

- CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by John Ungersma M.D., Vice President.
- PRESENT John Ungersma M.D., Vice President
M.C. Hubbard, Secretary
Michael Phillips M.D., Treasurer
D. Scott Clark M.D., Director
Charlotte Helvie M.D., Chief of Staff
- ALSO PRESENT John Halfen, Administrator
Douglas Buchanan, Esq., Hospital District Legal Counsel
Sandy Blumberg, Administration Secretary
- ABSENT Peter Watcrott, President
- ALSO PRESENT FOR
RELEVANT PORTION(S) Dianne Shirley R.N., Performance Improvement Coordinator
- PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON AGENDA Doctor Ungersma asked if any members of the public wished to address the Board on any items listed on the agenda for this meeting. No comments were heard.
- MINUTES The minutes of the March 17 2010 regular meeting were approved.
- FINANCIAL AND
STATISTICAL REPORTS Mr. Halfen called attention to the financial and statistical reports for the month of February 2010. He noted the statement of operations shows a bottom line excess of expenses over revenues of \$64,442. Mr. Halfen additionally called attention to the following:
- *Inpatient service revenue was under budget*
 - *Outpatient service revenue was under budget*
 - *Total expenses were under budget*
 - *Salaries and wages and employee benefits expense were both under budget*
 - *Professional fees expense was over budget*
 - *The Balance Sheet showed no significant change*
 - *Year-to-date net revenue totals \$1,172,903*
- Mr. Halfen noted cash and cash equivalents fluctuated during the month as a result of moving money in order to help fund the hospital rebuild project. He also reviewed the status of the hospital's investments which remain stable at this time, and noted accounts receivable currently average 62.5 days. Mr. Halfen additionally noted that revenue is down overall in comparison to last year, due in part to the state of the economy. He also noted cash flow is still adequate to provide funding needed for the hospital rebuild project. Following review of the reports provided it was moved by D. Scott Clark, M.D., seconded by M.C. Hubbard, and passed to approve the financial and statistical reports for the month of February

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT	as presented.
BUILDING UPDATE	Turner Construction project manager John Hawes reported structural steel work is progressing smoothly and Turner has been able to implement Office of Statewide Healthcare Planning and Development (OSHDP) changes with no disruption to the building project timeline. Workers will begin spreading deck next Monday and work on the central plant will also begin in the near future. Mr. Hawes also noted there will be a topping-out celebration in the next couple of weeks when the final piece of structural steel is set in place. Hospital employees, Board members, and the local media will be invited to attend the event.
SECURITY REPORT	Mr. Halfen called attention to the monthly Security report, which revealed no significant security issues.
BONDS UPDATE	Mr. Halfen reported the revenue bond issue has been sold at a 4.2 to 6.75 percent interest rate, depending on the length of ownership. The bonds were sold to a limited number of buyers, none of whom were local investors.
JOINT COMMISSION RESPONSE	Leo Freis, Compliance Officer and Administrative Support Services referred to results of the full survey by the Joint Commission that was conducted on February 17 and 18 2010. The survey revealed no significant deficiencies, and the Hospital was given 45 days to respond to problems noted and make necessary corrections. Mr. Freis reported the Hospital responded in a timely manner, and only a couple of life/safety issues still require attention. Mr. Freis also noted the survey and results were considered to be "routine", and as a result Northern Inyo Hospital (NIH) will receive Joint Commission accreditation for three more years.
INTERPRETER KUDOS	Mr. Halfen reported NIH's Language Services Director Jose Garcia has been named Interpreter of the Year by the California Healthcare Interpreter's Association (CHIA). The recognition is a significant honor awarded by the largest Healthcare Interpreter network in the state, and Mr. Halfen congratulated Mr. Garcia on receiving such well-deserved recognition.
GRANT WRITING & MARKETING DIRECTOR	Mr. Halfen introduced Angnette Aukee, the Hospital's new Grant Writing and Marketing Director to the District Board of Directors. Ms. Aukee was welcomed aboard by everyone present.
KITCHEN INSPECTION	Mr. Halfen also reported the Hospital's Dietary Department recently underwent yet another unannounced inspection, and once again it passed the inspection with flying colors.
CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT	Chief of Staff Charlotte Helvie, M.D. reported following careful review

CREDENTIALING

and consideration the Medical Staff Executive Committee recommends approval of the appointment of Tahoe Carson Radiologist David N. Landis M.D. to the NIH Provisional Consulting Medical Staff with requested privileges. It was moved by Doctor Clark, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and passed to approve the appointment of Doctor Landis to the NIH Provisional Consulting Medical Staff as requested.

POLICIES AND
PROCEDURES

Doctor Helvie also reported the Medical Staff and appropriate committees recommend approval of the following hospital wide policies and procedures:

1. *Warfarin Monitoring Protocol*
2. *Warfarin Dosing*
3. *High Alert Medications: Preparation, Dispensing, Storage, Administration*

Pharmacy Director Jillene Freis R.Ph. stated that the Warfarin Monitoring Protocol policy and the High Alert Medications policy have gone back to the Medical Services Committee for additional review, therefore the Warfarin Dosing policy is the only policy ready for approval at this time. It was moved by Michael Phillips, M.D., seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and passed to approve the *Warfarin Dosing* policy as recommended.

INYO COUNTY
CONFLICT OF
INTEREST CODE

District Legal Counsel Douglas Buchanan reported the Districts' Conflict of Interest Code has been reviewed and is ready for final approval and submission to the County of Inyo. Following review of the updated Code it was moved by Ms. Hubbard, seconded by Doctor Clark, and passed to approve the Northern Inyo County Local Hospital District Conflict of Interest of Code as presented.

DISTRICT BYLAWS

Mr. Halfen referred to the revised Northern Inyo County District Bylaws which were presented for final review. It was noted a change may still be made to the section of the bylaws addressing cancellation of a regular meeting; however such a change may be made any time in the future after the subject has been fully researched by District Legal Counsel. It was moved by Ms. Hubbard, seconded by Doctor Clark, and passed to approve the revised Northern Inyo County Local Hospital District Bylaws as presented.

VSM & NIH
AGREEMENT

Mr. Halfen called attention to a proposed agreement between VSM Medical Group and Northern Inyo Hospital which would facilitate Lara Jeanine Arndal, M.D. being employed by VMS in order to work as an employee at the NIH Women's and Family Clinic. Dr. Arndal plans to sign an employment agreement with VMS, then the Hospital will contract with VMS for her services. After review of the proposed agreement it was moved by Doctor Phillips, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and passed to approve the agreement between Northern Inyo Hospital and VSM Medical Group as presented.

PMA OFFICE LEASE

Mr. Halfen also called attention to a proposed agreement to lease office space located at 152 Pioneer Lane, Suite C from Nickoline Hathaway M.D. and Asao Kamei, M.D.. The lease would allow NIH to have office space available in the event that a new physician is successfully recruited to this area. Following review of the proposed agreement it was moved by Doctor Phillips, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and passed to approve the proposed office lease with Doctors Kamei and Hathaway as presented.

BIRCH STREET
IMPROVEMENTS

NIH Property Manager Scott Hooker called attention to cost estimates for clean-up and improvements needed for the District's newly acquired property at 2957 Birch Street, Bishop California. The proposed work would facilitate bringing safety and security at the location up to standard, and would improve aesthetics of the property for the benefit of the neighborhood. Mr. Hooker reviewed the suggested improvements and following brief discussion it was moved by Doctor Clark, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and passed to approve the Birch Street improvements as requested, for an approximate total cost of \$118,000.

IT WIRING OF
SURGERY AND
PEDIATRIC CLINICS

Information Technology Department Manager Adam Taylor called attention to a proposed data wiring project for the Pioneer Medical Associates (PMA) building located at 152 Pioneer Lane, for a total cost of \$34,624. The project would expand the electronic infra-structure of the building and connect the medical offices to the internet and to hospital applications. Mr. Taylor noted this is not a budgeted item; however the hospital now owns over 50 percent interest in the building and it has been determined the wiring improvements are prudent as well as in the best interest of the tenants and other owners of the building. It was moved by Ms. Hubbard, seconded by Doctor Phillips, and passed to approve the data wiring project for the PMA building as presented.

CONSTRUCTION
CHANGE ORDERS

Kathy Sherry, Project Manager for Turner Construction Company called attention to the following proposed change orders for Phase II of the hospital rebuild project:

1. Change order #29; for miscellaneous structural clarification (\$4,882.00)
2. Change order #30; beam relocation to coordinate with plumbing routing (\$5,835.00)
3. Change order #31; adjustment to structural bracing at gridline 8 (\$22,582)
4. Change order #32; additional cost related to differing site conditions encountered (\$424,054.00)
5. Change order #33; cost savings returned to NIH by Turner Construction (\$-313,479.00)

Ms. Sherry reviewed each correction needed and noted the overall financial impact on the total project budget would be a net increase of \$143,874. Mr. Halfen reviewed the cash flow status for the project and stated at this time he does not anticipate he will have a problem funding

the rebuild. Following review of the project budget it was moved by Doctor Phillips, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and passed to approve proposed construction change orders 29 through 33 as presented.

BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS

Doctor Ungersma asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to report on any items of interest. He then inquired as to the possibility of Northern Inyo Hospital operating a dialysis unit for area residents. Mr. Halfen responded that a dialysis center has been considered in the past however research revealed that the local population is too small to support such an endeavor. He noted, however that the hospital will conduct a needs assessment in the near future and can include the need for a dialysis unit in its inquiry into the needs of the general public.

OPPORTUNITY FOR
PUBLIC COMMENT

In keeping with the Brown Act, Doctor Ungersma again asked if any members of the public wished to comment on any items listed on the agenda for this meeting, or on any items of interest. Director of Nursing Susan Batchelder commented when assessing the possibility of the Hospital operating a dialysis unit, one consideration is that there would significant difficulty providing qualified staff to operate such a center. No other public comments were heard.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:41 p.m. Doctor Ungersma announced the meeting was being adjourned to closed session to allow the Board of Directors to:

- A. Hear reports on the hospital quality assurance activities, and hear a report from the Medical Staff Executive Committee (Section 32155 of the Health and Safety Code, and Government Code Section 54962).
- B. Confer with legal counsel regarding action filed by John Nesson M.D. against Northern Inyo County Local Hospital District and other Defendants (Government Code Section 54956.9(a)).
- C. Confer with legal counsel regarding action filed by Stephen Johnson and Elizabeth Manahan-Johnson against Northern Inyo County Local Hospital District and other Defendants (Government Code Section 54956.9(a)).

RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION AND REPORT
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 7:19 p.m. the meeting returned to open session. Dr. Ungersma reported the Board took no reportable action.

OPPORTUNITY FOR
PUBLIC COMMENT

Doctor Ungersma again asked if any members of the public wished to comment on any items listed on the agenda for this meeting, or on any items of interest. No comments were heard

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

John Ungersma, M.D., Vice President

Attest: _____
M.C. Hubbard, Secretary