



MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN NYE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

101 Radar Road, Tonopah, NV 89049

July 19, 2018

6:00 PM

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Chairman Eason opened the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Present: Chairman Ken Eason
Vice-Chair Cathie Clifford
Trustee Karmin Greber
Trustee Roni Link

Let the record show that Secretary / Treasurer Justin Zimmerman was absent from this meeting.

Item #1, Pledge of Allegiance.

Led by Trustee Link.

Item #2, Approval of the Agenda for October 18, 2017 (Non-action Item)

Vice Chair Cathie Clifford motioned to approve the agenda. Trustee Link offered her second. The motion passed 4-0.

Item #3, GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (Three-minute time limit per person.) Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item (first).

None.

Item #4, Announcements (first)

None

Item #5, For Possible Action – Emergency Items

Trustee Greber motioned to remove items 5 and 8 from the agenda. Trustee Link offered her second. The motion passed 3-1 with Vice Chair Cathie Clifford opposed.

Item #6, Trustees'/Liaison Comments (This item limited to topics/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas)

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Item #7, No Action – 1) Presentation by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority of their May 2018 reconciliation packages; and 2) update on the progress made regarding the implementation of services pursuant to the professional services agreements entered into on December 20th, 2017.

Jessica Thompson states Renown has hired an on-site provider for the Tonopah Telehealth Clinic, who is a Physician Assistant (PA) working under Dr. Beenfeld. The PA's weekly schedule will begin October 15, 2018 as follows:

Monday – half-day (consideration of travel from Las Vegas, where PA resides); Tuesday and Wednesday – regular clinic hours; Thursday half-day (return travel to Las Vegas)

Ms. Thompson states she is uncertain the new PA's professional skill-set, but her presence will facilitate several functions of the clinic such as prescriptions, urgent care, medications, vaccinations, etc.

Trustee Link asked about lodging arrangements for the new PA; Ms. Thompson has no information to provide.

Additionally, Ms. Thompson announces Renown has hired our new Medical Assistant Savannah Krumpton, who works at the Tonopah clinic full-time Monday through Friday.

Nurse Practitioner Carol Meyer will be in the Tonopah Clinic August 7-9, 2018 for appointments including sports physicals at \$35 per exam, and women's health exams.

As for the recent numbers, the month of May has demonstrated a decrease in Primary Care visits, which may be secondary to NP Carol Meyer being available on a more limited basis. Occupational Health visits increased in May, especially in the provision of drug screens and CDL physicals.

Trustee Clifford inquires how many companies are taking advantage of Renown Telehealth at Tonopah; Ms. Thompson is uncertain, though documents to coordinate for occupational health and referrals has been provided to local companies including Kinross RMGC, as well as, Marie Peterson who has continued medical services through the late Dr. Peterson's clinical office in Tonopah.

Chairman Eason states he is interested in meeting with Marie Peterson regarding protocols to facilitate collaboration between her office and Renown Telehealth; Ms. Thompson states Gary Beck has met with Ms. Peterson directly with the idea of future coordination.

Trustee Clifford mentions the Healthy Nevada Project which provided DNA screenings at the Renown Open House, asking how participants are to receive the results of their screen. Ms. Thompson defers to Mr. Beck for further information.

Nothing further to report from Renown; Chairman Eason calls for public comment.
No comment.

REMSA

Representative Luis Mendiola states activity numbers for month of May, including:
37 paramedic responses (responses at large: 32; response to calls originating at the clinic: 5)
18 transports (up from 8 in April)
11 Nurse Healthline (slight decrease from April)

Trustee Greber request further clarification of local utilization of the Nurse Healthline, questioning only 11 calls came in? Mr. Mendiola elaborates there were 45 calls received in-all, including:

- 2 pediatric
- 1 cardiac
- 2 obstetrics
- 2 basic life support
- 13 advanced assessment
- 9 no transport for various reasons

Note: Patient Satisfactions are provided to transport patients, and 4 have been returned with excellent comments.

Chairman Eason requests further explanation of “no transport” designation. Mr. Mendiola explains three categories for no transport:

RMA -- *Refusal of medical transport*

 Patient refuses offer of transport

AMA -- *Against medical advice*

 Patient refuses recommended transport against the advice of attending paramedic

Obvious Fatality

 Patient is confirmed to be deceased when paramedics arrive on the scene; care is turned over to a Coroner

Other community involvement for REMSA personnel and Paramedics included a notable presence during Jim Butler Days events, such as the street dance, parade, mining events, and stock car races. Additionally, REMSA sponsored the Arm Wrestling competition during the holiday weekend. Mr. Mendiola also comments on the presence of REMSA at the local Rodeo events.

Concerning the recent Rodeo in Tonopah, Trustee Link states there was a good showing for Renown & REMSA, stating also that ticket sales indicated approximately 700 competitors and spectators attended on Saturday, and 250 attended on Sunday.

Mr. Mendiola reports REMSA has participated in two meetings with Nye County Management personnel Scott Lewis regarding volunteer staffing. REMSA expects positive changes by further meeting and coordination with stakeholders including Round Mountain response personnel to assure they are response ready.

Trustee Link reports there are additional EMT's joining the local ranks, including 3 new EMT's and 2 returning to volunteer service from extended leave.

Chairman Eason asks about the meeting with Nye County representatives regarding expansion of integration with Nye County emergency services, to which Mr. Mendiola responds in the affirmative, stating he is very optimistic that continuing talks will facilitate improvements to volunteer scheduling.

Trustee Link comments on a recent joint billing meeting, concerning discrepancies with charts not being generated affecting timely and accurate county billing. Mr. Mendiola explains access to REMSA Patient Care Reporting System has been provided to Nye County personnel in order to assist the billing process. Documentation is provided at dispatch, REMSA, Nye County, and EMS.

Regarding billing and charting, 45 Patient Care Reports are to be closed, indicating progress.

In conclusion, Mr. Mendiola wishes to mention his thanks to local emergency volunteers for their tireless work. In particular, the assistance of the Nye County Sheriff's Office and the Tonopah Volunteer Fire Department have been of critical importance, going above and beyond at every opportunity. Additionally, REMSA continues to cultivate a relationship of mutual aide with Goldfield with positive results.

Trustee Link notes our local volunteers are coming through, helping current EMTs to advance their training.

Mr. Mendiola affirms REMSA is committed to Northern Nye County. There is still much to do, but he is personally very pleased with the progress being made. He feels good things are to come.

Chairman Eason requests an ETA for Community Paramedics to be doing clinicals vs. ride-alongs. Mr. Mendiola responds once the newly-hired Renown PA is on-site for chronic care, community paramedicine will increase. REMSA will attend the upcoming Services Fair on July 27th, 2018 at the Tonopah Station to continue momentum of community involvement. He suggests it will be 2-3 months to align with community paramedicine.

Chairman Eason opens the floor for public comment; no comment.

Item #8, No Action – Presentation of the winner of the Northern Nye County Hospital District’s logo contest.

Removed.

Item #9, No Action – Update on Nye County Emergency Services integration with Regional Emergency Services Authority.

Chairman Eason states no update has been provided, due to the absence of any Nye County EMS representative. This item will be agendaized for our next regular meeting.

Item #10, No Action – Update on development plans for a medical center in Tonopah.

Chairman Eason states apparently no update is available at this time. This item will be agendaized for our next regular meeting.

Trustee Link comments she has met Goldfield residents who are skilled medical professionals experienced and licensed in phlebotomy, dermatology, cardiology, and psychology which express interest in practicing in Tonopah.

Trustee Clifford questions if these interested parties have been introduced directly to Renown for consideration, to which Trustee Link responds “not yet”.

Chairman Eason notes the interest is there, as each member of our Board of Trustees has observed. Trustee Link also notes she has been in communication with recruiting personnel from G and G Home Healthcare experienced in securing home care for Medicare, TriCare, and VA patients. She is able to provide contact information for this staffing assistant.

Chairman Eason suggests we revisit this at our next regular meeting, to review concept of using the existing facility for other medical professionals in addition to Renown.

Item #11, For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation toward recruiting an administrative assistant and outlining their duties.

Chairman Eason calls for input on the qualifications and job description for hiring or contracting an administrative assistant. He feels we asked too much the first time around, and a simplified general job description is in order, to include recording and delivering our meeting minutes, correspondence with

stakeholders, and to help advance our efforts to facilitate the provision of medical services in our area. He suggests we may consider part-time or full-time employee.

Trustee Clifford suggests getting details of Trustee Zimmerman's efforts to map the new position. She further suggests we compile our ideas and request a review with our lawyer. Chairman Eason mentions questions of appropriate salary must be considered, and suggests a review with Nye County HR for protocol.

Motion to move forward with outline of administrative support personnel duties, qualifications, and recruiting procedures.

Trustee Link

Second

Trustee Clifford

None opposed; motion passes.

Item #12, For Possible Action – Approval of invoices for payment.

Motion to approve

Trustee Clifford

Second

Trustee Link

None opposed; invoices paid as requested.

Item #13, No Action – Update on the current status of the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget.

No comments this month. Questions should be directed to Savannah Rucker.

Item #14, For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation of the minutes from the May 21, 2018 meeting and the June 21, 2018 meeting.

Motion to approve respective minutes from regular meetings of May 21, 2018 and June 21, 2018

Trustee Link

Second

Cathie Clifford

None opposed; minutes accepted.

Item #15, No Action – Open Meeting Law Review.

No comments or announcements.

Item #16, No Action – Update on the status of the United States Trustee contract to secure and distribute the medical records currently housed on the medical campus.

Trustee Clifford states VPCOS has received 53 requests for records, of which 40 have been recovered and delivered. CPSI is to get a list of active patients, and opportunity for records will be provided based on this information via mailers. Individuals who had formerly requested their medical records via Nye County Administration are being handled by Ms. Jo Marie Eason.

Chairman Eason notes for the record Trustee Clifford is processing the medical records recovery for VPCOS as a private employee, not a representative of the Northern Nye County Hospital District Board of Trustees.

Item #17, For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to set the next meeting location, time and date.

Motion to set next regular meeting for Thursday August 16, 2018 at 6pm in the Nye County Commissioners Chambers
Trustee Link
Second
Trustee Clifford
None opposed; motion passes.

Item #18, General Public Comment (second)

Horace Carlyle makes mention of the County fiscal year dates of June 30 to July 1, which in his opinion is to increase potential for taxing revenue. He suggests this Board carefully monitor expenditures for sustainability. He feels we have a good foundation with Renown and REMSA, and warns against over-committing financially.

Trustee Link introduced Ms. Donna Rae Watson, whom she invited to attend the meeting tonight, also inviting her to take the microphone during this public comment period. Ms. Watson explains how she and Trustee Link met, detailing her interest in resettling in Goldfield, Nevada, demonstrated by her recent purchase of the Goldfield Elks Lodge and various other buildings for development. Her husband is a licensed Dermatologist practicing formerly in California and Arizona, and is interested in the notion of a part-time practice in Nevada. There are other skilled medical professionals of her acquaintance which may be similarly interested.

Item #19, Announcements (second)

None.

Item #20, Adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18PM.

ADJOURN

Approved this 16th day of August 2018.



Chair