CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Mary Mae Kilpatrick, President.

PRESENT

Mary Mae Kilpatrick, President
Jean Turner, Vice President
Robert Sharp, Secretary
Peter Tracy, Treasurer
M.C. Hubbard, Member at Large
Allison Robinson MD, Chief of Staff
Kevin S. Flanigan MD, MBA, Chief Executive Officer
John Tremble, Chief Financial Officer
Tracy Aspel RN, BSN Chief Nursing Officer

ABSENT

Kelli Davis MBA, Chief Operating Officer

ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

At 5:01 pm Ms. Kilpatrick announced the meeting would adjourn to
Closed Session to allow the Board of Directors to:
- Conference with Labor Negotiators; Agency Designated representative: Irma Moisa; Employee Organization: AFSCME Council 57 (pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.6).

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN

At 5:38 pm the meeting returned to Open Session. Ms. Kilpatrick reported that the Board took no reportable action.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Kilpatrick 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.

Eastern Sierra Emergency Physicians (ESEP) partner Sierra Bourne MD provided an ESEP status update, noting the group has had recent successes in the area of physician recruitment, and that the Northern Inyo Healthcare District (NIHD) Emergency Department is now fully-staffed with highly qualified local providers. Doctor Bourne will continue to provide ESEP quarterly reports going forward. No other comments were heard.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

The NIHD Workforce Experience Committee provided an update on progress made toward achieving the workforce experience related goals of the District’s Strategic Plan. Highlights of the report included the following:
- Overview of employee turnover and churnover statistics, including an assessment of the drivers that affect turnover
- Report on NIHD's Staff Development strategies and accomplishments
- Staff completion rates for required competencies
- District efforts directed toward hiring the right people and improving the employment interview process

CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT

Chief of Staff Allison Robinson 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:

1. Preoperative Monitoring of Storage Devices and Units
2. Crash Cart and Defibrillator Check Policy
3. Newborn and Pediatric Abduction Prevention Safety and Security
4. Responsibilities of Nursing Students and Hospital Staff
5. Standardized Procedures for Medical Functions in the Emergency Department
6. Diet Texture Ordering Protocol
7. Laboratory Home Collections
8. Lymphedema Treatment
9. Standards of Care for the Swing Bed Resident

It was moved by M.C. Hubbard, seconded by Jean Turner, and unanimously passed to approve all nine Policies and Procedures as presented.

NEW BUSINESS

MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT PROGRAM REPORT (MAT)

Rural Health Clinic Care Coordination Manager Dan David RN reported on the startup of the District’s Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) program developed to help combat and mitigate harm resulting from substance use disorders. NIHD’s program has been made possible by grant funding from the California Bridge Program established for the purpose of helping to address the nationwide opioid epidemic. Anne Goshgarian MD and Thomas Boo MD also participated in discussion on this topic, which included the following:

- An overview of planned local “harm reduction” efforts aimed at addressing substance use disorders
- Review of drug use and overdose death statistics locally and nationwide
- General education regarding ways to intervene with and help prevent substance abuse and addiction disorders
- Behavioral and lifestyle issues that influence addiction
- Overview of Medication-Assisted therapy treatments

The District’s Bridge Grant award will provide funding for an 18-month program for members of the local community.

ROBOTIC EQUIPMENT UPDATE

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Kevin S. Flanagan MD, MBA reported that Intuitive Surgical no longer manufactures some of the supplies for the District’s robotic equipment, therefore it has become necessary to upgrade NIHD’s DaVinci robot to a newer model. Doctor Flanagan requested ratification of new five-year lease agreement for the upgraded surgical equipment, which will be budget neutral for the first 12 months. It was
moved by Ms. Hubbard, seconded by Ms. Turner, and unanimously passed to ratify the new lease agreement with Intuitive Surgical as requested.

MEDICAL STAFF SERVICES PILLARS OF EXCELLENCE

Medical Staff Support Services Manager Dianne Picken called attention to the Medical Staff Services quarterly report for the first quarter of 2019. The Medical Staff Office experienced a very busy quarter during which a large number of Medical Staff applications were processed.

PHARMACY CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Doctor Flanigan also reported the NIHD Pharmacy construction project is moving forward, however the District will be hard pressed to meet an end of year completion deadline. District Board members Turner and Hubbard recently met with Senator Andreas Borgeas’s and Assemblyman Devon Mathis’s offices as part of the Association of California Healthcare Districts (ACHD) Legislative Day, and solicited their help in getting the Office of Statewide Healthcare Planning and Development (OSHPD) to cooperate with NIHD on the construction project. NIHD is currently considering a “Plan B” in cooperation with Dwayne’s Pharmacy in order to continue providing pharmacy services in the event that the end of year deadline is not met.

FINANCIAL REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31 2018

Chief Financial Officer John Tremble called attention to the financial and statistical reports as of December 31 2018, noting the following:
- Gross inpatient revenues were 11.2 percent lower than the previous year; inpatient surgical cases were 3 percent lower; and ICU days were 18 percent lower
- Outpatient revenues were 8.9 percent higher than the previous year
- Salaries and benefits expense has increased, and the District has seen an increase of 26.4 FTE’s over the previous year
- Receipt of Prime Grant funds in December of 2018 turned year-to-date revenue to the positive by $198,943
- The District has experienced growth in the areas of imaging, Lab, and infusion therapy

POLICY AND PROCEDURE APPROVAL, RQI

Chief Nursing Officer Tracy Aspel, RN, BSN called attention to a Policy and Procedure titled Resuscitation Quality Improvement (RQI), intended to ensure that employees in direct patient care areas have the skill and competency to perform Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), as required for employment. It was moved by Robert Sharp, seconded by Peter Tracy, and unanimously passed to approve the Resuscitation Quality Improvement (RQI) Policy and Procedure as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Kilpatrick called attention to the Consent Agenda for this meeting, which contained the following items:
- Approval of minutes of the March 13 2019 special meeting
- Approval of minutes of the March 20 2019 regular meeting
- Policy and Procedure annual approvals
- Approval of a new Chief of Staff job description
Northern Inyo Healthcare District Auxiliary bylaws annual approval
It was moved by Mr. Sharp, seconded by Ms. Hubbard, and unanimously passed to approve all five Consent Agenda items as presented.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS
Ms. Kilpatrick asked if any members of the Board of Directors wished to report on any items of interest. Director Turner reported on the events of ACHD Legislative Day recently held in Sacramento, which was attended by Directors Turner and Hubbard. Director Hubbard expressed interest in NIHD looking into the possibility of a Senior Health Initiative Program similar to one in place in Humboldt County. Director Kilpatrick reported that Pioneer Home Health and the Hospice of the Owens Valley will hold a fundraising event on Saturday, April 27. Doctor Flanigan also reported that Colorectal Cancer Awareness month has extended into the month of April, and he expressed appreciation of Doctors Allison Robinson and Robbin Cromer-Tyler’s tireless efforts regarding colorectal cancer awareness and prevention.

ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION
At 7:57 pm Ms. Kilpatrick reported the meeting would adjourn to Closed Session to allow the Board of Directors to:
A. Discuss trade secrets, new programs and services (estimated public session date for discussion yet to be determined) (Health and Safety Code Section 32106).
B. Conduct a public employee performance evaluation, Chief Executive Officer (pursuant to Government Code Section 54957).

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AND REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN
At 8:44 pm the meeting returned to Open Session. Ms. Kilpatrick reported the Board took no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Mary Mae Kilpatrick, President

Attest: Robert Sharp, Secretary