

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Regular Board Meeting
Lower Umpqua Hospital District (LUHD)
Wednesday, January 22, 2020
LUHD Conference Room
7:30 AM

MINUTES

Those Board Members in attendance include Ron Kreskey, president, Leon Bridge, Tamara Szalewski, Karen Bedard, and Cheryl Young. Others in attendance include Ryan Fowler, Dr. Jason Sargent, Rosa Solano, Tara Blohm, Holly Tavernier, Jennifer Aldrich, Lori Groves, Mary Chambers, Kammy Rose, and Jamie Swafford.

I. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTION

Board president, Ron Kreskey, called the meeting to order at 7:30 am.

II. VISITOR'S AGENDA – No visitors.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Board of Directors meeting minutes dated December 11, 2019

B. Approval of January 2019 expenditures and set aside for February expenditures

A. Medical Staff privileges:

1. Hani Darwich, MD- Courtesy- Emergency Medicine- February 9, 2020 to January 31, 2021

2. Elena Herrera, FNP- Courtesy without admitting privileges- Family Medicine - February 4, 2020 to January 31, 2021

3. List of Providers for 01/22/2020 – 01/31/2022 terms

4. OHSU Schedule 1

5. Direct Radiology – Schedule 1

Files are available with the Health Information Manager for review.

Karen Bedard moved to approve the consent agenda. Cheryl Young seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (5-0)

IV. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

A. Nursing Services Report – Tara Blohm

Tara reported that two nursing students will be visiting LUH during their two-years of study at SWOCC. Tara reported that January has been a very busy month. She was happy to report that no agency nurses had to be used, even with several ICU in-patients. Discussion followed regarding the IV pumps. Tara reported that the new pharmacist will help to build the formulary, once they've started work at LUH.

B. Public Relations – Rosa Solano

Rosa reported that 12 people have signed up for Friday's Academy Tour. The January Lunch & Learn will feature Respiratory Therapy discussing 'flu and upper respiratory issues. Discussion followed regarding Care Card usage. Rosa reported that the Foundation is seeking Beacon Award nominations.

C. Medical Staff –Dr. Jason Sargent

Dr. Sargent reported that Dr. Kanani Dilcher is now chief of staff. She will be stepping down as the medical provider for Aidan. He reported that the medical staff is pleased that Wanda Newsome, NP, will be joining the staff at DFHC on March 1st. Dr. Sargent reported that the medical staff has grave concerns regarding the Trillium issue.

D. Finance Committee – Ron Kreskey

Discussion followed regarding the previous Centriq build. Ryan reported that some of the issues with Centriq are that the system was “over built.” Everyone was given their preferences, which filled the system with redundant tabs. The Meditech install will be a basic version, with changes made after the system has been in use for a period of time.

E. Planning Committee – Tamara Szalewski

Nothing to add to the minutes.

F. Quality Assurance Committee – Cheryl Young

Nothing to add to the minutes.

G. Financials – Lori Groves

Lori reported that November was a decent month. December was a very poor month, with a loss. In-patient days were half of previous years. January has been very busy. Tara reported that even though patient census was down, several new nurses were being trained for Acute Care. This kept expenses up for the month. Lori reported that AR days are down to 61.9. The Business Office staff is busy trying to clean up as much as possible to help make the transfer to the new system easier. Discussion followed regarding the property tax issues. Lori reported that taxes are finally coming in. The checks were three to six weeks late arriving, but the new system seems to be working now.

H. Administration – Ryan Fowler

Ryan reported that Wanda Newsome, NP, is planned to start practicing at DFHC on March 1st. Ryan reported that the state surveyed the hospital’s mammogram service – zero deficiencies. Discussion followed regarding MRI services. Ryan reported that the old company will be ending service this month. The new company – MRI Mobile – will begin in February. They will be providing service on Thursdays. This company prefers to park their truck permanently and have the renter provide their own MRI techs. The District is currently seeking an X-ray/CT/MRI tech. This would make the service available Monday through Friday. Ryan reported that the kitchen’s fire suppression system has been upgraded. The project was completed last night. Ryan reported that OHA has been talking about options to solve the Trillium problem. LUHD is the only part of Oregon that has only one Medicaid option – Trillium. All other areas have two options. PeaceHealth and OHSU have both said that they would NOT accept Trillium patients – except for emergency care. We’ve asked the state to consider allowing our patients an early option period and give them the option of Pacific Source or give them an open card. If our patients require care that we don’t provide, they need to be sent to Eugene or OHSU. Healthnet is also owned by Centene (which bought Trillium). Most places will not accept Healthnet.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Meditech Report

Ryan reported that the District is pushing forward with the Meditech implementation. Ryan reported that the meetings are very intense. Most of the build is happening behind the scenes. Dr. Dilcher and Liz Zdunich have been very helpful communicating with the other providers. Tara Blohm expressed kudos to SaVanna Dominguez-Alvarez for the hard work she has put into coordinating the implementation.

B. Employee Voluntary Termination Numbers – Tabled.

C. 2019 Plan of Action

Lori Groves reported that the District is required to submit a corrective action plan in response to deficiencies reported during the most recent audit. This year's plan of action focuses on contractual allowances and write-offs of doubtful accounts. Lori reported that the District's insurance contracts will be loaded into the Meditech system. This means the system will show how much money is expected to be received for each patient according to the contract with their insurance company.

D. Progress on Methodist Church Property

Ryan reported that the move-in date for the new building is sometime in March. The board will be kept apprised about the project completion and timing of the dedication ceremony.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Policy Updates

a. Financial Assistance Policy

Discussion followed regarding the new state mandate that financial assistance be given to patients with family income up to 400% of poverty level. Best practice is to count income only for family members over age 18. The District will no longer be counting "household" income for people who are not married. After discussion, **Cheryl Young moved to approve the policy as amended. Lee Bridge seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (5-0)**

b. Plain Language Summary

Lori Groves reported that the IRS requires the District to post a "plain language" explanation of the District's Financial Assistance Policy. The included summary was updated to meet the state standards.

B. Capital Requests - attached

a. Radio between ER & EMS

Ryan reported that the ambulance crew is not always able to communicate with the ER. They have been using their personal cell phones to talk to the ER staff.

The board approved purchasing radios last year, but, it was discovered that more than just the radios needed to be replaced/upgraded. This request reflects the complete project costs. Discussion followed regarding radio communications with emergency management. Discussion followed regarding the radio system and power outages. After discussion, **Cheryl Young moved to approve the**

**purchase. Karen Bedard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
(5-0)**

b. HVac

Ryan reported that the main HVac unit is failing. It takes several weeks to build a new system. The board is being asked to approve the purchase now, so the unit will be ready to install in late spring/early summer. **Lee Bridge moved to approve spending up to \$165,000 for the HVac unit purchase and installation. Cheryl Young seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
(5-0)**

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 am.

APPROVED THIS 26TH day of FEBRUARY 2020

Ronald Kreskey, President

Leon Bridge, Secretary