

CALL TO ORDER                      The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Jean Turner, District Board Chair.

PRESENT                                Jean Turner, Chair  
Robert Sharp, Vice Chair  
Jody Veenker, Secretary  
Mary Mae Kilpatrick, Treasurer  
Topah Spoonhunter, Member at Large  
Kelli Davis MBA, Interim Chief Executive Officer and Chief Operating Officer  
William Timbers MD, Interim Chief Medical Officer  
Allison Partridge RN, MSN, Chief Nursing Officer  
Charlotte Helvie MD, Chief of Staff  
Keith Collins, General Legal Counsel, Jones and Mayer

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT                      Ms. Turner announced the purpose of public comment is to allow members of the public to address the Board of Directors. Public comments shall be received at the beginning of the meeting and are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker, with a total time limit of 30 minutes being allowed for all public comment unless otherwise modified by the Chair. Speaking time may not be granted and/or loaned to another individual for purposes of extending available speaking time unless arrangements have been made in advance for a large group of speakers to have a spokesperson speak on their behalf. Comments must be kept brief and non-repetitive. The general Public Comment portion of the meeting allows the public to address any item within the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors on matters not appearing on the agenda. Public comments on agenda items should be made at the time that item is considered. No comments were heard.

NEW BUSINESS                        Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Operating Officer Kelli Davis, MBA requested that agenda item 10, *Financial and Statistical reports as of September 30 2020* be re-ordered to become item 3C under the New Business section of this meeting. The re-ordering of the agenda was requested in order to allow Financial Consultant Vinay Behl to present financial information early in the meeting in order to avoid a scheduling conflict.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE                      Ms. Davis stated that due to the recent surge in Covid-19 cases, the November 20 and 21<sup>st</sup> Northern Inyo Healthcare District (NIHD) in-person Strategic Planning sessions will be re-scheduled for some time in the spring of 2021.

APPROVAL OF INTERIM CEO CONTRACT                      NIHD Human Resources Director Charity Dale called attention to a proposed *Northern Inyo Healthcare District Interim Chief Executive Officer Agreement* with Kelli Davis for the term July 1 2020 through June

30 2021. The agreement allows for a base salary of \$263,600 annually with eligibility for quarterly bonuses, and a benefits and pension package equal to that of other District managers. Following review of the information provided it was moved by Robert Sharp, seconded by Jody Veenker and unanimously passed to approve the proposed *Interim Chief Executive Officer Agreement* with Kelli Davis as presented, with housekeeping changes being made including the correction of gender references included in the document.

FINANCIAL AND  
STATISTICAL REPORTS  
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30,  
2020

NIHD Financial Consultant Vinay Behl called attention to approval of the Financial and Statistical Reports as of September 30 2020, including the following:

- Overview of revenue fluctuations relating to the Covid-19 pandemic
- Review of budget projections compared to actual performance
- Notation that NIHD's financials show a strong comeback since the March onset of the Covid-19 pandemic
- Update on collection of the District's Accounts Receivable backlog

District Legal Counsel advised the Board that detailed questions on the financial reports from members of the public should be addressed by District staff at a later time, rather than being addressed during the meeting. It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Topah Spoonhunter, and unanimously passed to approve the Financial and Statistical Reports as of September 30 2020 as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT  
POLICY AND  
PROCEDURE  
APPROVAL

NIHD General Legal Counsel Keith Collins called attention to a proposed Policy and Procedure titled *Northern Inyo Healthcare District Board of Directors Meeting Public Comment Policy*. The purpose of the Policy is to help ensure the orderly conduct and efficient handling of District business during Board meetings, while protecting the ability of the public to participate meaningfully in such business. The only significant change to previous public comment practices is the limiting of cumulative public comment to 30 minutes total, allowing for deviation or extension of the total time allowed at the Board Chair's discretion. The proposed Policy specifies that public comment is intended for members of the public to address the Board of Directors directly, but it is not intended to allow for dialog with District staff during meetings. It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Mr. Spoonhunter and passed by a 4 to 0 vote to approve the proposed *Northern Inyo Healthcare District Board of Directors Meeting Public Comment Policy* with one (1) abstention being entered by Mary Mae Kilpatrick.

NIHD MEDICAL STAFF  
BYLAWS AD HOC  
COMMITTEE UPDATE  
& ACTION REGARDING  
REVISED MEDICAL  
STAFF BYLAWS

Directors Turner and Sharp provided an update on NIHD Board Ad Hoc Committee meetings on the subject of approval of revised NIHD Medical Staff Bylaws, noting that at this point in the process the Board must vote to approve or disapprove the revised Bylaws that have been submitted for their consideration. Both Directors acknowledged the significant amount

of time and effort that has been dedicated to this process by the NIHD Medical Staff, stating their belief that the framework for the revised Bylaws is good, however it is their recommendation that a few minor changes be made which will first require the Board's rejection of the current draft version. It was additionally noted that the Ad Hoc Committee's proposed changes would bring the Bylaws into alignment with California Hospital Association recommended Bylaws examples, and they would also memorialize and clarify the development of the Chief Medical Officer (CMO) role which was established at the request of the NIHD Medical Staff. It was then moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Veenker and unanimously passed to reject the current version of the revised draft NIHD Medical Staff Bylaws, in order to allow for further discussion and possible revisions being made.

CHIEF OF STAFF  
REPORT

Chief of Staff Charlotte Helvie 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. *Infection Control in OR/PACU Environment*
2. *Adult Oxygen Protocol*
3. *Informed Consent Policy – Practitioner's Responsibility*

It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve Policies and Procedures 1 through 3 as presented.

MEDICAL STAFF  
APPOINTMENTS

Doctor Helvie also reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following NIHD Medical Staff appointments:

1. Jason Phillips, MD (*urology*) – Provisional Consulting Staff
2. Lindsey Ricci, MD (*pediatrics*) – Provisional Active Staff
3. Kelly O'Neal, MD (*general surgery*) – Locums/Temporary Staff

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

MEDICAL STAFF  
CREDENTIALING BY  
PROXY,  
TELEMEDICINE

Dr. Helvie also stated the Medical Executive Committee recommends the Medical Staff Credentialing by Proxy as per the approved Telemedicine Physician credentialing and Privileging Agreement, and as outlined by 42CFR 482.22. The Medical Staff recommends the following practitioner for Telemedicine privileges relying upon Adventist Health's credentialing and privileging decisions:

1. Snow Peterson, MD (*sleep medicine*) – Distant Site: Adventist Health, St. Helena

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve the Telemedicine Credentialing by Proxy of Snow Peterson MD as requested.

MEDICAL STAFF  
ADVANCEMENT

Dr. Helvie additionally stated the Medical Executive Committee recommends the following Medical Staff advancement:

1. David Amsalem, MD (*emergency medicine*) – Advancement from Provisional Staff to Active Staff

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Ms. Kilpatrick, and unanimously passed to approve the Medical Staff advancement of David Amsalem MD as requested.

PLASTIC SURGERY  
PRIVILEGE FORM  
(NEW)

Doctor Helvie also stated the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following:

- *Plastic Surgery Privilege Form*

It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Veenker, and unanimously passed to approve the *Plastic Surgery Privilege Form* as presented.

INTERNAL MEDICINE  
PRIVILEGE FORM  
(UPDATED)

Doctor Helvie also reported the Medical Executive Committee recommends approval of the following updated form:

- *Internal Medicine Privilege Form*

It was moved by Ms. Kilpatrick, seconded by Mr. Sharp, and unanimously passed to approve the updated *Internal Medicine Privilege Form* as presented.

PHYSICIAN  
ENGAGEMENT  
SURVEY RESULTS

Doctor Helvie also reported there is no further update on the results of the NIHD Physician Engagement Survey at this time, and that the Medical Executive Committee will work with District Administration on follow-up based on the results of that survey. Director Kilpatrick complimented Interim Chief Medical Officer William Timbers MD on recent successes in the area of physician recruitment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Turner called attention to approval of the following Consent Agenda items:

- *Approval of minutes of the October 21 2020 regular meeting*
- *Interim Chief Executive Officer report*
- *Interim Chief Medical Officer report*
- *Chief Nursing Officer report*
- *Eastern Sierra Emergency Physicians quarterly report*
- *Cerner Implementation update*
- *Compliance Department quarterly report*

It was moved by Ms. Veenker, seconded by Mr. Spoonhunter, and unanimously passed to approve all seven Consent Agenda items as presented, with Directors Spoonhunter and Sharp abstaining from the vote on approval of minutes of the October 21 2020 regular meeting.

BOARD MEMBER  
COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ms. Turner asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to report on attendance at any District Committee meetings. Director Kilpatrick reported she recently attended NIHD Medical Surgical and Operations Team meetings, as well as a Pioneer Home Health Home Board of Directors meeting. She additionally reported that the NIHD

Foundation Board of Directors is planning a retreat in the near future. Director Sharp stated that he has enjoyed attending Ad Hoc Committee meetings with representatives of the NIHD Medical Staff, and thanked Medical Staff members for their time and countless hours of work and effort dedicated to revising the Medical Staff Bylaws. Director Turner reported on information submitted to the Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) Advocacy Committee on the subject of the impact of Telehealth at NIHD. No other Committee reports were heard.

BOARD MEMBER  
REPORTS ON ITEMS OF  
INTEREST

Ms. Turner also asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to comment on any items of interest. Director Kilpatrick congratulated NIHD Language Services Manager Jose Garcia on his election to serve as a member of the Bishop City Council. She also praised Kathryn Erickson RN for providing wound care services for District patients, and requested that physician listings in area Yellow Pages be updated. No other comments were heard.

ADJOURNMENT TO  
CLOSED SESSION

At 6:48 pm Ms. Turner announced that the meeting would adjourn to Closed Session to allow the District Board of Directors to:

- A. Conference with legal counsel, existing litigation (*pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)*). Name of case: Robin Cassidy v. Northern Inyo Healthcare District.
- B. Conference with legal counsel, anticipated litigation/significant exposure to litigation (*pursuant to Paragraph 2, subdivision D of Government Code Section 54956.9*), 3 cases.

Ms. Turner additionally noted that that the Board did not anticipate that any reportable action would be reported out following the conclusion of Closed Session.

RETURN TO OPEN  
SESSION AND REPORT  
OF ACTION TAKEN

At 7:12 pm the meeting returned to Open Session. Ms. Turner reported that the Board took no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm.

  
Jean Turner, Chair

Attest:

  
Jody Veenker, Secretary