

**Eastern Rio Blanco County Health Service District
Pioneers Medical Center
Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors
January 25, 2022**

Directors Present:

Kimberly Brown, President
Kai Turner, Vice President
Todd Shults, Secretary
Regas Halandras, Board Member
Mark Schryver, Board Member via Zoom

Others Present:

Amy peck, CNO
Liz Sellers, CEO
Lionel Montoya, CFO
Kellie Turner, MD
Dan Olson, Compliance
Christina Harvey, Legal
Counsel
Krista Blakely, Home Health
Betty Lou Moyer, Home Health
Cindy Rholl, Credentialing
Natalie Bustad, Recorder

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 12:24pm by President Brown. Directors and attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. The Mission Statement was read for Board consideration.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Regas Halandras made a motion to approve the agenda. Motion seconded by Todd Shults. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The motion to approve October's minutes was made by Todd Shults and seconded by Regas Halandras. Motion carried.

The motion to approve November's minutes was made by Todd Shults and seconded by Regas Halandras. Motion carried.

The motion to approve the minutes for the Special Election Meeting held on January 6, 2022 was made by Todd Shults and seconded by Regas Halandras. Motion carried.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT: Dr. Kellie Turner was excited to announce that the lab now offers respiratory and gastro-intestinal panels. Typically, those tests needed sent to another facility. Now these tests can be done in house. This reduces the wait period for results from twenty-four hours to approximately one. A COVID-19 test is included in the respiratory panel, which is reassuring to patients coming in with other respiratory symptoms.

The hospital is working on a telehealth partnership with HealthOne. Because of our remote and rural location, Pioneers Medical Center qualifies for a grant which would pay for the robotic system. HealthOne has expanded its services to include neurological and psychiatric care, as well as offering a live support system for nurses with critical care. With COVID, our facility has gotten more comfortable utilizing telehealth, so the HealthOne system could be a readily available asset.

A group of doctors was presented to the board for credentialing. Dr. Clutter and Dr. Fitzgerald already have approved privileges from President Brown because they were here last month working, but they were presented to the board for formal ratification. Both doctors are helping with locums. Dr. Fitzgerald has enjoyed her time working here and is applying for a position as a third year resident. The medical staff are hoping that she will become a permanent provider at the hospital.

Josh Peters is an Orthopedic Physician's Assistant who started working this month. Three general surgeons coming onboard this month, Drs. Nisley, VanEssen, and Wibblesmen. Dr. Nisley will be the main surgeon coming here, but the others need credentialed in the event that Dr. Nisley is unavailable. PMC plans to have general surgeons on site twice monthly.

The motion to ratify these doctors as needed was made by Regas Halandras and seconded by Todd Shults. Motion carried.

Dr. Hannosh, another general surgeon, was presented with a group of doctors from the RadPartners: Drs. Hogan, Jacobson, Graf, and Regaldo. All of these doctors have clean records. Dr. Graf, while he was working for the military in his early career, was suspended for a brief period of time to complete some additional training and education in interventional radiology. There are no other marks on his record.

After consideration of Dr. Graf's temporary suspension, a motion to approve the credentials of Drs. Graf, Hogan, Jacobson, and Regaldo was made by Todd Shults and seconded by Regas Halandras. Motion carried.

COMPLIANCE REPORT:

During the special meeting on January 6, 2022, the Board asked that Dan Olson, Compliance Officer research and report to the Board about the upcoming Board election the costs of doing both types of election – polling and mail ballot. Dan reported he found it difficult to look at any historical data because these different types of elections have not been held within the district.

After some discussion the board decided that sharing a polling place with another special district in our area is the most reasonable plan. The motion was made by Regas Halandras, seconded by Todd Shults, and subsequently carried.

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

Motion to approve and accept the presented financial statements recommended for approval by the Finance Committee was made by Regas Halandras and seconded by Todd Shults. Motion carried.

SPECTOR SOLAR:

Spector Solar, an energy company, presented the Board with a proposed alternative power source possibility. The company has not provided this type of utility for a hospital before. They proposed PMC be the initial test site for this project in our area.

COVID-19 UPDATE:

The hospital has seen a drastic increase in COVID cases as the Omicron Variant works its way through the community. All staff are being asked to wear N95 masks to mitigate Omicron's spread through the facility. So far, the Omicron Variant does not discriminate between vaccinated, unvaccinated, or previously infected individuals. The biggest concern for the hospital is a large number of staff being out at one time. We are hopeful that the N95s will limit exposure enough so all staff don't get infected at the same time.

For treatment, Pioneers Medical Center has received the new antiviral pill from Pfizer. So far, no patients have wanted to try it. Additionally, the monoclonal antibodies are different for the Omicron Variant.

HOME HEALTH REPORT:

Presented by Krista Blakely and Betty Lou Moyer, as published.

This annual report is a government requirement, but the report is also an opportunity for the board to hear from the director of the program. Let the record reflect that the Annual Evaluations for years 2020 and 2021 are submitted and presented to the board. The Board congratulated Home Health on the report of 4.5/5 stars earned for their 2019 report.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to move into Executive Session made by Regas Halandras. Seconded by Todd Shults. Motion carried.

NEXT MEETING:

Next monthly meeting of the board will be held February 22, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT:

Regas Halandras made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Motion seconded by Todd Shults. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:



Kimberly Brown, President



Todd Shults, Secretary



Natalie Bustad, Recorder