

Kennewick Public Hospital District
Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022 | Hybrid Meeting with
Zoom Remote

5:00 PM

Public Hearing: Property Tax Levy

Public Hearing: Budget

Regular October Board meeting

MINUTES

Attendance: Gary Long, Mark Brault, Steve Blodgett, Marv Kinney, Dr. Sheila Dunlop, Rick Reil, Wanda Briggs, Lee Kerr, Heidi Ellerd, Nathan Burt, Salem Thompson

CALL TO ORDER:

The District provided a link for interested parties to participate through Zoom. There was one participant from the public in attendance.

Commissioner Long called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

I. District Business:

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER MINUTES AS SUBMITTED. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Public Comment – NONE

1. **Recognizing the contributions of former Commissioner Vic Johnson** – Comments by Gary Long and Wanda Briggs. His contributions are greatly appreciated and he served 17 years on the commission. A card and flowers will be sent to the family from the District's sunshine fund.

At 5:06 pm Gary Long closed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing for the property tax levy.

II. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. Property Tax Levy Hearing – Called to order at 5:06 pm by President Gary Long

1. Superintendent Lee Kerr gave an explanation on the levy.
2. No public comment was received.

At 5:11 pm Gary Long closed the Property tax levy hearing and opened the budget hearing.

B. Budget Hearing – Called to order at 5:11 pm by President Gary Long

1. Lee Kerr read the 2023 budget message.
2. No public comment was received.

At 5:16 pm Gary Long closed the public hearing on the 2023 budget.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Resolution 2022-7 Adopting District Budget for 2023 and Approving Limit Factor

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO PASS RESOLUTION 2022-7. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Resolution 2022-8 Certifying the Increase in Regular Tax Levy

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO PASS RESOLUTION 2022-8. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Reports

1. Lee Kerr – Superintendent, General Update – We will need to change meeting locations. The next regular meeting will be held at the current location at the Southridge Sports Complex and from there a new location will be obtained for future meetings.
2. Legal Report - Heidi Ellerd, Legal Counsel
 - a. Updates – Records Requests
 - b. Attorney compensation – Heidi Ellerd requested an increase in her hourly rate starting January 2023. She will propose a new fee agreement for the next meeting for consideration.
3. Administrative Report, Salem Thompson, Board Coordinator
 - a. Records update and training opportunity for records officers – A virtual training through the AWPHD is available for information on public hospital district records retention and destruction. Salem and Debbie Clark will attend.

D. Committee Reports/Recommendations

1. Finance Committee – Steve Blodgett, Finance Chair / Nathan Burt
 - a. Acceptance of September financial statements – Overview by Nathan Burt

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND PAYMENTS AND DISBURSEMENTS AS SUBMITTED. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

- b. Approval of payments and disbursements – approved in motion above.
 - c. Treasurer’s Report – Steve Blodgett – See comments above.
 - d. 2021 Audits – update – The draft report has been received and the District sees no corrections to the report.
 - e. Steve stated the finance committee discussed the disposition of the cancer center funds. The desire is to consider depositing those funds in the WA State local government investment fund. Lee and Gary commented that there is a need for an investment policy and resolution in order to do so. Lee will send the draft of the investment policy and resolution language to Heidi for review and presentation at the November commission meeting.
 2. Governance Committee Updates – Gary Long
 - a. Commissioner Compensation Policy –

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONER COMPENSATION POLICY AS SUBMITTED. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

- b. Delegation and Authority of Superintendent Policy

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE DELEGATION AND AUTHORITY

OF SUPERINTENDENT POLICY AS SUBMITTED. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION.
MOTION CARRIED.

3. Planning Committee – Wanda Briggs

a. Comments and follow up on full commission Strategic Planning Retreat –

Wanda makes mention that Marv Kinney and Dr. Sheila Dunlop will be on the committee to work on ideas from the retreat. The first task is to work with CBC and WSU Nursing programs to discuss scholarship opportunities. The next task will be to meet with Lee Kerr and Steve and/or Rick to discuss options and any impediments in the District becoming more involved with ADS.

At the retreat Mark Brault brought up Project Access and has sent information to Wanda for review. The information will be sent to Salem for distribution to the entire commission.

4. Adult Day Services – General Update: Rick Reil/Steve Blodgett – The deferred maintenance projects on the South building have been completed and were on budget. Repairs on the North building are starting and will be completed weather permitting. Exterior painting may have to wait until spring.

There have been some showings of the property, but no tenants secured.

Financially they are on pace with their budget and are close to pre-Covid census levels.

IV. Executive Session – This was called at 6:05 pm for ten minutes pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) regarding litigation.

At 6:05 pm, Commissioner Long called the executive session to order

One member of the public in attendance on Zoom was placed in the virtual waiting room.

At 6:15 pm Gary Long called the regular session to order.

One member of the public in attendance via Zoom was placed back into the open public Zoom session.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF TRIAL FEES TO DR. BAXTER AND/OR DR. ROMAN BY NATHAN BURT AFTER RECEIPT OF INVOICES. AND / OR TO ALLOW LEE KERR TO SIGN ANY SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE SAME. ALL IN FAVOR. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

VI. Upcoming items – Attendance at the AWPMD meeting of Districts without hospitals by Commissioners Brault and Briggs and Superintendent Kerr.

VII. BOARD MEETINGS/EVENTS/EDUCATION

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting – Thursday, Nov. 17, 2022 @ 5:00p.m.

Close of Meeting 6:32 pm