

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

**Thursday, February 28, 2013**

**10:00 A.M.**

**EPHC Education Center, Portola, CA**

**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order.**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Gail McGrath

**2. Roll Call.**

Present: Gail McGrath, Larry Fites, Janie McBride, and Jay Skutt

Absent: Lucie Kreth

Staff: Tom Hayes, CEO, Jeri Nelson, CFO, Dr. Eric Bugna, Chief of Staff, and Tiffany Williams, Administrative Assistant.

Visitors: Approximately 11 visitors were present at the start of the meeting

**3. Consent Calendar.**

There was a brief discussion regarding several minor changes to the minutes. Ms. McBride motioned to accept the consent calendar with the following changes; Page 5, #6 high should read high, # 7 should read; With the proposed cuts our daily rate that we will receive is \$249. This will result in a \$2.4 million retroactive reduction back to 2011 and 1.3 million reduction annually. Page 7 #6 should read Garner. A second was made by Mr. Fites. None opposed, the motion was approved.

Ms. Kreth arrived.

**4. Board Chair Comments.**

Ms. McGrath stated that she would like to take this opportunity to recognize Kathy Davis who has done so much for EPHC. Kathy Davis has served as the Auxiliary President for the last five years and has worked tirelessly for EPHC. She has also served on many committees including Leadership Council and the Foundation. Ms. McGrath presented Kathy Davis with a plaque.

- **Board Self Evaluation Discussion:** Ms. McGrath reported that the Board has spent a lot of time reviewing the Board Self Evaluation results and would like an ad hoc committee of herself and Mr. Skutt to review in more detail and to prioritize areas that the Board needs to work on. The ad hoc committee will then present its findings at the next regular Board meeting.

**5. Board Comments.**

None

**6. Public Comment.**

None

**7. Auxiliary Report**

Kathy Davis introduced President Elect, Katie Tanner as well as Auxiliary members Suzie Maddalena and Connie Kunsman. Ms. Davis reported that Nifty Thrifty grossed \$14,403 in

January and that they currently have \$237,000 in the bank of which \$4,500 is in the memorial fund for employee scholarships. The Auxiliary has committed \$150,000 for the down payment on the CT scanner.

**8. Valic Presentation**

Doug Sulenta and Orlando Batturaro provided handouts and presented information on Valic, EPHC's voluntary retirement program. There was a discussion regarding new employee education as well as existing employee education. Mr. Barruraro stated that EPHC has a 12% voluntary participation which is low. There was also a discussion regarding physician participation which is allowed. Mr. Hayes noted that he will ask Cathy Conant and Valic to develop a plan to increase employee education and improve employee participation

**9. Chief of Staff**

Dr. Bugna stated that the providers are happy about the new CT. They are also concerned about the recent DP/SNF financial matters with the State.

**10. Policies and Procedures**

Ms. Whitfield presented the Administration and Pharmacy policies, which were reviewed by Ms. McGrath and Ms. McBride on February 14, 2013. Ms. McGrath stated that all policies are reviewed in detail before coming to the Board for approval. Ms. McGrath motioned to approve the Administration and Pharmacy Policies. A second was provided by Ms. McBride. None opposed, the motion approved.

**11. Committee Reports**

• **Finance Committee**

Mr. Skutt stated that the Finance Committee met and discussed the January financials. There was a long discussion regarding the upcoming skilled nursing cuts and Ms. Nelson will provide more detail in her report. There was also discussion regarding our efforts to reduce denials as well as looking for an alternate financial institution for EPHC's, payroll, payable, and line of credit.

**12. CFO Report:**

Purchased services were high for the month due to the MRI rental, recruitment fees and the use of a traveling x-ray tech. The CT rental was not budgeted. Lab and Radiology are down and the clinics are up slightly. Our Skilled Nursing census is down, which was planned due to the DP/SNF MediCal cuts. We are not accepting any skilled nursing MediCal admissions at this time pending decisions by the State regarding implementation of the cuts.

There was a brief discussion regarding denials. Mr. Hayes stated that he would ask Dr. Swanson to give a presentation regarding Observation vs. Acute at the next board meeting.

**13. CEO Report**

• **DP/SNF Reimbursement Cuts:** Mr. Hayes reported that he recently attended a meeting of the Democratic and Republican Central Committees in Sierraville to discuss the

DP/SNF cuts as well as our advocacy efforts. He also reported on a meeting that he had scheduled with Dianne Dooley, however she did not show up. In place of Ms. Dooley, Mr. Hayes along with six other hospitals and CHA staffers met with Ms. Dooley's staff. Mr. Hayes has traveled to Sacramento several times and has been meeting with several different legislators including; Ted Gaines, Brian Dahle, and Dan Logue. CHA will be beginning a PR campaign to publicize the cuts. Mr. Hayes stated that Supervisor Kennedy has been very active in the process working on our behalf.

- **CT Scanner replacement schedule:** Mr. Hayes reported that we are scheduled to remove the old CT scanner and begin remodel for the installation of the new unit on March 4, 2013. The mobile unit is currently on campus and being utilized. The installation will be complete in early April.
- **Employee Satisfaction Committee Update:** Mr. Hayes reported that the Employee Satisfaction meetings have begun and we have met with 85 employees and more meetings are scheduled.
- **Clinic Medical Director:** Mr. Hayes stated that he is talking to Dr. Kim regarding the Portola Clinic Medical Director position which would assist in the Portola Clinic efficiency and resolution of problems.

**14. Closed Session.**

Ms. McGrath announced the Board would move into closed session at 11:30 am., pursuant to Health and Safety Code 32155 and Government Code Section 54957.

**15. Open Session Report of Actions Taken in Closed Session.**

The Board returned at approximately 2:30 pm and announced with respect to Government Code Section 54957, appointments to the medical staff were approved as submitted.

With respect to Government Code Section 54957, Public Employee Performance Expectations and Evaluation, CEO, a public employee, Ms. McGrath reported that it was an extremely positive evaluation. No reportable action was taken.

With respect to Health and Safety Code 32155, no reportable action.

**16. Adjournment.** Ms. McGrath subsequently adjourned the meeting at 12:55 p.m.



Approval

3.28.13

Date