search Committee investigate whether the continuation of a PEPRA plan is considered best practice for the future recruitment of a CEO.

REPORTS

The following reports were presented:

BUILDING
SEPARATION
CONSTRUCTION
PROJECT UPDATE

Luis with Columbo Construction reported that all demolition has been completed with the building separation and they are now in the reconstruction process. It is anticipated that the District's milestone will be met on time to keep the District in compliance with its plan.

GOVERNANCE
CONSULTANT UPDATE

Ms. Turner reported the Board is moving forward with scheduling a meeting with Dr. Rice. Board members discussed the preferred venue of the meeting.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE
OFFICER SEARCH
UPDATE

Ms. Veenker reported on the search committee's initial meeting, in which the committee determined the following:

- A survey for community and staff engagement will be drafted and distributed.
- The District will post the position on its website in addition to opening a search with the executive search firm WittKieffer. Applications submitted directly to the District will be also vetted by WittKieffer's process in order to maintain consistency. It was recommended that the search committee discuss pricing options

with WittKieffer in the event that the selected candidate was recruited through the District's internal means.

CHIEF OF STAFF
REPORT

Chief of Staff Stacey Brown, MD presented to the Board of Directors the Medical Staff Officers and Service Chiefs for the 2020-2021 Medical Staff year, which are as follows:

- Chief of Staff: Stacey Brown, MD
- Vice Chief of Staff: Charlotte Helvie, MD
- Immediate Past Chief of Staff: William Timbers, MD
- Chief of Emergency Room Service: Sierra Bourne, MD
- Chief of Medicine/Intensive Care Service: Nickoline Hathaway, MD
- Chief of Obstetrics: Martha Kim, MD
- Chief of Pediatrics: Charlotte Helvie, MD
- Chief of Radiology: Edmund Pillsbury, MD
- Chief of Surgery: Robbin Cromer-Tyler, MD
- Member-at-Large: Anne Wakamiya, MD

Dr. Brown additionally reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Medical Staff appointments:

1. Gregory Gaskin, MD (emergency medicine) – provisional active staff
2. Timothy Brieske, MD (family medicine) – provisional active staff

It was moved by Robert Sharp, seconded by Jody Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve all Medical Staff appointments as requested.

Dr. Brown reported as per the approved Telemedicine Physician Credentialing and Privileging Agreement, and as outlined by 42CFR 482.22, the Medical Staff has chosen to recommend the following practitioners for Telemedicine privileges relying upon Adventist Health's credentialing and privileging decisions:

1. Armand Rostamian, MD (cardiology) – telemedicine staff
2. Diana Havill, MD (psychiatry) – telemedicine staff

It was moved by Jody Veenker, seconded by Robert Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve all telemedicine staff appointments as requested.

Dr. Brown also stated the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Staff Category Change after careful review and consideration:

1. Ruhong Ma, DO (internal medicine) – change from locums to provisional active staff. Privileges valid through 12/31/2021.

It was moved by Mary Mae Kilpatrick, seconded by Jody Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve the staff category change as presented.

Dr. Brown additionally reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Medical Staff resignation:

1. Peter Bloomfield, MD (emergency medicine) – active staff – effective 5/26/2020

It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve the resignation of Dr. Bloomfield.

Dr. Brown reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate Committees, the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following District-wide Policies and Procedures:

1. *Pharmacy Downtime Procedure*
2. *Opioid Sedation Scale*
3. *Opioid Administration*
4. *Pain Assessment and Documentation*
5. *Scope of Service Acute/Subacute*
6. *Telemetry Criteria Guideline*
7. *MRI Safety*
8. *Code Blue Procedure – Code Blue Team*
9. *Cardiac Stress Test Protocol and Procedure*

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Mr. Spoonhunter, and unanimously passed to approve all District-wide Policies and Procedures as presented with the exception of the *Telemetry Criteria Guideline*, which was not included in the Board agenda packet for review.

Dr. Brown additionally presented the annual approval of the Radiology Critical Indicators for 2020 by the Radiology department. It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve the critical indicators as presented.

Lastly, Dr. Brown called to attention the changes made to the Internal Medicine core privilege form approved by the Medical Executive Committee. It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve the revised Internal Medicine core privilege form as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Turner called attention to the Consent Agenda for this meeting, which contained the following items:

1. Approval of minutes of the May 20, 2020 regular meeting
2. Approval of minutes of the May 28, 2020 special meeting
3. Compliance Department quarterly report
4. Policy and Procedure Annual Approvals

It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve Consent Agenda Items 1-3 as presented and to table the Policy and Procedure Annual Approvals (Item 4).

BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS

Ms. Turner then asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to report on any items of interest. Comments were heard from:

- Vice Chair Robert Sharp, thanking everyone for their service during COVID-19 and reminding all listeners that free COVID-19 testing is now available through Project Baseline.
- Secretary Jody Veenker, congratulating the Owens Valley Career Development Center for obtaining a grant for resiliency training and support services for individuals who have had adverse childhood experiences.
- Member-at-Large Topah Spoonhunter, thanking all staff and expressing how he looks forward to the Executive Search Committee work.

ADJOURNMENT TO
CLOSED SESSION

At 7:53 pm Ms. Turner announced the meeting would adjourn to Closed Session to allow the District Board of Directors to:

- A. Conference with Legal Counsel, anticipated litigation, significant exposure to litigation (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)*), 2 cases.
- B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54957(b)*), title: Interim Chief Executive Officer.
- C. Conference with Legal Counsel, anticipated litigation, significant exposure to litigation (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)*), Potential privacy breach, Jody DeSousa.

RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION AND REPORT
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 8:55 pm the meeting returned to Open Session. Ms. Turner reported the Board took no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.



Jean Turner, Chair

Attest: 

Jody Veenker, Secretary