



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**6:30 PM - Wednesday, December 17, 2025**  
Conference Rooms 1&2 and Zoom

The meeting of the Board of Directors of South Peninsula Hospital was called to order on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, at 6:30 PM, in the Hospital Conference Rooms 1&2 and Zoom.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**The board went into Executive Session to discuss personnel and financial matters prior to the start of the regular meeting. The board went into Executive Session at 5:30pm. President Aaron Weisser called the regular meeting to order at 6:30pm.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Aaron Weisser, Edson Knapp, Walter Partridge, Bernadette Wilson, Beth Wythe, Preston Simmons, Matthew Bullard, Christopher Landess, Kim Frost

**BOARD EXCUSED:** Michael Dye

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ryan Smith (CEO), Amber Gall (CNO), Derotha Ferraro (PR/Marketing Director), Maura Gibson (Exec Asst)

*\*Only meeting participants who comment, report or give presentations are noted in the minutes. Others may be present on the room or on the virtual meeting.*

**A quorum was present.**

**3. REFLECT ON LIVING OUR VALUES**

Amber Gall, CNO, shared a value story about an employee who saved a colleague from choking, highlighting the importance of CPR training.

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

Mr. Weisser welcomed guests. Rules for participating in the meeting were provided in the packet and in the room.

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

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

There were no comments from the audience.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

*Bernadette Wilson made a motion to approve the agenda as written. Preston Simmons seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**7. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

Ms. Wythe read the consent calendar into the record.

- 7.1. Consideration to Approve the South Peninsula Hospital (SPH) Board of Directors meeting minutes for October 29, 2025**
- 7.2. Consideration to Approve October FY2026 Financials**
- 7.3. Consideration to Approve the Election of Officers at the December 2025 meeting, one month earlier than provided for in the current bylaws**
- 7.4. Consideration to Ratify the Executive Committee's Approval of Resolution 2025-24, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Approving Medical Staff Credentialing for November 2025**
- 7.5. Consideration to Approve the 2026 Board of Directors Calendar of Meetings**
- 7.6. Consideration to Approve Policy SM-10, Board Orientation and Continuing Education, as revised by the Governance Committee, and retire SM-07 Board Member Orientation, as its content was incorporated into SM-10.**
- 7.7. Consideration to Approve New Board Policy SM-14, Board Member Responsibilities and Expectations**
- 7.8. Consideration to Approve new Board Policy SM-15 Board President Evaluation**

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve the consent calendar as read. Preston Simmons seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

**8.1. Kachemak Bay Recovery Connection**

Willy Dunne and McKinzie Parker gave a presentation on the Kachemak Bay Recovery Connection. Mr. Dunne thanked the hospital for its support over the years and introduced Ms. Parker as the operations manager. She explained the mission and goals of the organization, focusing on reducing stigma, normalizing recovery, and fostering a sober community. She detailed the organization's history, including its formation, IRS 501(c)(3) status, and initial funding. Ms. Parker also discussed the role of peer support specialists in providing lived experience and judgment-free listening to people in recovery, the organization's efforts to create sober spaces and reduce stigma through events and community involvement and explained the funding challenges and the organization's reliance on grants and donations.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

### 10.1. Election of Officers

A secret ballot election was held for the officers of the board for 2026-2027. The results of the election are as follows:

President: Aaron Weisser (second term)  
Vice President: Preston Simmons (second term)  
Secretary: Beth Wythe (second term)  
Treasurer: Michael Dye (first term)

### 10.2. Consideration to Approve HW-267, SPH Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Program; Calendar Year 2026 Quality Assurance & Performance Improvement (QAPI) Plan for South Peninsula Hospital Home Health; HH-010 Home Health Quality Plan, and LTC-184 Long Term Care Quality Plan

Amber Gall, CNO, reported. The quality plans and projects for the Hospital, Long Term Care and Home Health are presented for annual approval. These were reviewed in detail at the Quality-of-Care Committee at their December meeting.

*Preston Simmons made a motion to approve HW-267, SPH Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement Program; Calendar Year 2026 Quality Assurance & Performance Improvement (QAPI) Plan for South Peninsula Hospital Home Health; HH-010 Home Health Quality Plan, and LTC-184 Long Term Care Quality Plan. Bernadette Wilson seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

### 10.3. FIRST READING: Revised Board of Directors Bylaws

As part of the annual review, the Governance Committee submitted suggestions for revisions to the Board Bylaws. They were provided in the packet for a first reading, with no action required at this meeting.

### 10.4. Consideration to Approve South Peninsula Hospital & Long Term Care Medical Staff Rules and Regulations, as Revised by the Medical Staff

Ryan Smith, CEO, reported that the medical staff has been working on revising their Rules and Regulations with the assistance of a consulting group. The medical staff approved the revised document at their most recent meeting.

*Christopher Landess made a motion to approve South Peninsula Hospital & Long-Term Care Medical Staff Rules and Regulations, as Revised by the Medical Staff. Kim Frost seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

## 11. REPORTS

### 11.1. Chief Executive Officer

Ryan Smith reported on the recent passing of an employee in the dietary department and the impact on the hospital community. He mentioned the upcoming Rural Health Transformation Project convening in Anchorage and the

hospital's participation. He also thanked the emergency room staff for their trauma level four recertification.

#### **11.2. BOD Committee: Finance & Pension**

Walter Partridge, committee chair reported on the November and December meetings. In November, the Pension reports by Newport/Acensus were viewed, with no recommended changes to any plans. The committee reviewed the pension audit. The committee met again in December to review the financials.

#### **11.3. BOD Committee: Strategic Planning & Communication**

Aaron Weisser, committee chair, reported that the committee met in December and followed up on the community conversations, talking about successes and opportunities for improvement, as well as the differences between the conversations in Homer and Anchor Point. The committee decided in addition to having these events, we would like to connect with different organizations in the community and give short presentations at their meetings. The plan is to broaden our communication and become more intentional and to continue learning as we go.

#### **11.4. BOD Committee: Governance**

Beth Wythe, committee chair, reported that the committee met in December and worked on the development of an orientation manual and a preliminary training plan for 2026, as well as developing new policies. Mr. Weisser thanked Ms. Wythe for the work her committee completed this year.

#### **11.5. BOD Committee: Quality**

Preston Simmons, committee chair, reported that the committee met in December and reviewed the quality policies that came to the board at this meeting. Dr. Tuomi also gave an overview of the performance improvement initiatives for the medical staff.

#### **11.6. Chief of Staff**

Dr. Sarah Roberts was not able to attend.

#### **11.7. Board President Report (Executive Committee, Education Sessions & Generative Discussions)**

Aaron Weisser, Board President, gave a report. The board is now doing an education session prior to the board meeting, and today's session was a presentation on a new portal for accessing credentialing documents for the medical staff. It will enable the board to more easily review documents. The medical staff credentialing committees are already using this tool. The board also discussed board engagement on matters of quality and safety during its executive session.

#### **11.8. Service Area Board Representative**

Francie Roberts reported on behalf of the Service Area Board (SAB). The SAB has welcomed five new members since the beginning of August, on a board of nine. Some time was spent going over the member manual with the new members, and watching a recording of a borough training from last year. One or two members of the Service Area Board are planning to attend the AHA Rural Health Care Leadership Conference in February.

**12. DISCUSSION**

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

Derotha Ferraro thanked Walter Partridge for his years of service to the hospital.

**14. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

(Announcements/Congratulations)

**14.1. Chief Executive Officer**

Ryan Smith also thanked Walter Partridge.

**14.2. Board Members**

Aaron Weisser thanked Walter Partridge for his years of service on the board, from 2006-2010 and 2018-2025, serving as president and treasurer, and continuing to serve on committees even when not on the board. He thanked him for his expertise and professionalism. Preston Simmons also thanked Mr. Partridge. Bernadette Wilson congratulated the team on the Trauma Level IV recertification. She thanked Mr. Partridge as well. Beth Wythe congratulated Mr. Partridge on his retirement from the board. Kim Frost also thanked Mr. Partridge. She also expressed appreciation for the work being done in the new committee structure. Dr. Edson Knapp thanked Mr. Partridge for his professionalism over the years. Mr. Partridge thanked everyone for the kind words, and noted the hospital was part of the reason he and his wife were able to retire in Homer.

**15. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**16. ACTION ITEMS**

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

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

**18.1. Board Member Elections for 2026**

As a result of the election during Executive Session, Jim Anderson and Ken Ciccoli were elected to serve on the Board of Directors, and Beth Wythe and Edson Knapp were reappointed to the Board.

**18.2. Consideration to Approve Resolution 2025-25, Approving the Medical Staff Credentialing for December 2025**

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-25, Approving the Medical Staff Credentialing for December 2025, with one correction to the employer listed for Dr. Emma Simpson, to include:*

*The appointment of:*

*Edem Binka, MD*

*Peds Cardiology*

*Part-Time Active*

*Mark Simon, MD*

*Emergency Medicine*

*Part-Time Active*

*Emma Simpson, MD      Internal Med/ICU/Pulmonology      TeleICU*

*The one year appointment of:*

*Ernst Hansch, MD      Dx Radiology      TeleRad*

*And the reappointment of:*

*Robert Austin, CRNA      Anesthesia      Part-Time Active*

*Abdelraham Beltagy, MD      Neurology      TeleStroke*

*Lucy Fisher, MD      Psychiatry      Active*

*Edson Knapp, MD      Dx Radiology      Active*

*Julie McCarron, CNM      Midwifery      Active*

*Brian McCorrison, CRNA      Anesthesia      Active*

*Jasleen Tiwana, MD      Cardiology      Part-Time Active*

*Edson Knapp seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Accepted:

Signed by:

*Maura Gibson*

50A05CEF63834CE...

Maura Gibson, Executive Assistant

DocuSigned by:

*Aaron Weisser*

7FEF264292014C5...

Aaron Weisser, President

Minutes Approved: 1/28/2026

DocuSigned by:

*Mary E. Wythe*

CC3FBAE68D8C4FA...

Mary E. Wythe, Secretary