

CALL TO ORDER                      The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Peter Watercott, President.

PRESENT                                Peter Watercott, President  
John Ungersma MD, Vice President  
M.C. Hubbard, Secretary  
Mary Mae Kilpatrick, Treasurer  
Jean Turner, Trustee  
Richard Meredick MD, Chief of Staff  
Kevin S. Flanigan MD, MBA, Chief Executive Officer  
John Tremble, Chief Financial Officer  
Tracy Aspel RN, Chief Nursing Officer  
Evelyn Campos Diaz, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Sandy Blumberg, Executive Assistant

ABSENT                                 Kelli Huntsinger, Chief Operating Officer

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT                      Mr. Watercott stated at this time persons in the audience may speak on any items not on the agenda on any matter within the jurisdiction of the District Board. Members of the audience will have an opportunity to address the Board on every item on the agenda, and speakers will be limited to a maximum of three minutes each. Mr. Watercott then acknowledged the recent passing of Robert Denton MD, who faithfully served members of this community for several decades. No other comments were heard.

APPOINTMENT OF BOARD MEMBER FOR DISTRICT ZONE II                      Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kevin S. Flanigan MD, MBA provided an update on the Board vacancy for Northern Inyo Healthcare District (NIHD) Zone II, explaining the posting and interview process conducted to fill that vacancy. An Ad Hoc Committee of Directors John Ungersma MD, Mary Mae Kilpatrick, and CEO Flanigan interviewed three highly qualified candidates, and following careful consideration recommend that the Board appoint Ms. Jean Turner to fill the vacancy for District Zone II. It was moved by M.C. Hubbard, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to appoint Ms. Jean Turner to fill the District Board vacancy for Northern Inyo Healthcare Zone II.

ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2018 CALENDAR YEAR                      Mr. Watercott proposed the following slate of NIHD District Board officers for the 2018 calendar year:

- President - *John Ungersma, MD*
- Vice President - *M.C. Hubbard*
- Secretary – *Mary Mae Kilpatrick*
- Treasurer – *Jean Turner*
- Member At Large – *Peter Watercott*

It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and unanimously passed to approve the proposed slate of officers as presented.

FINANCIAL STRATEGY  
WORKSHOP

Chief Financial Officer John Tremble provided a *Health Care Finances* presentation (Workshop 3 of 3) for the purpose of strategically planning for the District's financial future. Mr. Tremble's presentation included the following:

- Review of Long Term District Strategies and Goals
- Strategies Being Deployed to Avoid Economic Issues
- Update of WIPFLI LLP Strategic Comparison Graphs
- Planning for Unexpected Negative Changes in volumes, services, and provision of care
- Analysis of Negative Changes and Payor Trends
- District Philosophy in Responding to Negative Changes in Environment/Volumes

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Watercott called attention to the Consent Agenda for this meeting, which contained the following items:

- *Approval of minutes of the November 13 2017 special meeting*
- *Approval of minutes of the November 15 2017 regular meeting*
- *Financial and Statistical Reports as of October 31 2017*
- *2013 CMS Validation Survey Monitoring, December 2017*
- *Compliance Department Quarterly Report*

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve all Consent agenda items as presented, with Director Turner abstaining from the vote on minutes for previous meetings, and including one time reference change being made to the minutes for the November 13 2017 special meeting.

CHIEF OF STAFF  
REPORT

Chief of Staff Richard Meredick, MD reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate Committees the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following

POLICIES/  
PROCEDURES/  
PROTOCOLS/ORDER  
SETS APPROVALS

Policies/Procedures/Protocols/Order Sets:

- *Advanced Directives*
- *Assisted Living Facilities*
- *California Children Services Referral*
- *Cleaning Procedures: Contact and Enteric Isolation Rooms at Discharge*
- *Designated Areas for Food and Drink in Patient Care Areas*
- *DI – Handling of Radioactive Packages, non-nuclear Medicine Personnel*
- *DI – Radioactive Material Hot Lab Security*
- *DI – Radioactive Materials Delivery After-hours Policy/Procedure*
- *DI – Radioactive Waste Storage and Disposal*
- *ED Triage Protocol Policy*
- *Environmental Disinfectant – Cleaning Solution*
- *Handling of Soiled Linen*
- *Home Health Care*
- *Hospice Care*

- *Hospi-Gard Portable Filtration Unit (H.G.U.)*
- *Infection Control: Hand washing for Safe Food Handling*
- *Infection Prevention Recommendations for Avian Influenza, Novel Influenza, and Seasonal Flu*
- *Long Term Acute Care Hospital*
- *Meals on Wheels*
- *Nursing Services Standing Committee Structure and Hospital Committee Participation*
- *Ombudsman*
- *Sharps Injury Protection Plan (supersedes: Handling and Disposal of Contaminated Needles/Syringes)*
- *Working with Other Agencies in the community*

It was moved by Ms. Hubbard, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve all policies/procedures/protocols/order sets as presented, with Director Turner requesting that the contact information on the *Ombudsman* policy be checked for accuracy.

#### MEDICAL STAFF APPOINTMENTS AND PRIVILEGING

Doctor Meredith also reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate Committees the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Medical Staff appointments and privileging:

1. Brian Mikolasko MD (*hospitalist*) – Provisional Active Staff
2. Trong Quach MD (*hospitalist*) – Provisional Active Staff
3. Amikjit Reen MD (*hospitalist*) – Provisional Active Staff
4. Wilbur Peralta MD (*hospitalist*) – Provisional Active Staff

It was moved by Ms. Turner, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve all four Medical Staff appointments and privileging as presented.

#### MEDICAL STAFF TEMPORARY LOCUM TENENS PRIVILEGES

Doctor Meredith reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate Committees the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Temporary Locum Tenens Privileges:

1. H. Charlie Wolf, MD (*emergency medicine*) – for 60 days in the 2018 calendar year effective January 1, 2018. Dr. Wolf will be providing coverage for the Eastern Sierra Emergency Physicians group on a locum tenens basis.
2. Tien H. Cheng, MD (*radiology*) – for 60 days effective December 11, 2017. Dr. Cheng will be providing coverage for the Bishop Radiology Group on a locum tenens basis.

It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve both Temporary Locum Tenens Privileges as requested.

#### MEDICAL STAFF ADVANCEMENTS

Doctor Meredith also reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate Committees the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Medical Staff advancements:

1. Sarah Zuger MD (*family medicine*) – advancement from Provisional Active Staff to Active Staff
2. Cecilia Rhodus MD (*pediatrics*) – advancement from Provisional Active Staff to Active Staff

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve both Medical Staff advancements as requested.

#### MEDICAL STAFF RE-APPOINTMENTS

Doctor Meredick additionally reported that forty applicants submitted for renewal of Medical Staff privileges for the 2018 and 2019 calendar years. All applicants underwent a recredentialing process consisting of the following:

- Verification of current unrestricted licensure, certifications, and registrations
  - Queries to the AMA, the NPDB, and the OIG exclusion database
  - Investigation of any professional liability cases
  - Verification of compliance with CME requirements
  - Evaluation of evidence indicating current competence and training related to the privileges requested
  - Review of the applicant's performance and standing at NIHD and outside affiliations
  - Review of available Ongoing and Focused Professional Practice Evaluation data (OPPE and FPPE), which includes peer review data and evaluation of the six ACGME core competencies
1. After careful review and consideration of the applicant reappointment profiles, the Medical Executive Committee recommends the following applicants for reappointment to the Medical Staff/Allied Professional Staff in the category listed effective January 1, 2018 for a period not to exceed two years:
    - Anderson, Ivan MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
    - Black, Helena L. MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
    - Brown, Stacey L. MD, *Family Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
    - Bryce, Thomas MD, *Radiology* (Telemedicine)
    - Chan, Brandon MD, *Radiology* (Telemedicine)
    - Dillon, Michael L. MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
    - Farooki, Aamer MD, *Radiology* (Telemedicine)
    - Ganchan, Richard MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
    - Harness, Jay K. MD, *Surgery* (Active Medical Staff)
    - Hathaway, Nickoline M. MD, *Internal Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
    - Hewchuck, Andrew D. DPM, *Podiatry* (Active Medical Staff – LLP)
    - Kamei, Asao MD, *Internal Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)

- Kim, Martha MD, *Obstetrics & Gynecology* (Active Medical Staff)
- Klabacha, Rita PA-C, *Family Medicine* (AHP)
- Lin, Doris MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- McNamara, Thomas O. MD, *Radiology* (Active Medical Staff)
- Meredick, Richard MD, *Orthopedics* (Active Medical Staff)
- Norris, Jennifer CNM, *Nurse-Midwife* (AHP)
- Nylk, Thomas MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
- O'Neill, Tammy PA-C, *Orthopedics* (AHP)
- Phillips, Michael W. MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- Pisculli, Leo M. MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- Pomeranz, David MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- Reid, Thomas K., MD, *Ophthalmology* (Active Medical Staff)
- Rhodus, Cecilia MD, *Pediatrics* (Active Medical Staff)
- Richardson, James A. MD, *Internal Medicine* (Honorary Medical Staff)
- Rowan, Christopher MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
- Saft, AMY CRNA, *Nurse Anesthesia* (AHP)
- Schweizer, Curtis MD, *Anesthesiology* (Active Medical Staff)
- Seher, Richard MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
- Swackhamer, Robert MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
- Taylor, Gregory MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- Tiernan, Carolyn J. MD, *Emergency Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- Vaid, Rajesh MD, *Radiology* (Telemedicine)
- Wasef, Eva S. MD, *Pathology* (Active Medical Staff)
- Wei, Stephen MD, *Radiology* (Telemedicine)
- Weiss, Taema F. MD, *Family Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)
- Wilson, Christopher MD, *Cardiology* (Telemedicine)
- Zuger, Sarah MD, *Family Medicine* (Active Medical Staff)

Doctor Meredick also reported the following applicant did not meet the necessary qualifications and criteria for reappointment to the NIHD Active Staff as outlined in the Medical Staff bylaws (the applicant's privileges will expire after December 31, 2017): Amr Ramadan MD, *Family Medicine* (Active Medical Staff). It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve all Medical Staff reappointments as recommended.

BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS

Mr. Watercott asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to report on any items of interest. Director Ungersma stated he recently donated a Galen Rowell photo to the Healthcare District, and in the future that photo will be on display at the Birch Street Annex. Director Kilpatrick reported she recently attended the Pioneer Home Health open house and tree lighting ceremonies, and Director Hubbard reported that she attended the NIHD employee and physician Christmas party. All three events were successful and appreciated by those in attendance. Board members also expressed kudos regarding a recent Care Shuttle event; a DaVinci (robotics) open house; positive media coverage on the topic of District services; and Healthy Lifestyles talks provided for members of this community.

CLOSED SESSION

At 7:12 pm Mr. Watercott announced the meeting would adjourn to closed session to allow the Board of Directors to:

- A. Hear reports on the hospital quality assurance activities from the responsible department head and the Medical Staff Executive Committee (*Section 32155 of the Health and Safety Code, and Section 54962 of the Government Code*).
- B. Discuss trade secrets, new programs and services (estimated public session date for discussion yet to be determined)(*Health and Safety Code Section 32106*).
- C. Confer with Legal Counsel regarding pending and threatened litigation, existing litigation and significant exposure to litigation, 1 matter pending (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9*).
- D. Discussion of a personnel matter (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54957*).

RETURN TO OPEN  
SESSION AND REPORT  
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 7:56 pm the meeting returned to open session. Mr. Watercott reported the Board took no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm.

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Peter Watercott, President

Attest:

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M.C. Hubbard, Secretary