**William Bee Ririe Critical Access Hospital**

**William Bee Ririe Critical Access Hospital**

**WBRH Conference Room**

**1500 Avenue H, Ely, Nevada 89301**

**Regular Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

This was a duly noticed Regular Board of Trustees Meeting of the White Pine County Hospital District Board of Trustees held Monday, February 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**TRUSTEE’S PRESENT** **STAFF PRESENT**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Dr. Mike Mugosa – Chairman  Todd Wilkin – Vice Chairman  Bodie Gola – Trustee  Cozette Eldridge – Trustee  Crystal Caviglia – Secretary  **TRUSTEES ARE NOT PRESENT**  Haley McKay – Trustee  **GUESTS PRESENT**  Wes McAden – REACH Representative | Matthew Walker – Chief Executive Officer  Mckinzie Hilton – Attorney  Edwin Szewczyk – Chief Financial Officer  Joann Musinski – Administrative Assistant  Beth Louton – Chief Operations Officer  Todd Brewster – Physical Therapy  Rocky Bybee – APRN  Shalayne Manning – Human Resources |
| Attached hereto is the sign-in sheet and by reference incorporated herein. | |

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**WHITE PINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

**Regular Board of Trustees Meeting**

1. **Call to Order**

**Chairman** Dr. Mike Mugosa called the White Pine County Hospital District Board of Trustees Regular Meeting to order on Monday, February 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

1. **Roll Call**

**Chairman** Dr. Mike Mugosa noted the sign-in sheet reminding everyone to sign in.

**3. Public Comment:** *Comments not exceeding five (5) minutes in length will be accepted from the general public in attendance. If any are made, there may be discussion upon these comments. No vote, decision, or action may be taken upon matters raised under this item until it is formally placed on the agenda as an action item.* ***Comments during Discussion Items will not be******accepted from the General public. “****Section 7.05, of the Nevada Open Meeting Law Manual indicates that the Public Body may prohibit comment if the content of the comments is a topic that is not relevant to or within the authority of the Public Body or if the content of the comments is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers”.*

**Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa asked if there was any public comment at this time:** There were no public comments at this time.

**4. Wes McAden, with Global Medical Response a REACH Representative –** provided details to the board of trustees about REACH air medical service’s member base program and how their program works for the community.

Wes McAden answered all questions the Board of Trustees asked.

**5. Approval and reading of minutes of the last regular meeting and any special meetings, which may have been held since the last Regular meeting.**

1. **Board of Trustees Regular Meeting – January 23, 2023**

**Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa** entertained a motion to approve the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2023.

**MOTION:** Secretary Crystal Caviglia moved to approve the minutes for the Board of Trustees Meeting for January 23, 2023; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd Wilkin and carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Enterprise Safety & Risk Management & Quality Assurance – Matthew Walker, PharmD/CEO**

* **Enterprise Safety & Risk Management**, **Matthew Walker, CEO** – Reviewed with the board of trustees William Bee Ririe’s Incident Command System responsibilities. This is in reflection of the recent incident that took place at the high school regarding an active shooter threat. During this emergency, we were under the impression that there was a potential for mass casualty, and we –

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-notified all staff of the potential and reached out to the flight teams so everyone is on standby till further instructions are provided. Operations continue as normal with everyone on alert and standby. We are relieved nothing happened but it was a good drill for us to see what areas need to be improved upon with communication. We did not receive any communication from the High school or the emergency system operations. We will be bringing that up at our next Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting.

* **Quality Assurance, CEO Matthew Walker**: I asked Beth Louton if she would report on the grievances that we receive monthly so we can review a graph with the committee.
  + **Beth Louton, COO –** Reviewed the grievance process with the board of trustees and provided handouts of a graph showing grievance data for review.We have 30 days to respond to grievances so we do an in-depth dive to make sure our bases are covered.

Beth Louton, COO answered all questions the Board of Trustees asked.

1. **Discussion/For Possible Action : Financial/Statistical Reports:**
   1. **Review and approval of the attached Financial Statement for the period ended December 2022:– Edwin Szewczyk, CFO:** Edwin Szewczyk, CFO provided a handout review outlining the month of December financials.
      * **December 2022 Financials** – In the month of December we had a bottom-line net gain of $280,000. Significant expense variances include salaries and wages, we had three payrolls for the month of December, and insurance claims.
      * **Audit Update**– every year we have an annual audit that is typically presented in November or December. Due to several factors, I have discussed in previous meetings including the switch over to our new Meditech system; our audit is running late. I have an extension with the State through the end of March. Friday we spoke with our auditors and we are planning on having the final audit presentation by the March 27th Board meeting.

Edwin Szewczyk, CFO answered all questions asked by the Board of Trustees.

**Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa** – entertained a motion to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending December 2022.

**MOTION:** Secretary Crystal Caviglia made a motion to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending December 2022; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bodie Golla and carried unanimously

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Discussion/For Possible Action**: Review/Revise/Approve Governance Policies – Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa

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1. **Approval of Governance Policy – 1.3 Treatment of Patients**

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve Governance Policy – 1.3 Treatment of Patients

**MOTION:** Vice Chairmen Todd Wilkin made a motion to approve Governance Policy – 1.3 Treatment of Patients; the motion was seconded by Secretary Crystal Caviglia and carried unanimously.

**2. Approval of Governance Policy – 1.4 Treatment of Staff**

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve Governance Policy – 1.4 Treatment of Staff

**MOTION:** Secretary Crystal Caviglia made a motion to approve Governance Policy – 1.4 Treatment of Staff; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bodie Golla and carried unanimously.

1. **Appointments/Re-Appointments/Modification of Appointments – Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa, M.D.**

**Appointments -**

* 1. **Discussion/For Possible Action –** The Appointment of Kenneth Nalaboff, MD – Radiology

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the appointment of Kenneth Nalaboff, MD – Radiology

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mugosa made a motion to approve the appointment of Kenneth Nalaboff, MD – Radiology; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bodie Golla and carried unanimously.

**Re-Appointments** -

* 1. **Discussion/For Possible Action –** The Re-Appointment of Nathan Nielson, DO – Emergency Medicine

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Nathan Nielson, DO – Emergency Medicine

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Nathan Nielson, DO – Emergency Medicine; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bodie Golla and carried unanimously.

**3) Discussion/For Possible Action** – The Re-Appointment of Clement Strumillo, DO – Family Medicine

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Clement Strumillo, DO – Family Medicine

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Clement Strumillo, DO – Family Medicine; the motion was seconded by Trustee Bodie Golla and carried unanimously.

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**Telemedicine-StatRad**

**4)** **Discussion/For Possible Action** – The Re-Appointment of Ryan Frederiksen, MD – Radiology

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Ryan Frederiksen, MD – Radiology

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Ryan Frederiksen, MD – Radiology; the motion was seconded by Secretary Crystal Caviglia and carried unanimously.

**5)** **Discussion/For Possible Action** – The Re-Appointment of Jill Furbubayashi, MD – Radiology

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Jill Furbubayashi, MD – Radiology

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Jill Furbubayashi, MD – Radiology; the motion was seconded by Secretary Crystal Caviglia and carried unanimously.

**6)** **Discussion/For Possible Action** – The Re-Appointment of Edward Hobart, MD – Radiology

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Edward Hobart, MD – Radiology

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Edward Hobart, MD – Radiology; the motion was seconded by Secretary Crystal Caviglia and carried unanimously.

**7)** **Discussion/For Possible Action** – The Re-Appointment of Michael Karachalios, MD – Radiology

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Michael Karachalios, MD – Radiology

**MOTION:** Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa made a motion to approve the Re-Appointment of Michael Karachalios, MD – Radiology; the motion was seconded by Secretary Crystal Caviglia and carried unanimously.

**C. Discussion/For Possible Action:** Approval for the purchase of a new Lab Chemistry Analyzer in an amount not to exceed $300,000.00 – **Matthew Walker, CEO**.

**Matthew Walker, CEO** provided details associated with the request to purchase a new Lab Chemistry Analyzer and provided the board of trustees with copies of the quotes received from different vendors to review. Matthew Walker commented, after reviewing the quotes and all the specs offered by each vendor we would like to go with Cardinal Health’s Lab Chemistry Analyzer.

Matthew Walker, CEO answered all questions the Board of Trustees asked.

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the purchase of a new Lab Chemistry Analyzer from Cardinal Health in an amount not to exceed $300,000.

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**MOTION:** Trustee Bodie Golla made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Lab Chemistry Analyzer from Cardinal Health in an amount not to exceed $300,000; the motion was seconded by Trustee Cozette Eldridge and carried unanimously.

**D. Discussion Only**: **Administrators’ Report – Matt Walker, CEO**

1. **Legislative Update –** Matthew Walker spoke to the board regarding several assembly bills that are up for review and may need further support from the board of trustees in our efforts to be heard highlighting a few.
   * **Assembly Bill 11-** As of right now this bill does not include public hospitals but the potential is still there so we are watching it closely. This bill entails making it illegal for hospitals to employ physicians directly and we would be required to use a contract agency to hire a provider. A lot of the incentives we offer are what get providers to come and stay here with a low turnover rate. If we have to use a contract agency the turnover rate would probably increase and our ability to find providers who want to come to this location would be hindered. Also taking into consideration the cost associated with using the contracted agency would be a lot higher.
   * **Assembly Bill 6 –** This bill is a cost growth benchmark, cap the State of Nevada put this in effect last legislative session, and they are looking to renew it again, this legislative session. What they are trying to say is that hospitals or health care in general, will not get paid more than a 2% increase cap per year, regardless of healthcare’s rising costs overall. Medicaid is the payer they control; the problem is the managed care organizations oftentimes will follow what Medicaid does. The concern here is inflation; the cost of supplies, and the cost of wages, it’s all increasing much more than 2 or 3 percent per year. We are worried that this will put the hospitals at a huge disadvantage if we are not able to grow at the rate or even close to the rate of inflation.
   * **Senate Bill 420 –** This is a public insurance option. It’s the Affordable Health Care Act, as you know allows for the insurance exchange and there’s only one plan available for White Pine County that is super expensive. What the public option does is make a more affordable insurance option available throughout the entire state, it wouldn’t just be by zip code or by area. The concern with this one is again it is managed care, the way managed care saves money is by denying claims. If they make a move for more affordable insurance options, especially in rural areas where we don’t have the volumes to make up the denials, we could only last for so long before we ceased to exist. It is a huge concern for rural areas, so we would like to see the senate work with us to come up with other options to make it more affordable without just not paying us.
   * **Tort Cap Reform –** this currently exists**,** what they are looking at doing is rescinding that or taking it away. It was in the early 2000s a bill was passed that was made to keep doctors in Nevada longer. What they did is they capped the medical malpractice insurance at $350,000 for noneconomic damages and $50,000 for trauma. This is not for negligence, if there was gross negligence by a provider they can sue him/her for whatever they want. This is more if the doctor did everything they could or they tried and there is a bad outcome. There would be a cap of $350,000 or $50,000. The reason for this cap is insurance companies back in the 2000s would increase their rates so much that the medical malpractice was so high that we had a huge exodus of physicians because no one could afford to practice in the state of Nevada with those rates. So this bill was created and became a law. Now they are looking to increase the cap to 2.5-

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million which is quite a jump from $350,000. If they go to the 2.5 million everything else goes up. So while they want to keep us from increasing our cost to stay open they will increase the cost associated with what is needed to stay open.

1. **Community Education –** Community Education (2/28 6 pm in Hospital Conference Room moving forward) Dr. Namkung will be speaking on Diabetes.

1. **Basket Scholarship Fundraiser –** We do this fundraiser every year and it started here this week. You will see in our hallway by the kitchen where the baskets will be set up for review. Anyone can buy raffle tickets for any of the baskets and we will be advertising them to get the word out. All proceeds go to the hospital scholarship program.

Matthew Walker, CEO answered all questions the Board of Trustees asked.

**E. Discussion/For Possible Action:** Set Date and Time for Next Regular and/or Special Meeting

1. **Approval to set the Next Regular Meeting – Monday, March 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.**

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve scheduling the Regular Board of Trustees meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.

**MOTION:** Secretary Crystal Caviglia moved to approve the scheduling of the next Regular Board of Trustees meeting on Monday, March 27, 2023, at 5:00 p.m.; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd Wilkin and carried unanimously.

**F. CONSENT AGENDA**

The following are “action” items that may be considered in one motion/one vote. They are considered routine, non-public items that have no protests. Any Board of Trustee member may remove any item from the Consent

Agenda and have it placed as an individual action item.

1. **Request for Approval of Vouchers a, b, and c – Secretary Crystal Caviglia,**
2. **Discussion/For Possible Action:** Accounts Payable – vouchers **#002254 - #002483**
3. **Discussion/For Possible Action:** Payroll – vouchers **#13765 - #14122**
4. **Discussion/For Possible Action**: Bad Debt Accounts – **Self-pay/ Medicare**

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to approve the consent agenda items a, b, and c.

**MOTION:** Secretary Crystal Caviglia moved to approve the Consent Agenda vouchers a, b, and c; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd Wilkin and carried unanimously

**G. Public Comment:** *Comments not exceeding five (5) minutes in length will be accepted from the general public in attendance. If any are made, there may be discussion upon these comments. No vote, decision, or action may be taken upon matters raised under this item until it is formally placed on the agenda as an action item.* ***Comments during Discussion Items will not be******accepted from the General public. “****Section 7.05, of the*

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*Nevada Open Meeting Law Manual indicates that the Public Body may prohibit comment if the content of the comments is a topic that is not relevant to or within the authority of the Public Body or if the content of the comments is willfully disruptive of the meeting by being irrelevant, repetitious, slanderous, offensive, inflammatory, irrational or amounting to personal attacks or interfering with the rights of other speakers”.*

**Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa asked if there was any comment from the public at this time** – noting no comments were made at this time.

**H. Adjournment**

Chairman Dr. Mike Mugosa entertained a motion to adjourn the White Pine Hospital District Board of Trustees Meeting on February 27, 2023.

**MOTION:** Secretary Crystal Caviglia moved to approve the adjournment of the White Pine Hospital District Board of Trustees meeting dated February 27, 2023; the motion was seconded by Vice-Chairman Todd Wilkin and carried unanimously.

Adjournment: 6:10 p.m.