

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**June 25, 2024**

**12:00pm**

**Elephant Butte Lake RV Resort  
Event Center**

1. The Governing Board of Sierra Vista Hospital met June 25, 2024, at 12:00 pm at Elephant Butte Lake RV Resort Event Center for a regular meeting. Bruce Swingle, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:07.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Roll Call**

**GOVERNING BOARD -----**

**SIERRA COUNTY**

Kathi Pape, **Vice Chair** – Present  
Serina Bartoo, Member – Present  
Shawnee R. Williams, Member – Present

**ELEPHANT BUTTE**

Katharine Elverum, Member – Present  
Richard Holcomb, Member- Present

**CITY OF T O R C**

Bruce Swingle, **Chairperson** – Present  
Jesus Baray, Member- Present  
Greg D’Amour, Member- Absent

**EX-OFFICIO**

Amanda Cardona, Clerk VofW- Present  
Janet Porter-Carrejo, City Manager EB, Absent  
Amber Vaughn, County Manager- Absent  
Angie Gonzales, City Manager- Absent  
Jim Paxson, JPC Chairperson, Present

**VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSBURG**

Amanda Cardona, Interim- Present

**STAFF**

Frank Corcoran, CEO- Present  
Ming Huang, CFO- Present  
Sheila Adams, CNO- Present  
LJ Baker, HR Director- Present  
Heather Johnson, HIM Mgr.- Present  
Zach Heard, Operations Manager, Present  
Lisa Boston, Interim Consultant, Present

**Guest:**

David Perry, QHR – Present  
Erika Sundrud, QHR – Present by phone

There is a quorum.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

Bruce Swingle, Chairperson

Kathi Pape motioned to approve the agenda. Katharine Elverum seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**“Are there any items on this agenda that could cause a potential conflict of interest by any Governing Board Member?”** None

**5. Approval of minutes**

**A. May 28, 2024 Regular meeting minutes**

Kathi Pape motioned to approve the May 28, 2024 minutes. Serina Bartoo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Public Input** – Dr. Walker handed out his business card to all board members and invited them to utilize his resources to keep the surgical momentum going.

**7. Old Business-**

**A. Governing Board Bylaw Revisions** - Bylaws Committee. Katharine Elverum stated that legal has reviewed the revisions made to the bylaws. Discussion was held regarding 2.5 Compensation, 2.6 Management and General Powers (f) and (o).

Jesus Baray motioned to approve the revisions to the bylaws. Kathi Pape seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**B. Board Member Code of Conduct** - Bylaws Committee.

1. Code of Conduct Policy Revision - Tabled

**8. New Business-**

None

**9. Finance Committee- Kathi Pape, Chairperson**

**A. May Financial Report** - Ming Huang, CFO, directed board members to page FC4. We had 68 days cash on hand at the end of May which is equal to \$6,524,468. Accounts receivable net days were 68 and accounts payable days were 28. The net loss for May was (\$30,267) versus a budget net loss of (\$305,685).

Gross revenue was \$6,681,638 which is \$1,286,348 more than budget. Patient days were 126, 53 more than April. RHC visits were 855, 17 less than April and ER visits were 780, 87 more than April. Revenue deductions were \$3,776,418. Other operating revenue was \$303,334 which includes pharmacy 340B income of \$201,683. Non-operating revenue was \$234,113. Hospital operating expenses for May were \$3,055,987. Salaries were over budget by \$63,530.

EBITDA for May was \$394,181 versus a budget of \$111,566. Year to date EBITDA is \$783,655 versus a budget of \$1,209,236. The bond coverage ratio was -17% versus an expected ratio of 130%.

David Perry stated that we are at \$8 million in billing for June so far and it will likely reach \$9.75 million by the end of the month. We are catching up with the billing and the issues with Cerner. We expect to convert this billing to cash in the amount of \$4.5 to \$5 million by the end of July. This will make up for the slow months and get our days cash on hand back up to where it should be. Operations have been good and consistent; billing and collections is starting to catch up.

Kathi Pape pointed out that our gross patient revenue was \$6.7 million in May which is the highest it's ever been.

Kathi Pape motioned based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, acceptance of the May financial report. Serina Bartoo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**10. Board Quality- Shawnee Williams**

**A. Med Staff –**

No Open Session Reports

**11. Administrative Reports**

**A. Human Resources** - LJ Baker, HR Director. We have made significant strides in filling positions. There were three new hires in May: two in the radiology department. Nurses and CNAs remain a challenge for us. Contract staff remains stable. Key initiatives include behavioral health services capability, paid internship program and political outreach.

LJ presented a draft of the scholarship programs for SVH staff and HSHS graduates. These programs are in the development stage at this time.

We put a donation box in our front lobby for the victims/ evacuees and fire fighters of the Ruidoso fires. Our EMS is making the first delivery today.

**B. Nursing Services** - Sheila Adams, CNO. We will have the capability to increase sleep studies to four days per week which equals eight patients per week with the addition of our new tech. Our trauma survey is still scheduled for July, and we received our trauma grant in the amount of \$58,887. Our EMS and Community EMS are doing very well. Surgery will resume when we have anesthesia in place. We continue to work on our CNA program and await approval from the state.

**C. CEO Report** - Frank Corcoran, CEO, reported that Dr. Andres Diocares will be joining us in August. Our behavioral health nurse practitioners will be seeing patients at the VA one day per week. As David reported earlier, we are improving with Cerner and our DNFB, which are bills that have not been sent out yet. The amount has come down from \$4 million to \$1.7 million as of last week. Normally, the daily amount is around \$1.2 million. We will start seeing the cash come back in. We meet everyday to review the DNFB and make sure that we are getting claims out the door for collections.

Med-Malpractice and the Anesthesia group will be discussed in closed session.

The strategic planning meeting held in Taos June 12-14 focused on lobbying for med-malpractice legislation reform, lobbying against nurse patient ratios and lobbying to change the mergers and acquisitions act which went into law for 1-year last session.

SB 17 is now called HDAA and is currently in the approval process with CMS. SB 161 provides \$2.7 million over the next two years in direct funds to SVH. The state is contracting with a third party to administer the funds and monitor the project. The law goes into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

We will be conducting a mock Joint Commission survey with Ovation in September or October.

**D. Governing Board** - Bruce Swingle, Chairperson, presented to Richard Holcomb his framed certificate of completion of Board Essentials 101.

Bruce shared his experience and thoughts on the strategic planning/ Board Education event in Taos. Our pro-healthcare legislators stated that the challenges that we face are two-fold with respect to the high cost of insurance. One, when a healthcare facility “messes up” they want the hospital to pay for it. If you harm somebody there were reasonable damages available. With the change in legislation those damages increased significantly. Second, the legislators don’t believe that we are having a hard time getting insurance. They don’t believe that healthcare facilities are having a hard time and that the cost has gone up that much. Last year we reached out to 19 companies and received one quote. This year we reached out to 22 companies, and we received one quote.

The nurse patient ratio legislation is clearly unions pushing their agenda.

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Regarding mergers and acquisitions, the superintendent of insurance has no expertise in healthcare. This is way beyond the scope of what that office is chartered to do. Mergers and acquisitions will create barriers with companies that want to come to New Mexico.

Officer elections will be held at the regular/ annual meeting in July.

**Motion to Close Meeting:**

Kathi Elverum motioned to close the meeting to discuss the following items. Kathi Pape seconded.

**12. Executive Session – In accordance with Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Chapter 10, Article 15, Section 10-15-1 (H) 2,7,9 including credentialing under NM Review Organization Immunity Act, NMSA Section 41-2E (8) and 41-9-5 the Governing Board will vote to close the meeting to discuss the following items:**

**Order of business to be determined by Chairperson:**

**10-15-1(H) 2 – Limited Personnel Matters**

- |                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| A. Anesthesia Contract    | Frank Corcoran |
| B. Pulmonologist Contract | Frank Corcoran |
| C. Privileges             | Frank Corcoran |

**Temporary to Provisional-**

Matthew Peters, CNP (Hospitalist)  
Howard Ng, MD (ESS)

**Initial Delegated RadPartners-**

Kailash Sundareshan Amruthur, MD  
Jorge Alberto Ramirez, MD

**RadPartners Delegated Reappointment-**

Sunthosh P. Madireddi, MD  
Tony Yeaung Maung, MD

**Terms-**

Angela Fietze, CRNA  
Cassandra Groves, CRNA  
Brian Evans, MD RadPartners  
Pejman Firouztale, MD RadPartners

**10-15-1 (H) 7 – Attorney Client Privilege/ Pending Litigation**

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. Risk Report | Heather Johnson |
|----------------|-----------------|

**10-15-1 (H) 9 – Public Hospital Board Meetings- Strategic and long-range business plans**

- |  |                |
|--|----------------|
| A. General Insurance Package including Medical Malpractice | Frank Corcoran |
| B. Master Facility Plan Update                             | Frank Corcoran |
| C. Board Education   | Lisa Boston    |
| D. Ovation Report to Board                                 | Erika Sundrud  |

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Roll Call vote to Close Meeting:**

Kathi Pape – Y	Shawnee Williams – Y	Bruce Swingle – Y
Amanda Cardona (interim) – Y	Katharine Elverum – Y	Serina Bartoo – Y
Richard Holcomb – Y	Jesus Baray - Y	

**13. Re-Open Meeting** – As required by **Section 10-15-1(J), NMSA 1978 matters discussed in executive session were limited only to those specified in the motion to close the meeting.**

**10-15-1(H) 2 – Limited Personnel Matters**

A. Anesthesia Contract

Katharine Elverum motioned to approve the Anesthesia Contract as presented. Richard Holcomb seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Pulmonologist Contract

Kathi Pape motioned to approve the Pulmonologist Contract. Serina Bartoo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Privileges

**Temporary to Provisional-**

Matthew Peters, CNP (Hospitalist)  
Howard Ng, MD (ESS)

**Initial Delegated RadPartners-**

Kailash Sundareshan Amruthur, MD  
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Angela Fietze, CRNA  
Cassandra Groves, CRNA  
Brian Evans, MD RadPartners  
Pejman Firouztale, MD RadPartners

Katharine Elverum motioned to approve all privileges listed above. Kathi Pape seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**10-15-1 (H) 7 – Attorney Client Privilege/ Pending Litigation**

A. Risk Report - No action

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL  
GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**10-15-1 (H) 9 – Public Hospital Board Meetings- Strategic and long-range business plans**

A. General Insurance Package including Medical Malpractice-

Kathi Pape motioned to accept the General Insurance and Medical Malpractice proposal as presented. Serina Bartoo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Master Facility Plan Update – No Action

C. Board Education – No Action

D. Ovation Report to Board – No Action

**14. Other**

The next Regular/ Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 30, 2024. Finance Committee will be held on Tuesday, July 30 at 11:00 and Board Quality will be held on July 29 at 10:00.

**15. Adjournment**

Kathi Pape motioned to adjourn. Jesus Baray seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

JB

7/30/24

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Burns, Recording Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bruce Swingle, Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date