

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Lower Umpqua Hospital District (LUHD)

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

Via Conference Call

Call Ext. 1320 from inside the district - or -

541-271-2110 from outside the district

Pin code 651583

7:30 a.m.

MINUTES

Those Board Members in attendance include Ron Kreskey, president and Karen Bedard in person; Lee Bridge, Cheryl Young, Tamara Szalewski by phone. Others in attendance include Ryan Fowler, Lori Groves, Sandy Teeter, Rosa Solano, Felisha Miller, and Jamie Swafford in the conference room; Holly Tavernier, Steve Miller, hospital attorney, Kammy Rose, Elizabeth Zdunich, NP, Paul Connolly, and Mary Chambers, by phone.

## I. CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTION

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

## II. VISITOR'S AGENDA – No visitors.

### I. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the Board of Directors meeting minutes dated August 26, 2020-attached

B. Approval of September 2020 expenditures and authorization to set aside for October expenditures – attached

C. Medical Staff privileges:

1. Direct Radiology - attached

*Files are available with the Medical Staff Coordinator for review.*

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

### II. REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

#### A. Nursing Services Report – Sandy Teeter

Sandy reported that the go-live date for the IV pumps is 9/29/2020. Discussion followed regarding the impact Meditech has on nurses. The implementation has been great for nursing. The District is still working on how to make sure orders from providers are delivered to those who need them. Discussion followed regarding the need for prior-authorization for out-patient nursing. Sandy reported that patients were being told to just show up at Acute Care for out-patient nursing. They have to be prior authorized so their insurance will pay for the service and they need to be scheduled for an appointment with the nurse. Patients should be told that someone will call them to make an appointment.

#### B. Public Relations – Rosa Solano

Rosa reported that the 2020 Community Health Needs Survey has been launched. She has received 75 responses to date. Discussion followed regarding the methods used to distribute the survey. Rosa reported that the Foundation board has chosen the 2020 Beacon Award recipients. They are working on a plan to announce the nominees and the winners remotely. Rosa reported that Radiology has worked out a

plan to provide evening and weekend mammograms during October.

C. Finance Committee – Lee Bridge  
Nothing to add to the minutes.

D. Planning Committee – Tamara Szalewski  
Nothing to add to the minutes.

E. Quality Assurance Committee – Cheryl Young  
Nothing to add to the minutes.

F. Medical Staff  
No report.

G. Financials – Lori Groves  
Lori reported that the Community Health Needs Survey is a good tool to have because the IRS has changed the rules regarding community benefit. It's now going to be a percentage of revenue. Lore reported that systems that have lost money will also have to pay out a percentage of their revenue. Lori reported that August was better than anticipated – 89% of Meditech normal. No additional grants or loans are available at this time. It's anticipated that the Cares Act money will last through December. The SDAO is offering another tranche of money. Lori reported that, due to the high demand for service, providers saw more patients in July than they were scheduled to see. This resulted in fewer hours available to build the Meditech system. The providers have been ramped back down to give them time to optimize the system. Lori reported that there are no untimely billing issues due to Meditech. Lori reported that the Business Office and Medical Records are working to streamline the Meditech billing process. At this time they are having to touch every bill for accuracy prior to sending them out. Lori reported that ambulance volumes have been increasing. There have been numerous motor vehicle accidents in the area. The ER has been very busy, but hasn't had to divert patients, other than one extremely busy day. Due to financial support from the Cares Act, the District only lost \$25,000 in August (down from \$32,000 in July). Lori reported that Kronos Time Clocks are slated to go live on November 16th.

H. Administration – Ryan Fowler  
Ryan reported that the District is working with a Durable Medical Equipment provider, with help from Trillium, to make DME available to patients who do not have insurance coverage for DME. Ryan reported that manager evaluations will be moved to January to align with strategic planning. Ryan reported that the phone tree at Dunes Family Health Care will be abandoned in favor of having staff answer the phones. Ryan reported that Marcia (Marcy) Wasiluk has been offered the position of clinic manager. She is currently from John Day, but, lived in Hauser in the past. Her children were born at LUH. Ryan reported that a search continues for a Radiology manager. Dr. Tersini has agreed to see patients at Reedsport Specialists Clinic and to schedule cataract surgeries at LUH. Dr. Tersini is looking for equipment and office space. Ryan reported that the District is recruiting for two family practice physicians. Four candidates are being reviewed. The District continues to follow the governor's orders regarding Covid-19. Ryan reported that the Admin Staff is currently considering a plan to provide access to the Business Office and Medical Records to

patients. Ryan reported that plans are underway to move the Walk-in Clinic to RMC and reopen the clinic sometime in November. Dr. Audrey Shank and Dr. Irvine will staff the clinic. The clinic can't re-open until billing issues have been worked out and bills aren't being claimed as rural health. At this time all bills going out of RMC have to be checked individually to make sure they aren't improperly coded. The consensus of the board is that the clinic should open as soon as possible.

Ryan reported that Tara Blohm has submitted her resignation. She plans to retire to her family's cattle ranch. Ryan reported that Elizabeth Zdunich, NP, has submitted her 90-day resignation.

### III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### A. Covid-19 Report

Ryan reported that state numbers are climbing. They were generally trending down, but are now back up. Testing has been inconsistent. Douglas County numbers are up in the eastern part of the county. LUHD has been proactive in preparing for Covid infections in our area. Discussion followed regarding the BioFire machine. Ryan reported that the BioFire machine requires two Quality Control tests each day it's tested for the first 20 days of testing. After the first 20 days it has to be tested once a month. The District is trying to group people who need to be tested into one day to limit the number of QC tests that have to be run. Some tests are being sent to Quest, if the results can wait 2-3 days. The BioFire identifies 16 different viruses. The District has requested more testing materials. Unfortunately, the testing materials are rationed.

#### B. Teamsters Negotiations

Ryan reported that the District had reached a tentative agreement with Teamsters. The nurses voted the agreement down, with three issues they wanted addressed. They were asked to send specific information regarding the three issues. Their response included five issues. It was felt that these issues were too complicated to discharge through email, with the new demands putting the District over budget. Negotiations have been re-opened.

#### C. Meditech Report

Ryan reported that the Meditech implementation has been painful and positive. The District has made good progress in optimizing the system. There are some hang-ups with the clinics, but these are being addressed. Most financial issues have been fixed, with a couple of exceptions. Tara Blohm is helping with the laboratory optimization. The rehab department still has hot-button issues and may not be able to continue with Meditech.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Halloween Breakfast – October 30, 2020

Discussion followed regarding the Halloween breakfast. Suggestions include having a message from board members on a video loop for staff members to view; a letter from board members; a gift from board members. Discussion followed regarding the pumpkin contest with suggestions for virtual voting on Facebook. The Event Committee will discuss these suggestions and bring a suggestion to the next board meeting.

B. Leadership Organization Discussion

Consensus of the board was that names should be added to the chart to help board members know who holds each position. Tabled to a future date.

C. Sewer Issues

Ryan reported that part of Aidan's sewer line is broken. Spartan Environmental Services used a camera to see inside the lines. The lines are six to eight feet below the concrete. Part of the sewer line that runs under the surgical hallway has six to seven breaks. Spartan is hopeful that they will be able to reline the sewer pipes instead of having to dig them up and replace them. The price includes inspection of all the District's sewer lines. The District will plan to reline the pipes over the next several years. The consensus of the board is that they'd like to see a couple more bids. After discussion, **Karen Bedard moved to approve up to \$100,000 to fix the sewer lines, subject to additional bids being requested. Cheryl Young seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (5-0)**

D. Capital Requests

1. Omnicell + annual maintenance

The District's current Omnicell machines will be out of service at the end of the year. The medication cabinets are located in Acute Care and the Emergency Room. The new machines have a seven year life-span. After discussion, **Cheryl Young moved to purchase the two machines. Tamara Szalewski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (5-0)**

2. EMG Machine

Dr. Amsden requested that the District purchase an EMG machine. These machines test nerve conductivity and help to follow the path of a patient's pain. Some insurance companies require the test prior to approving surgery. The tests may help some patients to avoid surgery. The machines are from a sole-source company. After discussion, **Cheryl Young moved to purchase the EMG machine. Karen Bedard seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (5-0)**

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION **Board president, Ron Kreskey adjourned the meeting into Executive Session at 8:55 am.**

192.660. (1) ORS 192.610 to 192.690 do not prevent the governing body of a public body from holding executive session during a regular, special or emergency meeting, after the presiding officer has identified the authorization under ORS 192.610 to 192.690 for holding the executive session.

(2) The governing body of a public body may hold an executive session:

(a) To consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent.

(i) To review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.

VI. RETURN TO REGULAR SESSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION BY THE BOARD

Board president, Ron Kreskey, adjourned the executive session and re-opened the regular

session of the board at \_\_\_\_\_ am. No action was taken by the board.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ am

APPROVED THIS 28th day of OCTOBER 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Kreskey, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leon Bridge, Secretary