

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by M.C. Hubbard, President.
- PRESENT** M.C. Hubbard, President
Denise Hayden, Vice President
Peter Watercott, Treasurer
John Ungersma M.D., Member at Large
- ALSO PRESENT** Kevin S. Flanigan M.D., M.B.A., Acting Chief Executive Officer
Mark Robinson M.D., Chief of Staff
Sandy Blumberg, Executive Assistant
- PUBLIC COMMENT** Ms. Hubbard 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 are limited to a maximum of three minutes each. The following persons spoke during public comment:
- Richard Hanley
 - Becky Taylor
- CONSENT AGENDA** Ms. Hubbard called attention to the consent agenda for this meeting, which contained the following items:
- Approval of minutes of the October 16 2015 special meeting
 - Approval of minutes of the October 21 2015 regular meeting
 - Approval of minutes of the October 29 2015 special meeting
 - Approval of Financial and statistical reports for September 2015
- It was moved by Denise Hayden, seconded by John Ungersma, M.D. and unanimously passed to approve all four consent agenda items as presented, with Director Watercott noting that he was not present at the October meetings.
- CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT** Acting Chief Executive Officer Kevin S. Flanigan, M.D., MBA stated he was pleased to report that the second round of leadership training for Northern Inyo Hospital (NIH) managers and future managers is going well. He congratulated Diagnostic Imaging Director Patty Dickson for completing her Bachelors' degree in Healthcare Management; and congratulated Alison Murray, Human Relations Manager for completing her Masters Degree in Business Administration with a Human Resources emphasis. Doctor Flanigan additionally reported the leadership transition at NIH is moving forward, and the hospital will roll out a marketing strategy this winter that emphasizes the fact that the hospital team is focused on its purpose, which is to provide the best healthcare possible for members of this community. Inpatient volume is up, and it is possible that an additional hospitalist physician will be recruited to help provide coverage and to enable the hospitalist program to provide additional services for our patients. The Northern Inyo Hospital Rural Health Clinic

(RHC) is transitioning toward a patient-centered medical home model, in order to function as efficiently as possible within the framework of the Affordable Care Act. A community needs assessment will be conducted in the near future, and following that a second assessment will be done to determine the best future model for the RHC.

CHIEF OF STAFF
REPORT

Chief of Staff Mark Robinson, M.D. reported following careful review and consideration and approval by the appropriate committees the Medical Executive Committee recommends Board approval of the following Hospital wide Policies and Procedures:

POLICY AND
PROCEDURE
APPROVALS

1. *ALARA Program Changes*
2. *Radiation Safety Committee*
3. *Responsibilities and Duties of Radiation Safety Committee*
4. *Dosimetry Program - Occupational Radiation Exposure Monitoring Program*
5. *Universal Protocol*
6. *Waste Anesthetic Gases: Trace Gas Testing*
7. *RHC Hours of Operation*

It was moved by Mr. Watercott, seconded by Ms. Hayden, and unanimously passed to approve policies and procedures 1 through 7 as presented.

PEER REVIEW REPORT
FORM

Doctor Robinson also requested approval of a proposed *NIHD Medical Staff Peer Review Report* form, which combines several forms that were previously separate documents. It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Mr. Watercott, and unanimously passed to approve the *NIHD Medical Staff Peer Review Report* form as presented.

HONORARY MEDICAL
STAFF MEMBERSHIP,
D. SCOTT CLARK, M.D.

Doctor Robinson additionally reported that the Medical Staff has voted to bestow Honorary Medical Staff membership upon D. Scott Clark M.D., who recently retired after providing decades of dedicated service to the residents of this community. It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Mr. Watercott, and unanimously passed to approve Honorary Medical Staff designation for D. Scott Clark, M.D. as requested.

MEDICAL STAFF
APPOINTMENT

Doctor Robinson also reported following careful review, consideration, and approval by the appropriate committees, the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of appointment to the NIH Provisional Consulting Staff for Radiology for Ryan Berecky, M.D.. It was moved by Mr. Watercott, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve the appointment to the NIH Provisional Consulting Medical Staff of Dr. Ryan Berecky as requested.

CHIEF NURSING
OFFICER REPORT

Chief Nursing Officer Kathryn Decker, RN provided a monthly report on activities of the NIH Nursing Department which included the following:

- The American Hospital Association has renewed the hospital's training certification largely thanks to the efforts of Kathryn Erickson, R.N.
- Hospital staff participated in a bioterrorism training exercise today,

- which proved to be a beneficial learning experience for the hospital team
- The hospital will increase its focus on workplace violence prevention, and the staff will participate in specialized trainings
 - NIH will work with Inyo County in an effort to address mental and behavioral health issues of our patients
 - New end-of-life legislation will necessitate compliance training for NIH staff
 - Beta Healthcare has recognized Northern Inyo Hospital for its efforts to reduce errors in the workplace
 - The NIH staff flu vaccination rate for this year is at 98 percent

NEW BUSINESS

HOSPITAL DISTRICT FISCAL STRATEGY

Doctor Flanigan requested Board approval to move forward to outline a fiscal strategy plan for Northern Inyo Healthcare District (NIHD), including enlisting the consulting services of the hospital's current auditors, Wipfli LLP. The intention is to have Wipfli do a general fiscal assessment then make recommendations for the appropriate fiscal strategy for the District moving forward. It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Ms. Hayden, and unanimously passed to consult with Wipfli LLP to establish a fiscal strategy for NIHD in an effort to potentially realize additional revenue and cost savings for the District.

AMENDMENT TO PHYSICIAN AGREEMENT WITH LARA JEANINE ARNDAL, M.D.

Doctor Flanigan called attention to a proposed addendum to the NIH physician agreement with Lara Jeanine Arndal, M.D., which stipulates that Dr. Arndal will act as lead practice liaison for the OB/Gyn service. She will additionally provide monthly educational sessions and an assessment of the value of those sessions being conducted after a period of six months. It was moved by Mr. Watercott, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve the Amendment to the NIH physician agreement with Lara Jeanine Arndal, M.D. as presented.

M.O.U. FOR UROLOGY SERVICES WITH SOUTHERN MONO HEALTHCARE DISTRICT

Doctor Flanigan then asked for authorization to move forward with Inyo County Counsel/Inyo County LAFCO to draft a Urology Services Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) between Southern Mono Healthcare District and Northern Inyo Healthcare District, following the untimely passing of urologist Tomi Bortolazzo, M.D.. It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Mr. Watercott, and unanimously passed to move forward to establish a cooperative M.O.U. for Urology Services with Southern Mono Healthcare District as requested.

MISSION STATEMENT FOR N.I.H.D.

Doctor Flanigan then called attention to a proposed Mission Statement for the Northern Inyo Healthcare District team, which reads as follows: *"Improving our communities one life at a time. One team. One goal. Your health!"* It was moved by Ms. Hayden, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve the proposed Mission Statement for NIHD as presented.

LAB EQUIPMENT
LEASE RENEWAL

Doctor Flanigan then called attention to a request for consideration of renewal of a 5-year lease agreement with ThermoFisher Scientific for Lab equipment, which would result in significant cost savings for the Hospital. It was moved by Mr. Watercott, seconded by Doctor Ungersma, and unanimously passed to approve the renewal of the Lab equipment lease with ThermoFisher Scientific as requested.

PROCESS FOR FILLING
DISTRICT BOARD
VACANCY FOR ZONE 4

Ms. Hubbard then addressed the process for filling the vacancy on the District Board of Directors resulting from the recent retirement and resignation from the Board of Director D. Scott Clark, M.D.. Ms. Hubbard stated that the posting requirement for the vacancy has been met, and applications are open for submission until November 30 2015. Applicants are asked to submit a letter of interest, plus a completed Form 700 in order to identify any potential conflicts of interest. Applicants must also be a registered voter and must live within the specified boundaries of District Zone 4. Following brief discussion, it was determined that an Ad Hoc Committee consisting of two Directors (Directors Hayden and Watercott) will conduct initial interviews of potential candidates prior to the next regular Board meeting. Ms. Hubbard then asked for a motion to accept the Board resignation of D. Scott Clark, M.D., and it was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Ms. Hayden, and unanimously passed to accept the resignation of Director D. Scott Clark, M.D. as submitted.

BOARD MEMBER
REPORTS

Ms. Hubbard asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to report on any items of interest. Dr. Ungersma commented that the Association of Healthcare Districts Leadership Academy will take place in January 2016, and he encouraged as many Board members as possible to attend. It was also suggested that perhaps the incoming Director for District Zone 4 might attend the training as well. No other reports were heard.

ADJOURNMENT TO
CLOSED SESSION

At 6:42 pm Ms. Hubbard announced that 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. Confer with Legal Counsel regarding pending and threatened litigation, existing litigation, and significant exposure to litigation (*pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9*).
- C. Confer regarding action filed against Northern Inyo Healthcare District and other Defendants (*Government Code Section 54956.9(a)*).
- D. Conference with Labor Negotiator. Agency designated representative: Georgan Stottlemire; Employee organization: AFSCME (*Government Code section 5495 7.6*).
- E. Discussion of existing litigation, United States District Court Case

Number 1:15-CV-01607-LJO-JLT (*Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)*).

F. Discussion of labor negotiations. Agency negotiator, M.C. Hubbard; Employee position: CEO (*Government Code section 5495 7.6*).

RETURN TO OPEN
SESSION AND REPORT
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 8:00 pm the meeting returned to open session. Ms. Hubbard reported the Board took no reportable action.

APPROVAL OF CEO
AGREEMENT WITH
KEVIN S. FLANIGAN,
M.D., M.B.A.

Ms. Hubbard then called attention to approval of the Chief Executive Officer Agreement with Kevin S. Flanigan, M.D., M.B.A.. It was moved by Doctor Ungersma, seconded by Mr. Watercott, and unanimously passed to approve the Chief Executive Officer Agreement with Kevin S. Flanigan, M.D., M.B.A. as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.

M.C. Hubbard, President

Attest:

Denise Hayden, Vice President