

**PACIFIC COMMUNITIES HEALTH DISTRICT**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Tuesday, August 20, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Aimee Thompson, Chairperson  
David Long, MD, Secretary  
Lola Jones, Treasurer  
Ralph Breitenstein, MD, Member at Large  
Chris Carlson, Vice-Chairperson

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Kathryn Doksum, District Finance Manager  
Karla Clem, Executive Director PCHD Foundation  
Carrie Connelly, Legal Counsel  
Jon Connor, Facilities Director  
Georgia Fisher, Facilitator/Recorder  
Jane Russell, COO  
Dustin Capri, Capri Architecture

**CALLED TO ORDER:** Aimee Thompson, Chairperson called the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 4:03 p.m.

**CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA ITEMS:** Aimee Thompson, Chairperson, requested confirmation of the meeting agenda. There were no additional items added to the agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** After review of the July 16, 2024, regular board meeting minutes there were no requested changes.

*Aimee Thompson, Chairperson requested a motion to approve the July 16, 2024, regular Board meeting minutes. Ralph Breitenstein, MD moved to approve. Chris Carlson seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

**MONTHLY/QUARTERLY REPORTS:**

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Kathryn Doksum, District Finance Manager presented the July 2024 financial reports. The Board reviewed the financials that were in the packet including the Check Register, Balance Sheet, Trend Analysis for the PCHD General Fund and Trend Analysis for the Debt Service fund.

*Aimee Thompson, Chairperson requested a motion to approve the July 2024 financials as presented. Dr. Long, MD moved to approve. Ralph Breitenstein, MD seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

**REPORT FROM LEGAL COUNSEL:** Carrie Connelly, Legal Counsel gave a report and the highlights included:

- In late July we submitted the proper DEQ paperwork and report to fulfill ODOT grant terms by the submittal deadline of July 27, 2024. Once approved, the PCHD will be a "Credit-Generator for Oregon's Clean Fuels Program." Jon Conner, the operator Samaritan's representative, will submit quarterly reports to DEQ regarding the new charger's electricity usage.

**NEWPORT CITY CENTER REVITALIZATION:** Ralph Breitenstein, MD did not have an update.

**CONSTRUCTION/FACILITIES/WATER RESILIENCY REPORT:** Jon Connor, Facilities Director gave a report and the highlights included:

- STARS – Framing has started.
- FLOORING – Two phases are done, and all is going well.
- EV CHARGING STATIONS – The installation is completed.
- HOUSING FEASIBILITY – Has been approved.

**HOSPITAL REPORT:** Jane Russel, COO gave the CEO report the highlights were as follows:

- The Oregon Nurses Association (ONA) and SPCH reached a tentative, competitive agreement on a new three-year contract for our nurses on Friday, August 2. The agreement will be voted on by all bargaining unit members in the coming weeks.
- Four new electric vehicle charging stations are now available to staff at SPCH. They are adjacent to the four existing stations that continue to be used exclusively by hospital patients and their traveling companions, offered without charge, as a courtesy. The new stations have opened for use by employees only at a price of 25 cents per kilowatt hour, payable by credit card or app.
- SPCH has again been awarded a 2024 American Heart Association/American Stroke Association “Get With The Guidelines”-Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award with Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll. Participation in this program is voluntary, ensuring that our care teams follow evidence-based care standards for our stroke patients. This certification utilizes data abstractors to track and analyze each patient’s data during their hospitalization, allowing us to evaluate & report the quality of care provided. To qualify for the awards, hospitals must meet specific goals in comprehensive stroke care and quality measures developed to minimize the time between the patient’s arrival at the hospital and their assessment and treatment. Target: Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll aims to ensure high-risk patients with type 2 diabetes receive the most current, evidence-based care when hospitalized with a stroke.
- SPCH has received a 2024 Healthgrades Outstanding Patient Experience award. Healthgrades awards tell you which hospitals deliver superior quality care. Healthgrades evaluates hospital performance using objective quality measures including clinical outcomes and patient safety, as well as patient experience. This award means SPCH is top in the nation for overall patient experience based on nine measures related to doctor and nurse communication, hospital cleanliness and noise levels and medication and post-discharge care instructions.
- SPCH has received a designation by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, 2024 LGBTQ+ Healthcare Equality Index High Performer for promoting equitable and inclusive care for LGBTQ+ patients and their families. This is the nation’s top benchmarking survey of health care organizations on policies and practices dedicated to the equitable treatment and inclusion of LGBTQ+ patients, visitors, and employees. Participants in the Healthcare Equality Index are scored on criteria including non-discrimination and staff training, patient services and support, employee benefits and policies, patient and community engagement, and responsible citizenship. Efforts such as collecting and displaying patient pronouns, providing comprehensive diversity and inclusion training, and establishing Patient Family Advisory groups are fundamental actions that demonstrates Samaritan’s commitment to fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment.
- All hospitals/divisions within Samaritan Health Services are working on expense reduction efforts. For the first half of 2024, revenues were lackluster in many areas and expenses continued to increase due to cyber incidents, inclement weather, volume decline in some areas, rising inflation, and unfavorable payer reimbursements. This has compromised our ability to be profitable, so we find ourselves in a similar situation to other hospital systems in our region and nationwide. Each hospital/division has a goal and has developed plans unique to their location to meet expense reduction objectives.

Jane Russell, COO also reviewed the Samaritan Pacific Health Services (SPHS) Quality & Service Excellence statistics for the following: Inpatient, Emergency Room, Primary Care Clinics, Specialty Clinics, Support Services, Community Partnership, Sustainability, Employee Engagement.

**HOUSING FEASIBILITY PROJECT:** Dustin Capri with Capri Architecture presented a Housing Feasibility Study and highlights included:

- The study reviewed the viability of constructing six housing units on two potential district owned sites adjacent to the Hospital Campus in Newport one on the north side and the other on the south side. The project will encompass the design of a new apartment building with six, one-bedroom units. The intent of this Housing Feasibility scope of work is to develop conceptual site plans and floor plans to explore the viability of developing these parcels for an apartment building for staff housing.

*Aimee Thompson, Chairperson requested a motion to that our preference is the North housing site as presented by Capri Architecture. Lola Jones moved to approve. Ralph Breitenstein, MD seconded. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The board when into Executive Session at 5:20 p.m. and came out of session at 5:25 p.m.

**Meeting adjourned:** 5:25 p.m.

*Catherine Macnab*

Catherine Macnab for Georgia Fisher, Recorder  
PACIFIC COMMUNITIES HEALTH DISTRICT



David Long, MD  
PACIFIC COMMUNITIES HEALTH DISTRICT