

The Board of Directors of the South Peninsula Hospital was called to order on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 5:30 PM, in the CR 1&2 / Zoom.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**President Kelly Cooper called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**BOARD PRESENT:** President Kelly Cooper, Keriann Baker, Matthew Hambrick, Vice President Melissa Jacobsen, Edson Knapp, Treasurer Walter Partridge, Aaron Weisser, Bernadette Wilson, Secretary Julie Woodworth, and Beth Wythe

**BOARD EXCUSED:** Todd Boling, DO

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ryan Smith, CEO; Angela Hinnegan, COO; Anna Hermanson, CFO; Rachael Kincaid, CNO; Christina Tuomi, CMO; Nyla Lightcap, Administrative Assistant

*\*Due to the Zoom meeting format, only meeting participants who comment, give report or give presentations are noted in the minutes. Others may be present on the virtual meeting.*

**A quorum was present.**

**3. REFLECT ON LIVING OUR VALUES**

Angela Hinnegan, COO, shared two stories. Melinda Peltier, an employee who used to work in the EVS department and is now a CNA on the Med/Surg floor greatly exemplified SPH values. As a new CNA, she was asked to work in OB during a high stress situation despite not having worked in that area before, and she was calm, helpful and really went above and beyond. Everyone was very thankful for her teamwork and commitment.

Ms. Hinnegan also shared that last week we were doing maintenance on the plumbing system and there was more flooding. At 4am the EVS team, Facilities staff and even a contractor working on our audio systems, all came in to help mitigate the flooding. Everyone was pleasant and helpful after what became a very long day. We have an amazing team.

**4. WELCOME GUESTS & PUBLIC / INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no guests present on the Zoom meeting.

**4.1. Rules for Participating in a Public Meeting**

**5. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ITEMS OF ANY MATTER**

Lane Chesley was unable to attend, but sent a written comment. Ryan and Angela gave an excellent presentation to the KPB borough last night. He gave an update on the land trade - they are in the appraisal process. Mayor Navarre and Brandi stopped by the hospital this week and had a nice visit. Feel free to reach out to Mr. Chesley if you have any questions.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

*Secretary Julie Woodworth made a motion to approve the agenda. Treasurer Matthew Hambrick seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**7. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

Julie Woodworth read the consent calendar into the record.

**7.1. Consideration to Approve the South Peninsula Hospital (SPH) Board of Directors meeting minutes for September 28, 2022.**

**7.2. Consideration to Approve Revised Board Policy SM-08, Committee Responsibilities, to more clearly define the timeline for bylaw and policy review.**

**7.3. Consideration to Approve Revised Board Policy SM-09, Board Terms and Officers, to clarify the Governance Committee facilitates the member election process, to reflect current practice.**

**7.4. First Reading: South Peninsula Hospital Board of Director Bylaws Amendment**

*Secretary Julie Woodworth made a motion to approve the consent calendar as read. Beth Wythe seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

**8.1. Nuclear Medicine**

Dr. Edson Knapp gave a presentation on nuclear medicine. It's an incredibly useful modality for patient care. It involves taking a tracer and attaching it to something in the body that is going to work in a certain way, then give it to the patient, then image their body a certain number of hours later. The molecules are so small that there is no possibility of allergic reaction. It allows us to look at systems and how they are functioning and see the action of cells in that part of the body, which can't be accomplished with any other modality. It would our surgeons to identify gall bladder problems better than ultrasounds, and help identify stress fractures better than x-rays. For breast cancer surgery, nuclear medicine is necessary, so it would open up that service line here in Homer. We can also do stress imaging with nuclear medicine and identify different cardiac issues as well.

Ms. Cooper asked about the funding required to obtain nuclear medicine. Mr. Smith responded. It will be a large project, and there has already been a lot of discussion on how to accomplish it. John Hedges at the borough is currently working on design fees, because we are looking to put the nuclear medicine into the pharmacy area, and move pharmacy and infusion into the shelled space. Ms. Wythe inquired if this was considered experimental by insurance companies, and Dr. Knapp said no, this would be standard care covered by insurance. Mr. Smith added this machine could also act as a back up CT scanner if the CT scanner were to be out of commission.

Dr. Knapp was asked to speak to the ability to generate revenue. He said the imaging studies would slowly pay for itself over time, however it would open up service lines and allow other revenue to stay at SPH instead of going elsewhere. Ms. Woodworth asked about risks involved. Dr. Knapp responded that the biggest risk would be underuse, though didn't think that would be the case. Dr. Knapp also stated that nuclear medicine is a very complex and regulated process. Ms. Wilson shared, from the patient's perspective, it would be excellent to have this service in Homer.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**10.1. Consideration to Approve September 2022 Financials**

Anna Hermanson, CFO, presented. September was right on budget, with very strong patient days. We had a large number of observation and swing bed patients as well. Outpatient was just below budget and Long Term Care was right on budget. Net operating revenues were close to budget. The operating margin was negative for the month of September due to high expenses. The unbudgeted inflation bonus was given to staff in the month of September and contract staffing was also higher than anticipated. The Patient Financial Services team had a great month bringing in cash, but overall operating cash did go down due to transferring 4.7 days to the borough per the operating agreement. The average daily census was very high for the month. Inpatient surgeries were very under budget. We will struggle to meet our inpatient surgery budget, as some of our surgeries are now being moved to outpatient due to insurance requirements. Long Term Care hit their budget of 23 residents.

Mr. Partridge reported that the Finance Committee didn't meet this month due to a scheduling error, so rather than reschedule the meeting, he and administration decided to have Ms. Hermanson give the finance report in tonight's board meeting. There were no actionable items on the agenda of the finance committee meeting.

---

*Treasurer Matthew Hambrick made a motion to approve the September 2022 financials. Beth Wythe seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**10.2. Consideration to Delegate the Authority to Approve Medical Staff Reappointments Expiring on December 2, 2022 to the Officers of the Board.**

Mr. Smith reported. Due to the dates of the board meeting in December, there would have been a gap in credentialing for certain providers up for reappointment, so we are asking the board to give the officers of the board the authority to act on behalf of the full board and approve the credentialing when they meet in November to set the next board meeting agenda.

*Beth Wythe made a motion to Delegate the Authority to Approve Medical Staff Reappointments Expiring on December 2, 2022 to the Officers of the Board Secretary Julie Woodworth seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**11. REPORTS**

**11.1. Chief Executive Officer**

Mr. Smith reported. He reviewed the presentation he gave to the borough assembly last night. We committed to provide a senior leadership succession plan in the operating agreement and are working on that, and so Ms. Hinnegan attended the assembly meeting as well and gave a portion of the presentation. Mr. Smith shared the slides from CMS's Care Compare website regarding timely and effective care. Overall, we are a 4 star hospital. We are focusing on making our sepsis care real time and fail safe. Dr. Tuomi and Ms. Kincaid reported on new measures being put in place to help with sepsis care. Dr. Knapp praised the work that's been done on sepsis and feels that we are giving much better care to our patients. Mr. Smith also spoke to the various pricing transparency laws at the state and federal level and how SPH is complying with them.

**11.2. BOD Committee: Finance**

Mr. Partridge had nothing further to report.

**11.3. BOD Committee: Governance**

Aaron Weisser, Governance Chair, reported. The Governance Committee is working on follow up tasks from the board retreat with Jamie Orlikoff. There was discussion about the definition of an independent board member and the makeup of the board in that regard. The committee is updating both the board member application and the yearly conflict of interest form to establish board member independence based on the IRS definition. The committee is also updating the board candidate application to allow for current board members seeking reappointment to answer questions more relevant to returning board members instead of the new applicant questions.

---

We are also proposing an update to the bylaws. We are eliminating section 4 of Members, which is the section that says the CEO and Chief of Staff are ex officio board members. The way the bylaws are currently written, they are both technically board members, which causes confusion about how many board members we have. Functionally it will not change our current practice. We are also proposing to change the number of board members to a range of 9 to 11 to give us some flexibility in replacing board members who resign.

#### **11.4. BOD Committee: Education**

Melissa Jacobsen, Education Chair, thanked everyone for great turnout at the retreat. She has been working with iPro staff on getting the portal setup so board members can expect can get an email to get your login and password set up. Education Committee will meet at a date to be determined to look at programs we might want to suggest to take part in. Ms. Wilson asked about the start date on the contract, and Administration will follow up.

#### **11.5. Chief of Staff**

Dr. Landess was unable to attend tonight.

#### **11.6. Service Area Board Representative**

Judith Lund reported on behalf of the Service Area Board (SAB). She thanked the hospital for all the hard work. The SAB had the borough attorney at their last meeting who explained how executive sessions work for advisory boards. Brandi Harbaugh gave a presentation on contracting with nonprofits and businesses. Derotha Ferraro gave a presentation on MAPP. Willy Dunne gave an update on Opioid Settlement Funds, and we hope to send a couple folks to the AHA Rural Healthcare Leadership Conference. We spoke about the printing of meeting packets. We hope to have the election of officers at the next meeting.

### **12. DISCUSSION**

#### **12.1. Board Self Evaluation**

A self evaluation was done at the last meeting, and Mr. Weisser led the board in discussion surrounding the questions that got the lowest score. He framed the discussion with "Why did you score this low? What do you see as a way to correct the issue?"

The lowest scoring question was "I believe the board is more proactive than reactive and is focused on future development and growth." Both Mr. Weisser and Ms. Wythe feels the board is working towards becoming proactive, but has been reactive, particularly during the pandemic. Ms. Cooper agreed and noted that we need to move our focus forward and feels we are on our way to accomplishing this. Mr. Weisser feels the nuclear medicine conversation reflects this. Ms. Wilson added that sometimes being reactive is necessary. Mr. Partridge feels that we spend our time on what's going on at the hospital,

though tonight we spent more time on future issues and proactive improvement processes, instead of hearing reports on things have already happened. We need to leave room on the agenda to talk about future issues. Ms. Wythe brought up the idea of the longer quarterly meetings for strategic planning purposes.

**13. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ITEMS OF ANY MATTER**

There were no comments from the audience.

**14. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

(Announcements/Congratulations)

**14.1. Chief Executive Officer**

Mr. Smith had no additional comments.

**14.2. Board Members**

Ms. Jacobsen thanked everyone for a good meeting. Ms. Wythe appreciated attending the Patient Centered Care Quality Committee. Ms. Cooper had the opportunity to bring Senator Murkowski to the hospital for a tour and the staff blew her away.

**15. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**15.1. AHA Rural Health Care Leadership Conference**

<https://ruralconference.aha.org/>

Ms. Jones will be sending out an email about the AHA Rural Health Care Leadership Conference. Please respond with whether you plan to attend.

**16. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)**

The board adjourned to executive session at 7:19pm.

**17. ANNOUNCEMENTS AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The board came out of executive session at 7:46pm.

**17.1. Credentialing**

*After review of the applicants' files in Executive Session, Ms. Woodworth moved to approve the following positions in the medical staff as requested and recommended by the Medical Executive Committee. Dr. Christina Tuomi recused herself from the room during the credentialing portion of the agenda. Beth Wythe seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Appointments (Telemed/Telehealth\*)

Vernier, Karen MD, Psychiatry/Telepsych, Telemedicine

Dixon, Jeffery MD, Cardiology/Echo Interp.,. Courtesy Staff

Appointments

Bendixen, Kira DO, Family Medicine, Active Staff  
Mayfield, Emma DO, Family Medicine, Active Staff  
Murphy, Erin MD, Emergency Medicine, Courtesy Staff

Reappointments

Godfrey, Paula MD, Emergency Medicine, Active Staff  
Inglis, Cherie' MD, Family Medicine, Active Staff  
Plymire, Rebecca PA-C, Family Medicine, Active Staff  
Tuomi, Christina, DO, Family Medicine, Active Staff

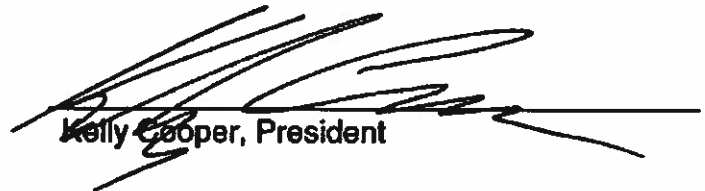
**18. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Accepted:

  
Maura Jones, Executive Assistant

  
Kelly Cooper, President

Minutes Approved: 12/7/22



Julie Woodworth, Secretary