

- CALL TO ORDER** Northern Inyo Healthcare District (NIHD) Finance Committee Chair Egan called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.
- PRESENT** Maggie Egan, Finance Committee Chair  
David Lent, Finance Committee Alternate  
  
Christian Wallis, Chief Executive Officer  
Allison Partridge, Chief Operations Officer / Chief Nursing Officer  
Andrea Mossman, Chief Financial Officer  
Adam Hawkins, DO, Chief Medical Officer  
Alison Murray, Chief Human Resources Officer, Chief Business Development Officer
- TELECONFERENCING** Notice has been posted, and a quorum participated from locations within the jurisdiction.
- PUBLIC COMMENT** Finance Chair Egan reported that at this time, audience members may speak on any items not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of the Board.  
  
**Public Comment:** None
- GO BOND UPDATE** CEO Wallis reported ongoing analysis of GO bond obligations, with a consultant actively compiling historical and financial data and preparing recommendations. Additional information is still being gathered to complete the analysis.  
  
**Public Comment:** None  
  
**Board Discussion:**  
The committee acknowledged progress and discussed the need for refined information to determine future funding requirements and long-term obligations.
- SKILLED NURSING FACILITY (SNF) PROJECT** CEO Wallis provided an update on the SNF project, including consideration of alternative approaches to financial analysis and project management support in place of a previously discussed consulting arrangement.  
  
**Public Comment:** None  
  
**Board Discussion:**  
The committee discussed concerns regarding long-term contractual obligations, the importance of detailed financial analysis, and the need for flexibility in project oversight. Additional due diligence, including facility evaluation and reference checks, was emphasized.
- WIPFLI - STRATEGIC GROWTH** CEO Wallis reported on progress of the Wipfli strategic growth engagement, including completion of interviews and facility assessments, with work ongoing to obtain necessary data to support market analysis and planning.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed ongoing coordination efforts to obtain required data and support the next phase of analysis. Members noted the importance of the forthcoming market assessment in guiding recruitment strategies and future facility planning.

APPROVAL OF MEETING  
MINUTES FEBRUARY 10,  
2026

**Motion by** Egan to approve February 10, 2026 meeting minutes  
**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Lent  
**Pass:** 2-0

FINANCIAL AND  
STATISTICAL REPORT

CFO Mossman presented the financial and statistical report, noting improved monthly performance driven by increased revenue and favorable payer mix, along with continued focus on expense management and cash flow.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed overall financial trends, including revenue improvements, expense control efforts, and ongoing initiatives to strengthen cash flow and operational efficiency. Members also emphasized the importance of clearly communicating financial metrics and performance to the public.

CAPITAL SPENDING

CFO Mossman provided an update on capital spending and remaining planned expenditures for the fiscal year, and requested committee input on proceeding with purchases.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed the need to evaluate capital expenditures based on specific project details and urgency, and was not prepared to proceed without further information. Members directed staff to return with a prioritized list of projects and an urgency framework to guide future spending decisions.

FINANCIAL STRATEGY,  
SHORT TERM

**HEALTHTRUST CONTRACT**

CEO Wallis presented a proposed engagement with HealthTrust to conduct a data-driven benchmarking analysis of staffing and labor utilization across all departments, comparing performance to similar hospitals to identify opportunities for efficiency, alignment, and labor cost management.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed the value of an objective, data-driven assessment to better understand staffing levels and operational efficiency. Members noted that the benchmarking results would inform decision-making, with any potential

changes to be evaluated and implemented at the organization's discretion.

**Motion by** Egan to move the HealthTrust contract to the full board

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Lent

**Pass:** 2-0

**TELENEPHROLOGY CONTRACT**

Dr. Hawkins presented a proposed telenephrology contract to support development of an inpatient dialysis service, utilizing remote nephrologists to guide local providers in the management of dialysis patients. The model has been implemented in other critical access hospitals and is intended to expand local access to care and reduce the need for patient transfers.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed the potential to improve patient access and continuity of care by providing dialysis services locally, particularly for patients who would otherwise require transfer outside the region.

**Motion by** Lent to move the Telenephrology contract to the full board

**2<sup>nd</sup>:** Egan

**Pass:** 2-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT  
CONSTITUENT  
COMPLAINT**

CEO Wallis presented a follow-up regarding a constituent complaint raised at a prior Board meeting. He explained that the patient received a referral in September but did not schedule services until January, at which time the cost estimator system was unavailable; staff made two follow-up attempts without response before the patient presented for the appointment and was informed of an upfront deductible requirement. The patient ultimately obtained services at another facility. CEO Wallis noted that, while no process deficiencies were identified, staff are reviewing customer service practices and enhancing tools to improve communication of cost expectations to patients in advance.

**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed the importance of clear and proactive communication with patients regarding financial responsibilities and supported continued efforts to enhance customer service processes.

**FISCAL YEAR 26/27  
BUDGET**

CEO Wallis provided an initial update on development of the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 budget, noting that departments have begun preparing expense budgets as the first phase of the process, with revenue projections to follow. Early estimates reflect anticipated increases primarily related to salary adjustments and operating costs.

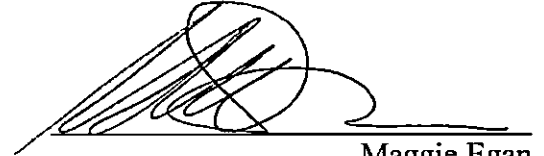
**Public Comment:** None

**Board Discussion:**

The committee discussed the budget development process and the importance of establishing realistic expense and revenue assumptions, with input from department leaders to support accurate financial planning.

GENERAL INFORMATION FROM BOARD MEMBERS      None

ADJOURNMENT      Adjournment at 10:57 am



Maggie Egan  
Northern Inyo Healthcare District  
Finance Committee Chair

Attest: 

Melissa Best-Baker  
Northern Inyo Healthcare District  
Finance Committee Vice-Chair