

Orcas Island Health Care District
Board of Commissioners - REGULAR Meeting Minutes
REMOTE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, June 2, 2020
5:00 – 7:00 pm

Commissioners Present (via Zoom):

Art Lange
Diane Boteler
Patricia Miller, Secretary
Pegi Groundwater
Richard Fralick, President

Staff (via Zoom):

Anne Presson, Superintendent
Pat Hunt, Project Mgmt. Consultant

Commissioners Absent:

None

I. Call to Order

President Fralick called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm. The Board continues to operate under the Governor's Emergency Declaration and OPMA amendment that was set to expire on May 31st and was extended until June 17th. While restrictions remain on holding public meetings, one notable change in the extension is the removal of the "routine and necessary" restriction on business being conducted. The information was received too late to impact this meeting; however, the Board will be able to return to a more robust Agenda at the June 16th meeting. The meeting will continue to be held remotely.

II. Public Comment

Following an oral public comment, Superintendent Presson read two additional public comments that were submitted via email per the temporary policy to accommodate the virtual meeting format.

Name: Bill Bangs - Agenda Items: III.a. (Meeting Minutes) and V.b. (Evaluation Criteria)

In section VI of the minutes for the meeting of May 19, 2020, it was stated that "There was agreement that it's not the role of the Board to micromanage the Clinic operator; however, there were varying opinions as to the balance between advice and consent versus having veto power around key decisions and/or hiring."

I am unclear about the distinctions being made. "Advice and Consent" is how the Constitution balances the power of the President by giving the Senate effective veto power over treaties and judicial appointments. That is, Advice and Consent is essentially the same as having veto power over key decisions and hiring. If you choose to insist on something less than veto power over staffing and operations, what level of influence are you contemplating? Will the contract specify performance metrics that reflect the values and goals of the district? Can the subsidy be tied to performance satisfaction? And what other "influence" does board wish to yield?

These are critical issues as indicated by Evaluation Criterion no. 2 of the RFP: "Level of local influence contemplated in decision making." This is partially addressed by Question 8 of the RFP which asks for "Discussion of how you envision interacting with the District Commissioners, Superintendent, and the Orcas community. Specifically address areas where you expect to share decision-making (e.g. strategy, staffing, services, etc.) and/or seek local feedback."

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*My over-arching question today for the commissioners is “**what is your vision for local influence in clinic affairs and how do you desire to share decision-making?**” Perhaps your answer will be made clear as you discuss the Evaluation Criteria and how they should be scored.*

In summary, does the Board wish to enter into a performance-based contract with an operator whose subsidy will be at least partially determined by mutually agreeable and documented metrics of how well the medical services are being provided? Does the Board wish to act as the de facto board of directors of the clinic operator with authority to control the hiring and firing of key personnel? Are there specific decisions regarding clinic operations that the Board wishes to control? If so, what are they?

Name: Dr. Shu (read by Superintendent Presson) – Agenda Item RFP 2020-03

The District’s Request For Proposals (RFP) is overdue. The RFP’s timeline should not be postponed.

The UW Virology Laboratory at UW Medicine’s Department of Laboratory Medicine is funded by NIH and the State of Washington. As part of its binding agreement with the funding agencies, it is OBLIGATED to “SHARE” its valuable laboratory resources and expertise with health care organizations other than UW and is committed to offer the necessary tests to any health care organizations in need.

As of today, 119,422 patients have undergone a PCR test for COVID-19 at the UW Virology Laboratory. Greater than 90% of the testing volume has been performed for patients of health care organizations in the state of Washington. This tells us that UW Virology has fulfilled its obligation to share resources and offer COVID-19 tests to any health care organizations regardless whether they’re related to UWNC.

Therefore, the RFP’s timeline does not need to be modified due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The RFP’s timeline should not be postponed. I am appreciative of your consideration.

Name: Leif (Read by Superintendent Presson) – Agenda Item RFP 2020-03

Upon reading the materials for this meeting and in recollection of previous comments primarily by Art, my main question at this point is that:

*~since the Medical Home Model as outlined by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ),
~founded on the seminal research by the Institute of Medicine into the crisis of safety, cost and quality in the American healthcare system into the 21st Century,
~will be the basis for the new Orcas healthcare model and thus negotiations with potential partners,*

WHAT are your plans for educating this community about these key principles so that they might participate actively in the process, and thus support you in your negotiations and future dealings with that entity.

thank you.

III. Consent Agenda

The Consent Agenda contained the May, 19 Regular Board Meeting Minutes and a May 25, 2020 AP Voucher report in the amount of \$3,273,88.

MOVED by Commissioner Groundwater, seconded by Commissioner Miller to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. No further discussion. VOTE 5:0:0. MOTION CARRIED.

IV. Clinical Operations During COVID

Now that the Clinics are starting to return to some degree of normal operations, Superintendent Presson asked the Commissioners to submit feedback as to what they would like each of the practices to report on every month. It was decided that each practice would only report every other meeting instead of each meeting. Superintendent Presson also reported on a recent article she worked on with the County's Public Information Officer to encourage patients to return to their respective providers for needed care. It reinforced that all of the providers in the County were open and able to safely treat patients. She will work with the practices to continue to support communication efforts to encourage people to see care. Commissioner Boteler said she would like to continue to see what the balance is of visits being performed via telehealth versus in person, and perhaps include that information in future communication.

V. Medical Clinic Operator RFP

- a. **RFP Responses** - Superintendent Presson provided an overview of how things were progressing with the RFP process. She reported there have been no changes in which organizations she expects to receive proposals, which include Island Hospital and OFHC. She shared a letter that was received from Island Hospital, asking for a one-week extension on the RFP deadline. Their PHD Board meeting is scheduled for June 24th and the CEO would like to get final sign off from his Board before submitting the proposal response. She also reported that she reached out to PeaceHealth to ask if the RFP deadline were extended if that would impact their interest/ability to respond. She has yet to receive a reply.

President Fralick shared an update from UW based on conversations he's had with Debra Gussin, Executive Director for UW Neighborhood Clinics. As a follow-up to Debra's initial response, President Fralick asked if the RFP deadline were extended would UW be able/interested in responding. Debra responded that even if the RFP deadline were extended a year it's likely UW's response would be the same as today.

Commissioner Lange asked for clarification on the sentence that read "We are happy to continue managing the clinic under our current practice model, with an agreement that provides funding for any losses incurred..." contained in Debra's letter of May 25th. Richard indicated that he was also unclear if that meant UW was seeking a revision to the current CSA, and he is scheduling a call with Debra to get further clarification.

MOVED by Commissioner Miller, seconded by Commissioner Lange to agree to extend the RFP response deadline by at least one week, and up to three weeks if that would result in additional proposal being received. No further discussion. VOTE 5:0:0. MOTION CARRIED.

- b. **Evaluation Criteria** – The Board review an initial draft of the proposed scoring worksheet. Discussion continued around the format, criteria, and process of scoring the responses to the RFP. They debated whether all categories should be equally weighted, and whether individual Commissioners can decide what weight to place on each question rather than having it be standardized. President Fralick asked Commissioners to send feedback to Pat Hunt, the District's consultant, and she will bring an updated version to the next Regular Board meeting.
- c. **Communication Plan** – President Fralick set the stage as to the earliest the County might move to Phase 3 of re-opening, which could allow for the possibility of public meetings. He asked the Committee to factor the limitations into their thinking because of the limitations on the numbers that can attend public gatherings. In the past, the Town Halls have attracted over 100

people, and that size cannot be accommodated until Phase 4. Commissioner Groundwater also cautioned that it's possible to go back a Phase if there are cases along the way. Commissioner Boteler felt it would be prudent to take the most conservative approach to in person meetings. Even if the County does move into Phase 3 or 4, the restrictions are different for high risk groups. Even if the Board is able to hold in person meetings, she recommends including a virtual component to accommodate the high-risk groups, which are significant on Orcas.

Commissioner Lange walked the Board through an initial communication plan. Discussion was held as to the best way to handle questions from participants when there is a large, virtual meeting. There was also discussion about recording a presentation and allowing people to watch that before hosting a Zoom Town Hall where the community could ask questions. There was discussion around the timing of the meetings, and Commissioner Miller asked that a calendar be created to show the Regular Board meetings, RFP Timeline, Special Meetings/Town Halls, and release of articles. There was consensus of the Board that it's important the community be well informed throughout the evaluation and decision-making process, and that meetings are scheduled in a way that allows the community to provide feedback and input.

The Communication Committee agreed to revisit the communication timeline based on the discussion and will bring an updated version to the next Board meeting. They also shared an initial draft of the first article and asked that Commissioners provide feedback by Monday, June 8th. Finally, they shared a list of questions that they feel the community is asking or will be asking. They asked that feedback be sent to Commissioner Boteler or Lange.

VI. Committee and Work Group Reports

- a. **Building/Equipment Committee** – Commissioner Groundwater reported that there were two bids received on the HVAC RFP. The low bid was \$300,000 not including some additions. The other bid was \$500,000. When taken with the roof bids already received, the combination of the two with an unconditioned attic is \$400,000. If the Board goes with the more expensive roof material and the option to condition the attic space, the cost increases to \$526,000 plus some additional unquantified expenses.

The Committee is working with Sustainable Connections to see the value of the energy savings by going with the conditioned attic approach. They are also looking at possible energy rebates. More details will be shared at the next Board meeting on the total package. At that time, the Committee will likely be asking the Board to make a final decision on materials and scope so contracts can be finalized with both contractors.

- b. **Finance Committee** – Commissioner Miller reported that she'll be talking with WAFed to see what options might be available in increasing the exiting General Obligation bond. She also provided a brief report on UW Medicine's FY '20 financials and associated shortfall. After booking April's numbers, UW has allocated \$667,000 in subsidy out of the \$683,000 maximum subsidy for the current fiscal year. As a result, there is only \$16,000 left for May and June. UWNC did receive PPP funds, and has allocated \$120,000 to the Orcas clinic. That covers most of the non-provider salaries; however, providers are employed by a different entity that isn't eligible for PPP. The estimated shortfall is \$85,000 after applying the PPP funds.

Mark Bresnick from UWNC reported that May visits were up approximately 12% from April, and that will have a bit of a positive impact. They will continue to encourage patients to come

in for care and are opening up additional telehealth visits. Commissioner Miller shared that UWNC had asked if the District would fund any of the shortfall. She explained the District is not able to do so and wanted to report it was requested.

Finally, discussion was held around developing a new financial modeling tool that will allow for more flexibility than the initial tool. Commissioner Miller would like the Board to be able to use different scenarios to see the impact on the levy rate. She would like to work with Bruce Rylander, who is on the Finance Committee and helped develop the original model. She thought he would need about 20-30 hours, and his rate is \$80/hour to develop the basic model. She would also like to get a work group together with Bruce, Superintendent Presson and Pat Hunt to discuss what would be needed and who would need to be included to develop a model to estimate the cost should the District build and own a clinic.

MOVED by Commissioner Boteler, seconded by Commissioner Lange to authorize up to \$2,000 for Bruce Rylander to create an updated financial model for the District. No further discussion. VOTE 5:0:0. MOTION CARRIED.

Commissioner Lange will be contacting Orcas Island Community Foundation to get a status of the Lundeen Endowment and possibility of funds being allocated to the District. Superintendent Presson was also directed to contact the County to see when applications for specific grants will become available. This included the LTAC and .09 funds.

VII. Old Business

Commissioners Miller and Groundwater are still working on the template Clinical Services Agreement (CSA). They will bring a draft to the next Board meeting.

VIII. New Business

There was no New Business to discuss at this time.

IX. Operations Report

Superintendent Presson shared the OIHCD SharePoint file structure and discussion was held as to the best way to ensure all of the Commissioners are comfortable with the technology. Superintendent Presson will follow-up with each Commissioner individually to determine their needs. She also encouraged use of the NW Technology Help Desk.

X. Public Comment

Superintendent Presson read comments contained in the Chat.

XI. Upcoming Meetings

A list of upcoming meetings was included on the Agenda. The next Regular Meeting of the OIHCD is scheduled for June 16th and will continue to be conducted via Zoom. President Fralick indicated that in addition to the two Regular Board meetings, there are also two Special Meetings scheduled in July.

XII. Meeting adjournment

MOVED by Commissioner Groundwater, seconded by Commissioner Boteler to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 pm. VOTE 5:0:0. MOTION CARRIED.

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Minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2020.

DocuSigned by:



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6/21/2020

Attest: Patricia Miller, OIHCD Board Secretary