



REGULAR MEETING MINUTES LAST FRONTIER HEALTHCARE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Thursday March 27, 2025, at 3:30 pm
City Council Chambers; Alturas City Hall; Alturas, California**

Directors present: **Carol Madison, Rose Boulade, Mike Mason, Paul Dolby, Keith Weber**
Directors absent:
Staff in attendance: **Kevin Kramer, CEO; Edward Johnson, CNO; Adam Willoughby, COO; Amber Vucina, CHRO; Jin Lin, Finance Director**
Staff absent: **Denise King, LFHD Clerk**

CALL TO ORDER

Carol Madison, Chair, called the meeting of the Last Frontier Healthcare District (LFHD) Board of Directors (Board) to order at 3:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the City Council Chambers, 200 W North St, in Alturas, California.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

2. AGENDA – Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

Paul Dolby moved that the agenda be approved as presented, **Rose Boulade** seconded, and the motion carried with all present voting “aye.”

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

An individual of the public attended to ask questions regarding dialysis services, mobile MRI and mobile Mammograms.

4. VERBAL REPORTS

A) K. Kramer – CEO Report to the Board

SNF Project

- Received details on Amendment 5 Change Order. Have not had a chance to go through the backup. Change order is for \$245,000, but we will go through backup first to figure out if it is something that is justified or that we can approve.
- USDA has said we can use the grant for equipment procured for the SNF. We can also add a generator for the hospital, which we intend to do to use up the rest of the grant funds.
- No update on grant application for full geothermal reinjection well project. The school district does have a contractor engaged to evaluate/test the current AL-1 well at the high school to see if it could be repurposed as a reinjection well.
- CMS has not responded to our request to keep the old SNF open. They are reconsidering their initial decision, and at this point, this has been elevated to the Baltimore office for a decision.
- Over the last couple of weeks we have received over \$500k in change orders pertaining to a lot of work that has already been completed and that had no supporting documentation authorizing expenditure of these funds. We are in discussions with Swinerton about this right now and I have made an initial proposal back to them to only pay for portions of the work that have not already been completed, since we are just now getting pricing on these items after they had already initiated work on them. Will keep board apprised of how negotiations go on this and these will come to the Board for approval after all negotiations are final if we are able to reach middle ground on these.

340B Compliance

- Letters were all sent to Drug Manufacturers and we have received some reimbursement requests back from some of them. To date we have paid out about \$13,500.00 in claims and continue to receive more

claims from drug manufacturers each week. Will keep the Board updated as this progresses further and we approve additional claims payment.

MRI Services

- Heritage mobile unit is in Fall River right now, waiting to be licensed so we can use it. Probably another month or two out from being able to utilize this service again.
- BBK is still working on the agreement that would exist between all five facilities in our region that want to buy and use a jointly owned MRI unit in a couple of years. This work is still underway.

Ambulance Data Reporting

- I am still trying to finalize our reporting for this to CMS so we can avoid the 10% penalty in our reimbursements for not complying with the reporting requirements.

Quality Program Revamp

- Process has begun to revamp the quality program. We will likely land on a program that is more project based and that focuses on fewer indicators and initiatives in hopes that we can get more engagement out of our staff and make some better gains with quality initiatives at Modoc Medical Center.

Other Items

- Federal Medicaid cuts could impact us, depending on what they end up doing. Will keep you posted on how this progresses as we move forward. Lot of advocacy efforts right now are focused on trying to limit cuts made to Medicaid program at the federal level.
- ERC Funding-COVID-Jin is working with a vendor to see if we might qualify through a stipulation regarding utilization going down. This is a contingency-based firm and they will be paid 15% of whatever our claim is to the IRS if we qualify. If we don't receive the money, if the IRS recoups the money, or if our claim/application is denied they will refund us that money back.

B.) E. Johnson – CNO Report to the Board

Warnerview

- Currently at a 4-star CMS rating.
- Census is currently at 45.
- We have CDPH here on a complaint visit. We received a deficiency for not reporting an incident with a resident with an unknown bruise to her breast area. The Plan of Correction has been completed and accepted by CDPH.

Acute

- Census is at three today – we have been running a daily census of three patients.

C.) J. Lin – Finance Director Report to the Board

Accounting

- We are starting to prepare the budget for FYE 2026, hopefully it will be finished by the end of May.
- We are still looking for a Controller.
- AP and Payroll are functioning well.

Office Workers

- We just hired two office workers. They are getting trained in different departments.

Purchasing

- The purchasing department has started getting very busy with orders for the New SNF.

D.) A. Vucina – CHRO Report to the Board

Permanent/Travel Staff

- We currently have 279 total staff – up by 7 since last month.
- We have a total of 22 travelers both Acute and SNF – no change.

Compliance

- Performance Evaluations 81% compliant
- TB 92% compliant
- Physicals 95% compliant

Customer Service Training

- Remaining staff (approximately 200) will complete a Customer Service training in April.

Mountain View Staff Orientation

- Committee is being created to plan and execute the orientation for all staff to attend in June to be oriented to the new skilled nursing facility building.

Union MOU Negotiations

- MOU term ends 6/30/25.
- Negotiations have begun and any approved changes will be brought before the board once negotiations are complete.

E.) A. Willoughby – COO Report to the Board

Revenue Cycle

- Brought in \$2.55 million in payments last month. Our Medicare cost report settlements have concluded. Medicare across the board is still taking up to 45 days to process claims. Almost all of our high-level metrics were moving in the right direction at month end so we're looking good there and we'll see how March shakes out.
- We are in the middle of our chargemaster review and price transparency project in conjunction with CorroHealth. They are currently reviewing our chargemaster and setting up the CMS-mandated price transparency components that we are required to have on our website. We just reviewed the patient estimator tool in our bi-weekly call today that we are going to be rolling out in the next few weeks.
- We are also working on the setup/finalization of the setup for Enhanced Care Management billing. We do have 18 patients enrolled in that program.

Clinics

- In Alturas, Ryan Ciantar is now seeing patients, which will free Ruth up for more Hospitalist coverage on the acute side. Wendy will start in Alturas on Monday 4/1 as Miriam has now started seeing patients in Canby. On the dental front, we still have Dr. Licauco slated to start next week as our full-time dentist. Our Dental Coordinator departed us so we are backfilling that position and luckily had an office worker, Logan, training in that position for a little bit so he has been covering that position while we are backfilling it. The R1 team has made great strides with the dental AR backlog and has reduced the Medi-Cal AR from \$1.3 million to about \$250k, which is amazing.
- Julie, Jon and I are going to start looking at our CGCAHPS scores and seeing what we can do to improve on those.
- We just had another meeting with PHP about their clinic QIP program measures and we're excited to have a full-time manager in each clinic starting the year as we should be able to meet the measures they have set for us with concerted effort being put in on both sides.

Maintenance

- Marty, in conjunction with multiple disciplines, just coordinated and completed multiple panel shutdowns in the main hospital, as there was tie-in work that needed to be done for the current new SNF/HA project over this past weekend. This shutdown went smoothly.

New SNF and HA

- All the equipment that is in my purview to procure has now been ordered, which is a huge relief to me (unless we need to order a ¼ height Omnicell unit). One of the last orders to be placed was for the TVs, which has been completed and we were able to get these orders soon enough to avoid tariffs and a 25% increase on that order. I do still have some privacy curtains, shower curtains, and outdoor furniture to order as these items were just added to my scope.
- Swinerton is 22 days behind the contract schedule which brings Substantial Completion to April 29th, Completion of Construction Work to May 25th, and Project Final Completion date to June 25th. They are currently working on flooring and painting activities, which is always an indicator that they are getting closer to completion.
- We just had our second round of transition planning meetings, first round of onsite meetings, and those went really well with a lot of action items being identified. The current resident move day is Tuesday July 15th. We made a tentative decision to proceed with transition planning as if Warnerview is going to close as we have not heard back from CMS regarding their decision to let us keep it open. We do have contingency plans in place just in case CMS does give us approval to keep Warnerview open.

G.) Board Member Reports

- **Carol Madison** – Trying to convince a spine surgeon to pick up some shifts in our area.
- **Paul Dolby** – Nothing to report.
- **Mike Mason** – Nothing to report.
- **Rose Boulade** – Attended the Finance Committee Meeting.
- **Keith Weber** – Nothing to report.

5. DISCUSSION

REGULAR SESSION

6. CONSENT AGENDA - Items under the Consent Agenda heading do not require discussion before a vote. If discussion is needed, that item needs to be moved to the Consideration/Action part of the Agenda where discussion is allowed.

A.) D. King - Adoption of LFHD Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2025

B.) T. Ryan - Medical Staff Committee Meeting Minutes – February 26, 2025

- **Medical Staff Committee Meeting Minutes – January 29, 2025**
- **Pathology Report – No Report.**

C.) E. Johnson – Policy and Procedures

- **Accounting**
- **Emergency Department**

Keith Weber moved that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented, **Rose Boulade** seconded, and the motion carried with all present voting “aye.”

6. CONSIDERATION/ACTION

A.) K. Kramer – Swinerton Change Order #09

Kevin Kramer reviewed Swinerton Change Order #9 with the Board and asked for any questions. **Paul Dolby** moved to approve Swinerton Change Order #09, **Rose Boulade** seconded, and the motion carried with all voting “aye.”

B.) J. Lin – February 2025 LFHD Financial Statement (unaudited)

Jin Lin, Finance Director presented the February 2025 LFHD Financial Statement provided in the Board meeting packet and answered the questions the Board had. **Rose Boulade** moved to accept the February 2025 LFHD Financial Statement as presented, **Keith Weber** seconded, and the motion carried with all present voting “aye.”

C.) K. Kramer – Kramer Contract Amendment

Kevin Kramer discussed the contract amendment as presented in the Board Packet with the Board and answered questions the Board had. **Paul Dolby** moved to approve the Kramer Contract Amendment, and **Rose Boulade** seconded, and the motion carried with all present voting “aye.”

D.) K. Kramer – Dr. Edward Richert Professional Services Agreement 2025-2026

Kevin Kramer reviewed the provisions of Dr. Richert’s contract with the Board as presented in the Board packet and answered questions the Board had. **Rose Boulade** moved to approve the Dr. Edward Richert Professional Services Agreement 2025-2026, and **Paul Dolby** seconded, with all present voting “aye.”

Rose Boulade moved to close the Regular Session of the Board of Directors, **Keith Weber** seconded, and the motion carried with all voting “aye.”

The Regular Session of the Last Frontier Healthcare District Board of Directors was adjourned at 4:29 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session was called to order by **Carol Madison, Chair**, at 4:29 pm.

7. CONSIDERATION / ACTION

A.) T. Ryan – Medical Executive Committee Minutes & Credentialing Items –February 26, 2025– (Per Evidence Code 1157).

- **Medical Executive Committee Minutes & Credentialing Items OPPE 2019B – January 29, 2025.**

Based upon character, competence, training, experience and judgment, favorable recommendation by peers and credentialing criteria fulfillments, the Medical Executive Committee recommended the following appointments for Last Frontier Healthcare District Board of Directors’ acceptance:

- **Terisa Chantele Sahli Stover, PA-C** – Recommending reappointment of Allied Health status/privileges in the Emergency Medicine category.
- **Cecile Licauco, DDS** – Recommending appointment of Provisional privileges in the Dental category.
- **Kristi Schoeld, MD** – Recommending reappointment of Limited Active privileges in the Emergency Medicine category.

- **Zachary Self, MD** - Recommending reappointment of Limited Active privileges in the Emergency Medicine category.

Paul Dolby moved to close the Executive Session and resume the Regular Session of the LFHD Board of Director's meeting, **Rose Boulade** seconded, and the motion carried with all voting "aye."

The Executive Session of the Board of Directors was adjourned at 4:37 pm.

RESUME REGULAR SESSION

The Regular Session of the Board of Directors was called back to session by **Carol Madison, Chair**, at 4:38 pm.

8. CONSIDERATION / ACTION

A.) T. Ryan – Medical Executive Committee Minutes & Credentialing Items – February 26, 2025

(Per Evidence Code 1157)

- **Medical Executive Committee Minutes & Credentialing Items OPPE 2019B –January 29, 2025**

Paul Dolby moved to approve and accept Minutes, Credentialing, and Privileging items as outlined above, **Keith Weber** seconded, and the motion carried with all members voting "aye."

11.) MOTION TO ADJOURN

Rose Boulade moved to adjourn the meeting of the Last Frontier Healthcare District Board of Directors at 4:38 pm, **Keith Weber** seconded, and the motion carried with all present voting "aye."

The next meeting of the Last Frontier Healthcare District's Board of Directors will be held on April 24, 2025 at 3:30 pm in the Alturas City Council Chambers, City Hall in Alturas, California.

Respectfully Submitted:



Denise R. King

Last Frontier Healthcare District Clerk



3/27/25