

**KENNEWICK PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 17, 2020, | Remote Meeting Via Zoom**

**CALL TO ORDER 5:00 pm**

**Attendance: Gary Long, Steve Blodgett, Marv Kinney, Rick Reil, Wanda Briggs, Len Dreisbach, Lee Kerr, Heidi Ellerd, Nathan Burt, Salem Thompson.**

Due to the state of emergency and the Governor's proclamation relating to in-person public meetings, the meeting was held with all parties participating remotely via Zoom. Commissioner Long called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm, after confirming that all parties were connected and could hear and participate in the meeting.

**I. DISTRICT BUSINESS:**

**A. Approval of Consent Agenda\***

The materials listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Board of Commissioners and are adopted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of the following items

- Approval of the previous month's Board minutes
- Approval of warrant register/revenue fund
- Acceptance of the financial report

However, an item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately if the Board members desire further discussion. As of this date, the Board of Commissioners unanimously approves by a majority vote the payment of those items included in the Consent Agenda and further described as follows:

THE MINUTES WERE REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE REMAINDER OF THE CONSENT AGENDA AS SUBMITTED.

NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

**B. Public Comment – There were no public comments, but were members of the public on Zoom.**

**I. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Executive Report – Lee Kerr**

Spaulding building lease: At this time, the lease has been accepted, but the District is not moving in at this time.

805/807 Auburn St.: Kiemle and Hagood have been engaged to provide a suggested price and a compliant marketing approach to obtain the necessary three appraisals. Gary asked Heidi if the District can place the property for auction vs. sale. Heidi will follow up and provide advice. Lee mentioned the limited liability company that now operates the owner's association is still interested in purchasing it.

Auburn Campus: Two outstanding pieces remain. One is the purchase and sale agreement. Most items have been agreed upon, and a final document can now be drafted for the last

review. The document has not been circulated to the commission since it is not final. The document states that the District has one year to do due diligence to acquire the property. Proposed Recovery Center project: Weekly meetings have been held with Trios/LifePoint. A representative from LifePoint's corporate office who is an expert in SUD is part of the discussions. Other presentations and conversations have been conducted with community leaders and state leaders to garner support for a state budget item and local support. The presentations have been met with positive responses. Forming a local foundation is also an approach. Gary mentioned another thing to keep in mind is the need to "do no harm" to Lourdes, even now under the leadership of LifePoint.

There is another WA State Dept. of Commerce grant with an application due date of December 28. Lee has spoken with the grant writer, who is working on the application's details, which Lee would need to sign.

The commission can hold a special meeting in early January to authorize Lee to sign if necessary since the contract with all the changes has not yet been circulated and reviewed by the Board. The commission can, however, authorize Lee to sign the grant application agreement.

MOTION TO HAVE LEE SIGN WA STATE DEPT. OF COMMERCE GRANT APPLICATION AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT.  
SECONDED. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

## **B. Committee Reports/Recommendations**

1. Finance & Audit – Steve Blodgett, Finance Chair / Nathan Burt
  - a. November financial statements - Statements were discussed by Nathan Burt.
  - b. Treasurer's Report: Status of Audits – The audits are proceeding as expected by Eide Bailly and the State accountability audit.
  - c. Finance committee – Discussion on the ADS budget led by Steve and Barb Edwards, executive director of ADS. The calculations on revenue and expenses were discussed.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE ADS 2021 BUDGET. SECONDED. NO DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Planning Committee – Len Dreisbach and Lee Kerr

As the chair, Len mentions the discussion on the candidates for appointment to elective office will take place during the executive session.

  - a. Commission vacancy report – Wanda Briggs covered the steps taken to help get applications for the vacancy from Mike McWhorter's move and retirement. A media release was prepared and sent out. Several members made phone calls and had conversations in the community. The media release and application were available online, and an option to mail in the application was also available. Two applications were received, from Mark Brault and Cindie Preszler.
3. Adult Day Services – General Update Rick Reil or Steve Blodgett. Steve reviewed the monthly revenue and expenses. There were no other questions.
4. Governance Committee Updates – Gary Long
  - a. Update 2021 committee assignments. There are only three committees, and assignments will stand until the vacancy is filled and may be readdressed at that time.
5. Public Records Requests and Updates – Heidi Ellerd and Salem Thompson
  - a. Discussion on DocuSign – Heidi recommends a written policy in order to use DocuSign. Discussion on the convenience and security of using this service. Heidi will provide a policy for consideration next meeting.

- b. Discussion on in-person meetings in January. In-person sessions are allowed as long as a policy is in place. Discussion followed on the pros and cons. At this time, a policy for in-person public meetings is tabled and the Board wants to continue to meet virtually at this time.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) potential litigation\*; per RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) Qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office\*

**At 5:54 pm executive session was called for 20 minutes.** Gary long read the RCW's for the executive session. Members of the public were placed in the waiting room.

**6:14 pm Open for Action:** The public was admitted to the meeting. Gary informed an extension was needed for 15 minutes for the executive session to 6:30 pm.

**At 6:15 pm executive session continued with members of the public back in the waiting room for 15 minutes.**

**6:30 pm the meeting re-opened for action:** The public was admitted to the meeting. Gary asked Rick Reil to speak on behalf of the Planning Committee. Rick stated it was a difficult decision between such imminently qualified candidate applications. After much discussion, Mark Brault is recommended for an appointment.

MOTION TO APPOINT MARK BRAULT TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MIKE MCWHORTER. THIS TERM IS UP IN 2021. SECONDED. NO FURTHER DISCUSSION. MOTION CARRIED.

Gary Long thanked Cindie Preszler and Mark Brault for applying. More information will be sent to Mark about the roles and responsibilities. Mark will be sworn in at the January 2021 regular board meeting.

### **III. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**A. Upcoming items –**

### **IV. BOARD MEETINGS/EVENTS/EDUCATION:**

**Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting – Thursday, January 28, 2021, @ 5:00 pm.**

**ADJOURNMENT 6:48 pm**