



**EASTERN PLUMAS HEALTH CARE DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES**

Thursday, October 24, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Augustine Corcoran, Board Chair; Gail McGrath, Board Member; Paul Swanson, M.D., Board Member, Linda Satchwell, Board Member; Marcia Hughes, Board Member

Staff in attendance: Doug McCoy, CEO; Katherine Pairish, CFO; Penny Holland, Chief Nursing Officer; Lorraine Noble, Director of Skilled Nursing, Portola; Tracy Studer, Director of Clinics; Barbara Sokolov, Foundation Manager/Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

3. Board Comments

None

4. Public Comment

None

5. Consent Calendar

- **ACTION:** Motion was made by Director McGrath, seconded by Satchwell to approve the consent calendar.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Directors Corcoran, Swanson, Satchwell, Hughes, McGrath.
Nays: None

- **Public Comment:** None

6. Auxiliary Report

Gail McGrath

Nifty Thrifty sales are amazing! \$13,400 gross in July with a \$5,250 net (quarterly sales tax accounts for decreased net). \$14,828 gross in August with a \$11,314 net.

7. Staff Reports

- A. Chief Nursing Officer Penny Holland
See October BOD report. Penny also shared that on the 29th there would be a drive through COVID vaccine clinic in the Portola campus parking lot.
- B. SNF Directors of Nursing Lorraine Noble
See October BOD report. Lorraine also noted that the census was at 59 and that because of COVID in Loylton they were taking no new admits until it was safe.
- C. Director of Clinics Tracy Studer
See September BOD report. Tracy also recognized Teri Palmer for 40 years of service.
- D. Chief Financial Officer Katherine Pairish

Summary

Total Patient Revenues were over last year by \$109,413 with Net Patient Revenues over last year by \$362,216.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Eastern Plumas Health Care
October 24, 2024 MINUTES - Continued

Total Operating Revenue was higher than last year by \$533,042 or 7%. Total Operating Expenses were higher than last year by \$617,926 or 6%. While we posted a loss in the amount of \$1,938,306, our bottom line improved over last year by \$68,498.

Revenues (Year-to-Date September 2024 Compared to Year-to-Date September 2023)

Total Inpatient Revenues were higher by \$56,027, with Skilled Nursing Revenues posting higher by \$34,417. Pro Fees were higher by \$16,601. Total Outpatient Revenues were lower by \$147,918, and Clinic Revenues were higher by \$184,703.

Expenses (Year-to-Date September 2024 Compared to Year-to-Date September 2023)

Salaries and Benefits: Combined Salaries and Benefits were higher by \$193,933.

Purchased Services: Purchased Services were higher by \$353,499. Included in the current year expenses are catch-up payments to Cerner.

Professional Fees: Professional Fees were higher by \$69,284.

Repairs & Maintenance: Repairs & Maintenance were higher by \$15,716.

Utilities: Utilities were higher by \$66,770.

Supplies: Supplies were lower by \$60,449.

Depreciation Expense: Depreciation Expense was higher by \$21,638.

Other Expenses: Other Expenses were lower by \$62,454. These include training, travel, and dues and subscriptions.

Revenue Cycle

Gross Accounts Receivable as of September 30, 2024, was \$10.2 million. This is a 41.23% decrease from September 2023. AR Days as of September 30, 2024, was 73.

Balance Sheet

Total Cash increased 19.46%. Net AR decreased 39.52% and Net Fixed Assets decreased 1.90%. Total Liabilities decreased 7.42%.

Additional Information

Days cash on hand on September 30, 2024, was 160. September 30, 2023, days cash on hand was 142.

8. Chief Executive Officer Report

Doug McCoy

OPERATIONAL OVERVIEW:

EPHC along with 5 other CAHs in our area has been informed that the vendor providing MRI services (Alliance) has immediately terminated all operations. This has eliminated MRI options throughout Plumas County for all three district hospitals, Mayers Memorial, and Modoc. An interim and long-term plan have been developed to address this issue and will be presented at the Board meeting for discussion and possible action.

Due to a change in employee medical insurance providers and a significant increase in the 2024/25 premiums, we have been reviewing alternative benefit options during the month to reduce costs to both the organization and our employees. We will review the options identified at the October Board meeting and plan to decide before the end of the month.

EPHC is expanding the new Point Click Care SNF EMR system by adding an automated pharmaceutical module which will go live on October 29th. This will improve accuracy and efficiency

over the historic process and be followed by two additional modules for infection control management and physician documentation.

Overall, the PCC implementation has been very successful.

2024 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES – UPDATE (Through September 30th)

Below are our strategic objectives for the 2024/25 fiscal year.

- Reduce 2024 annualized turnover by 7% with emphasis on the reduction of turnover within the first 12 months of employment.
 - o Through September we have had 52 terminations representing a 23.1% annualized turnover percentage. This is a 6.6% decrease in the annualized rate over the prior year and a 23% decrease in the total number of terminations through September of 2023.
- Exceed the net income budget for the 2024/25 fiscal year and achieve positive net income performance.
 - o September financial performance missed plan due to a shortfall of revenue for both inpatient and outpatient services. Swing bed census continues to be lower than forecast, and SNF census was under budget by 3 ADC due to the Loylton flooring project placing rooms out of service which was anticipated. October SNF census has slowly increased, and we anticipate being at budget by the end of October. Meetings were held with the Renown transfer center to review the repatriating of patients back to Portola and increasing swing referrals.
- Increase days cash on hand monthly over the 2023 performance level and maintain at 150 or higher each month. Reduce A/R days to a goal of 60.
 - o September days cash on hand was 160 which was a decrease of 12 days over the prior month but 18 days over September 2023. Overall A/R days remained consistent over the prior month at 73. This was the first month of 2024 without an improvement in A/R days. The revenue cycle team has been working on strategies to improve point of service collections to reduce future A/R balances and collections of aged accounts.
- Maximize grant funding and other sources (QIP, EPT, HQIP, etc.) to offset impacts from 2024/24 CA budget deficit issues.
 - o EPHC and Portola Village Pharmacy have agreed to partner in the 340B drug pricing program and selected Aventi as the third-party administrator. The program application will be sent by October 15th with an implementation date of 1/1/25. Forecasting models show a significant revenue improvement for the organization beginning next year.
- Add additional provider/community services to the Loylton Clinic campus. Explore grant opportunities for dental services.
 - o Our employment offer was unfortunately not accepted with the provider selecting an opportunity in another state. We continue to utilize Tacore Medical to assist with identifying additional candidates. A decision on the dental expansion grant is expected to be received in January.
- Increase patient experience survey responses over 2023 totals and meet 4-5 star national certification standards.
 - o 874 total surveys were received through September 30th across all lines of service. Our annualized trend remains at 1165 surveys and would exceed our 2023 total of 953. SNF, Lab, Radiology, and therapy services continue to be over national top-box averages in all categories YTD.
- Complete key projects – X-ray room replacement, Loylton flooring project, SNF external resident/family area.
 - o The Loylton flooring project is nearing completion with the main hallways completed. Ancillary rooms and offices are expected to be done by the end of October. The parking lot resealing project was completed and has improved the exterior presentation of the building. The x-ray room project was

initiated in early October and is progressing per the timeline developed to minimize service impact to the hospital.

- Completion of all NPC/SPC seismic reporting requirements for 2024 and receipt of grant funding to offset costs through the SRHRP grant program.

- o EPHC leadership has met with HCAI to review the SRHRP application process and begin submission of the grant documents to receive reimbursement for incurred seismic design costs and potential project funding. All grant materials will be submitted by the end of October.

COMPLIANCE PROGRAM:

There were no external compliance concerns raised from September 24th to October 23rd. The HIPAA compliance program through HIPAA Trek has reviewed EPHC policies and processes and provided recommendations which were initiated in September.

9. MRI Consortium Discussion

Doug McCoy

Discussed consortium of Plumas District Hospital, Mayers, Modoc, Seneca and EPHC to contract with Heritage for MRI services. ROI 1.5 years. Contract under negotiation. Requested BOD approval for continuation of discussion with consortium to deliver MRI services.

Public Comment: None

ACTION: Motion was made by Director Swanson, Seconded by Director Satchwell to approve continuation of discussion with consortium.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Directors Corcoran, Swanson, Satchwell, Hughes, McGrath.

Nays: None

10. Policies

Public Comment: None.

ACTION: Motion was made by Director McGrath, seconded by Director Hughes to approve all policies.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Directors Corcoran, Swanson, Satchwell, Hughes, McGrath.

Nays: None

11. Committee Reports

Board Members

A. Finance Committee

Finance Committee Chair Swanson reported that covering revenue loss was dependent upon IGTs, which carried some risk.

12. Board Retreat Discussion

The Board unanimously decided to hold a special planning meeting on the day of the next regularly scheduled EPHC BOD meeting, December 5, 2024, from 4-6. No Regular EPHC BOD Meeting or EPHC BOD Finance Committee Meeting will be held on December 5th. Location TBD.

Public Comment: None.

ACTION: Motion was made by Director Corcoran, seconded by Director Satchwell to approve holding a special planning meeting on December 5, 2024.

Roll Call Vote: AYES: Directors Corcoran, Swanson, Satchwell, Hughes, McGrath.

Nays: None

13. Public Comment

None.

14. Board Closing Remarks

Thanks all around!

Open Session recessed at 6:05 p.m.

15. Closed Session

A. Hearing (Health and Safety Code 32155)

Subject Matter: Staff Privileges

ED

- Jalan, Devesh N., M.D. - 1 year appointment - ED tele-psych
- Ouimet, Adam M.D. - 2 year appointment

Tele Radiology

- Anderson, Jon M.D. - 1 year appointment

B. Public Employee Performance Evaluation (Government Code Section 54957): *CEO*

16. Open Session Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session

The Board returned at approximately 6:10 p.m.

A: ACTION- The Board unanimously approved a motion to provide privileges to all persons listed on agenda item 15A.

B: No Action taken

17. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.