

CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Jean Turner, Chair.
PRESENT	Jean Turner, Chair Robert Sharp, Vice Chair Jody Veenker, Secretary Mary Mae Kilpatrick, Treasurer Topah Spoonhunter, Member At Large Will Timbers MD, Chief of Staff Kelli Davis MBA, Interim Chief Executive Officer John Tremble, Chief Financial Officer Tracy Aspel RN, BSN, Chief Nursing Officer
ABSENT	Kevin S. Flanigan, MD, MBA, Chief Executive Officer
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT	Ms. Turner announced 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. The Board is prohibited from generally discussing or taking action on items not included on the agenda. No comments were heard.
PIONEER HOME HEALTH QUARTERLY REPORT	Pioneer Home Health (PHH) Director Pat West provided a quarterly report on the operations of Pioneer Home Health. She provided a history of the development of the organization from 1990 to present, and an overview of Northern Inyo Healthcare District's (NIHD's) financial support of PHH beginning in 2018. Ms. West noted that Pioneer's patient census has tripled since partnering with NIHD, and additionally stated that she will retire as Director of PHH effective as of March 1, 2020. Ms. Ruby Allen will assume the role of Director of Pioneer Home Health.
NIHD CARE SHUTTLE PRESENTATION	NIHD Rural Health Clinic Transportation Coordinator Oscar Esparza provided a presentation on patient services provided by the District's Care Shuttle program. The shuttle is for non-emergency patient transportation to and from medical appoints, and to and from Northern Inyo Hospital. It provides door-to-door transportation services and is staffed by volunteer drivers. The Care Shuttle program utilizes 3 vehicles, 2 of which are wheelchair accessible, and the service operates 7 days a week. Care Shuttle services will soon expand to include medical courier services, and grant funding for the startup of a mobile clinic is being looked into. Mr. Esparza noted that the Care Shuttle program is always looking for additional volunteer drivers, and he also stated that the program receives financial support from the NIHD Foundation.
FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR 2019/2020	NIHD Chief Financial Officer John Tremble presented a proposed operating budget for the 2019/2020 fiscal year, calling attention to the

following:

- The District has had significant issues with its' new general ledger product, and as a result the budget being presented represents a carry forward of the District's 2018/2019 budget
- Operational changes between the current and the prior fiscal year include expansion of services including Same Day Service at the NIHD Rural Health Clinic; urology services start-up for 8 days a month; and an increase of outpatient revenues to 73% of gross patient revenue
- Mr. Tremble also reviewed the following elements of the proposed operating budget: patient volumes and services; employee salaries expense and FTE's; supplies and purchased services; capital; net revenues; continuation of discounts and charity care policies; intergovernmental transfer revenues; and 2019/2020 personnel recruitment requests
- 2020 budget challenges including electronic health record costs; an increase in base wages without growth in service revenue; and the cost of the building separation and pharmacy construction projects

Mr. Tremble also stated that the District's bottom line net income for the current fiscal year is expected to be a positive \$500,000. It was moved by Robert Sharp, seconded by Mary Mae Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve the proposed 2019/2020 operating budget as presented.

PIONEER MEDICAL
ASSOCIATES LEASE

NIHD Compliance Officer Patty Dickson reported that the District is making progress toward renewing its office space lease with Pioneer Medical Associates for the property located at 152 Pioneer Lane, Bishop. Following establishment of a new lease, the District will resume discussion of the possible purchase of the Kamei and Hathaway interest in Pioneer Medical Associates.

DISTRICT BOARD
RESOLUTION 20-02

Chief Financial Officer John Tremble called attention to proposed District Board Resolution 20-02, which re-states a previous Board resolution and adds authority for all Chief Officers to invest the cash reserves and operations funds of the Hospital District in legal forms of investment as specified in Government Code section 53635. It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Jody Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve District Board Resolution 20-02 as presented.

UPDATE ON NIHD
LEGAL SERVICES RFP

Ms. Turner reported that interviews for District legal services providers will be conducted next week. An update on NIHD's Legal Services RFP process will be placed on the agenda for the March regular meeting.

GOVERNANCE
CONSULTANT UPDATE

Ms. Turner additionally reported that Jim Rice with Gallagher Associates will travel to Bishop to provide two half-day Governance trainings for members of the District Board on March 20 and March 21, 2020.

RHC BUILDING
UPDATE

Interim Chief Executive Officer Kelli Davis and Vice Chief of Staff Stacey Brown, MD reported that the NIHD RHC Building project is moving forward and that a special meeting on the topic of sustainable building projects recently took place. District Administration, Mr. Sam Walker, and legal counsel for both parties have met and progress has been made toward establishing contracts for the Opportunity Zone construction project. An initial project team meeting will be held later this week, and potential construction project managers are being considered for the project. All parties involved are encouraged that the project is moving forward in a positive direction, and it was acknowledged that the success of the project is a priority for the Healthcare District.

COMPLIANCE
DEPARTMENT
QUARTERLY REPORT

Compliance Officer Patty Dickson provided a quarterly Compliance Department Report as of February 2020, which included a review of Breaches; Issues and Inquiries; audits; Conflicts of Interest questionnaires; CPRA requests; and California Department of Public Health and Joint Commission reporting. It was noted that the Compliance report requires District Board approval, so it will be placed on the agenda for the March regular meeting as an action item.

RURAL HEALTH
CLINIC ANNUAL
REPORT

Ms. Turner stated that presentation of the NIHD Rural Clinic annual report will be tabled to the March regular meeting of the District Board.

ADJOURNMENT TO
CLOSED SESSION

At 7:18 pm Ms. Turner announced that the meeting would adjourn to Closed Session to allow the Board of Directors to discuss items listed on the Closed Session portion of the agenda. Following return to Open Session, the meeting will continue as indicated on the agenda.

RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION AND REPORT
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 8:55 pm the meeting returned to Open Session. Ms. Turner reported that the Board took no reportable action.

CHIEF OF STAFF
REPORT

Chief of Staff William Timbers, MD reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate Committees the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following District-wide Policies and Procedures:

POLICY AND
PROCEDURE
APPROVALS

1. *Practitioner Re-Entry Policy*
2. *MetaNeb Policy*
3. *Standards of Care in the Perioperative Unit*
4. *Heparin Dosing Protocol*

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve Policies and Procedures 1 through 4 as presented.

MEDICAL STAFF
APPOINTMENTS

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

1. Joe Miller, MD (*urology*) – Provisional Consulting Staff

2. Louis Rivera, MD (*surgical oncology*) – Provisional Consulting Staff
3. Andrew Tang, MD (*internal medicine/hospitalist*) – Locums/Temporary Staff

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve all three Medical Staff appointments as requested.

TELEMEDICINE STAFF
APPOINTMENT

Doctor Timbers also requested approval of the following Telemedicine Staff appointment, credentialing by proxy:

1. Muhammad Alim, MD (*pulmonology, Adventist Health Bakersfield*) – Telemedicine Staff

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve the Telemedicine Staff appointment of Muhammad Alim, MD as requested.

TEMPORARY
PRIVILEGES

Doctor Timbers additionally reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of Temporary Privileges for 120 days for the following:

1. Ruhong Ma, DO (*internal medicine/hospitalist*) – Locum tenens/Temporary Staff

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Topah Spoonhunter, and unanimously passed to approve the Temporary Privileges of Ruhong Ma, DO, as requested.

ADDITIONAL
PRIVILEGES IN
SURGERY

Doctor Timbers also reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of additional privileges in surgery for the following:

1. Jon Bowersox, MD (*general surgery*) – addition of privileges in EGD and colonoscopy
2. Jeannie Pflum, DO (*obstetrics and gynecology*) – addition of outpatient core privileges in obstetrics and gynecology

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve both additions of privileges in surgery as requested.

ADDITIONAL
PRIVILEGES IN
MAMMOGRAPHY

Doctor Timbers additionally requested approval of additional privileges in Mammography for the following:

1. Farres Ahmed, MD (*radiology*)
2. John Erogul, MD (*radiology*)
3. Carly Harvey, MD (*radiology*)
4. Jaren Kasper, MD (*radiology*)
5. Stephen Loos, MD (*radiology*)
6. Edmund Pillsbury, MD (*radiology*)
7. Kinsey Pillsbury, MD (*radiology*)

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve all seven additional privileges in Mammography as requested.

MEDICAL STAFF
ADVANCEMENT

Doctor Timbers also reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following Medical Staff advancement:

1. Samantha Jeppsen, MD (*emergency medicine*) – recommendation for advancement from Provisional Active Staff to Active Staff

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Mr. Spoonhunter, and unanimously passed to approve the Medical Staff advancement of Samantha Jeppsen, MD as requested.

APPROVAL OF
ANNUAL REVIEWS

Doctor Timbers additionally requested approval of the following Annual Reviews:

1. Critical Indicators
 - i. Emergency Medicine
 - ii. Anesthesia
 - iii. Surgery

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve all three Critical Indicators as requested.

CHIEF MEDICAL
OFFICER JOB
DESCRIPTION

Doctor Timbers also called attention to a proposed Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Job Description based on input received from the NIHD Medical Staff general membership. He additionally stated it is the opinion of the NIHD Medical Staff that this is a good job description for the CMO position, however they are not recommending the CMO as an addition to the Chief Officers Executive Suite unless it is the Board of Directors desire to take that action. The proposed job description is the result of many months of consideration, collaboration, and effort on the part of the NIHD Medical Staff. It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve the Chief Medical Officer job description, with thanks being given to the physicians for their many hours of dedication to this task.

PHYSICIAN
RECRUITMENT
UPDATE

Doctor Timbers additionally stated that NIHD is actively recruiting a general surgeon who is currently completing a fellowship. It is hoped that the doctor will come on site for a visit in the near future.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- Approval of minutes of the January 15, 2020 regular meeting
- Approval of minutes of the January 8, 2020 special meeting
- Approval of minutes of the January 21, 2020 special meeting
- Financial and Statistical reports as of December 2019
- Policy and Procedure annual approvals

It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve all five Consent Agenda items as presented.

BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS

Ms. Turner asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to comment on any items of interest. Director Kilpatrick informed those present that the NIHD Foundation dinner has been scheduled for May 2, 2020. Ms. Veenker reported that she and Ms. Kilpatrick recently met to

begin planning for Board outreach to the NIHD Medical Staff, and to plan future events for the two groups. No other comments were heard.

ADJOURNMENT TO
CLOSED SESSION

At 9:05 pm Ms. Turner reported the meeting would adjourn to Closed Session to allow the Board of Directors to/for:

- A. Discussion of a real estate negotiation regarding price, 152 Pioneer Lane, Bishop, California, agency negotiators Kevin S. Flanigan MD, MBA and Pioneer Medical Associates Partners (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8*).
- B. Confer with Legal Counsel regarding threatened litigation, 1 matter pending (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)*).
- C. Public employee performance evaluation, Chief Executive Officer (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54957*).
- D. Conference with Legal Counsel regarding existing litigation, Inyo County Local Agency Formation Commission and Northern Inyo Healthcare District v. Southern Mono Healthcare District (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9*).

RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION AND REPORT
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 9:18 pm the meeting returned to Open Session. Ms. Turner reported the Board took no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.

Jean Turner, Chair

Attest: _____
Jody Veenker, Secretary