

*Cascade Medical Center Board Minutes*

**November 26, 2024**

**CMC Conference Room/Zoom**

**12:00 pm – 2:00 pm**

**Trustees present in person:** Rachel Smith, David Croshaw, and David Gough

**Trustees attending remotely via Zoom:** Jacque Zemlicka and Lesa Becker

**Members absent and excused:** Michael Drury, Tom Watson

**Others present:** Tom Reinhardt, Randy Kyrias, Sarah Hasbrouck, Teri Coombs, and Ronald Ellsworth

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Rachel Smith at 12:04PM.

**Mission Moment:**

Tom shared a mission moment, about the importance of margin so that we can fulfill our mission. He shared an incident that occurred last week in where a physical therapy patient mentioned to the staff in passing that her surgeon ordered a CT scan that would have required her to drive out of town, something she wanted to avoid. The PT staff confirmed that we could provide the imaging needed here at CMC, and the patient contacted her surgeon to transfer the order here. She was able to get the imaging here at CMC.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Per Idaho Open Meeting Law, Idaho Statute 74-204, the agenda for today's meeting was posted in advance on the CMCHD website, at the Cascade Post Office, and on CMC entrances. Rachel Smith asked if there were any updates to the agenda. Hearing none, David Gough made a motion to approve the agenda as posted, David Croshaw seconded this motion. All members were in favor, motion passed.

**2. Public Comment**

Public Comment was made by Warren Sedlack, who provided comment on his concern for the location of the driveway in the lower parking lot, stating that headlights shine into his front window when cars leave the hospital parking lot onto School street. He also stated his neighbors shared the same concern about light pollution and the newly planted trees not extending all the way to the corner of School and Lake Cascade Pkwy. He also shared that another neighbor complained that the new fence built by the hospital at the neighbor's request didn't run the entire length of her lot, and that per the minutes, there was money left in the budget for the project.

**3. Consent Agenda:**

- a) Approval of Minutes of the October 2024 BOT meeting.
- b) November Medical Staff Minutes & October Utilization Report
- c) October Financial Report

The members of the board reviewed the Consent Agenda items for additional discussion. Hearing that no items needing to be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda for further discussion, Rachel Smith adopted the three items within the Consent Agenda.

#### **4. Open Meeting Law**

Tom shared the complaint from a local resident about a violation of open meeting laws, as the agenda for the meeting in October was not posted on the website. Tom and Lesa did meet with the Prosecutor's Office. The prosecutor found that CMC did substantially comply with the open meeting laws by posting at the Post Office and at hospital entrances. The prosecutor reminded CMC that it does need to post agendas in the future on the website as well. Tom shared that no fines were imposed and that the meeting and decisions from 10/22/2024 Board meetings are not void.

Tom polled the members of the Board to ask if they would like additional education or a refresher on Open Meeting Laws. Rachel suggested looking into whether there is a local educational event for members to attend, and stated she liked the idea of either Kim Stanger or someone from the IAG's office to be available so that the members of the Board could participate in dialogue if there are questions. David Gough also supported both an on-site or Zoom refresher and suggested language added to future meeting minutes, a statement of compliance with the agenda posting within the section of approving the agenda.

#### **5. Leadership Updates**

##### **General updates - All**

Tom shared slides relating to ER volumes by Fiscal Year, showing the impacts of when St. Lukes opened their UC in McCall, as well as when CMC opened our UC in Donnelly. The intention of both these actions was to reduce ER volumes by providing the public with a lower cost alternative to lower acuity medical issues.

Tom also shared volume data relating to the Clinics and Physical Therapy, with both showing steady upward growth. He was requested to show this year over year growth as a percentage. Inpatient and Swing Bed volumes showed significant declines in the last year.

Tom shared some insight on FY24's financial performance, stating although CMC is still very financially sound, there are still areas to pay attention to. He shared the implementation of the 4DX concepts to capture lost revenue, work being done to promote the Donnelly clinic and flexing staff to control costs. Tom and Randy updated the Board on the positive momentum with the lost 340B revenue, that we will be able to continue until we receive our REH designation.

##### **Update on Stibnite Mine Clinic**

Tom shared that any updates on the opportunity to partner with Perpetua on a Mine Clinic remains within a pending status as Perpetua waits on the final ROD and subsequent issuance of permits.

##### **Rural Emergency Hospital License Status**

Tom shared that the application for our REH status has been submitted, and CMS has already reached out for a few, small corrections they needed, which were promptly submitted. He did briefly discuss the letter they had asked for from the Board Chairperson guaranteeing that CMC will be financially responsible for any debts owed to CMS.

##### **Epic contract & implementation status**

Tom shared that we have signed the contract with Ochin for our Epic platform. The go-live date for this is 11/9/2025.

## **2025 Employee Benefit Plan**

Tom shared that CMC has put the employee benefits out to bid, as our current carrier proposed a very large rate increase.

## **Specialists**

Dr. Steven Writer, Cardiology, will continue to rent space monthly to provide services to patients.

Dr. Neuschwander and Tobin Purslow, PA will begin renting space in December for an Orthopedic clinic

Dr Simmons, Neurology will start renting space in 2025

## **Holiday party**

Tom shared that the members of the Board are invited to the Staff Christmas party on December 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **6. CMC Health Equity Plan**

Tom spoke about the importance of Health Equity in Healthcare. He spoke about the difference between equality and equity, and what CMC is doing to provide health equity to our communities. These include actions like implementing the Epic EMR, providing transportation services for our community members to get to their appointments, having the InstyMeds machine on site 24 hours each day, and providing the services both by our Community Health Workers and Patient Financial Counselors. He also spoke to the willingness of our providers to meet patients in their homes for care as well as expand local access to specialists. Tom shared that the continued need for this to be a part of our mission is important to our plan as it relates to one of the requirements for our REH application. Tom asked for feedback from the members of the Board on the Health Equity Plan and was provided with a few suggestions for grammar corrections from Rachel Smith.

David Gough made a motion to approve the presented Health Equity Plan, with the corrections to grammar suggested. David Croshaw seconded the motion. All members were in favor; motion passes.

He also recommended that Leadership review and report to the Board on how this plan may be impacted with the ever-changing politics of current and future political administrations.

## **7. Committee Reports:**

### **Quality Assurance, Performance Improvement and Compliance Committee:**

#### Members:

Lesa Becker, Chairperson

David Gough

Tom Watson

Aline Lee

Tom Reinhardt

Teri Coombs

Sarah Hasbrouck

Dr.Katie Camarata

Sylvia Kober

Brianna Haderlie

The Quality Assurance, Performance Improvement and Compliance Committee did not meet.

### **Finance Committee:**

#### Members:

Michael Drury, Chairperson

David Croshaw  
Jacque Zemlicka  
Randy Kyrias  
Tom Reinhardt

The Finance Committee did not meet.

**Strategic Planning Committee:**

Members:

David Gough  
David Croshaw  
Tom Reinhardt  
Tom Watson  
Karolyn Plehal  
Mike Saunders  
Charlie Gowing  
Ann Young

The Strategic Planning Committee did not meet.

**8. Executive Session:**

An Executive Session held for the purpose of discussing the purchase of real estate, under Idaho statute 74-206(C). David Gough made the motion to enter into an executive session for the purpose of discussing the purchase of real estate. David Croshaw seconded the motion. The members of the Board were polled, and all were in favor to enter into an Executive Session. The Executive Session commenced at 1:05pm.

David Gough made a motion to leave the executive session, David Croshaw seconded this motion. The members of the Board were individually polled, and all were in favor. The members of the Board exited the Executive Session at 1:52pm.

**9. Other/Next Steps:**

**Outcome of Executive Session**

Lesa Becker made a motion to not extend an offer on the discussed property at the currently requested price. David Croshaw seconded the motion. All members were in favor, motion passes.

**Agenda Topics for Next Meeting**

- Follow up on request for Open Meeting Law Training from the AG's Office or similar options - Inform
- Continue Regular Leadership updates – Inform
- 2025 Board Work Plan – Review and Approve
- Executive Session – 74-206(i) – discussion with Insurance Liability Carrier

**Date for December Board Meeting**

December 2024's Board Meeting will be moved to Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at Noon to avoid holding the meeting on Christmas Eve.

**Dates for 2025 Board Meeting**

Meetings of the Board will be held in 2025 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at Noon, with the exception of the December 2025 meeting, which will be held on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at Noon.

**Meeting Evaluation**

Members enjoyed the use of the new Conference room 5.

**Adjournment:** David Gough made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lesa Becker seconded this motion. All members are in favor, motion passes. Rachel Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:09pm.

DRAFT