

**Kennewick Public Hospital District**  
**Thursday, October 28, 2021 | Remote Meeting Via Zoom**  
**5:00 pm**  
**Public Hearing: Property Tax Levy**  
**Public Hearing: Budget**  
**Regular October Board meeting**  
**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER** Gary Long called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**Attendance:** Gary Long, Steve Blodgett, Mark Brault, Marv Kinney, Wanda Briggs, Rick Reil, Lee Kerr, Nathan Burt, Heidi Ellerd, and 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:**

**II. Regular Board Meeting Business**

**A. 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
- 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:

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS SUBMITTED. NO DISCUSSION MOTION CARRIED.

**B. Public Comment related to the regular board agenda - None**

**C. Recognition of KGH Auxiliary – President of the Auxiliary Irene Russell**

Irene Russell stated the Auxiliary is closing as of October 31. They have been in existence

since 1954. A check was presented to the District for \$10,000. President Gary Long expressed his thanks for the years of effort.

### III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

**A. Property Tax Levy** – Gary Long opened the Public Hearing and asked for any comments from the public. There were none. Steve Blodgett, Treasurer, read the amount of the Tax Levy request. Gary Long closed the hearing.

**B. Budget** – Gary Long opened the Public Hearing and asked for comments from the public. There were none. Steve Blodgett reported on the Budget for 2022. Again, there were no questions or discussions. Gary Long closed the public hearing.

#### **C. Resolution 2021-5 Adopting District Budget for 2022 and Approving Limit Factor\***

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-5 ADOPTING DISTRICT BUDGET FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2022. NO DISCUSSION MOTION CARRIED.

#### **D. Resolution 2021-6 Certifying the Increase in Regular Tax Levy\***

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2021-6 SETTING LEVY LIMIT. NO DISCUSSION MOTION CARRIED.

### IV. NEW BUSINESS:

#### **A. Reports**

1. Executive Report – Lee Kerr
  - a. General Update -Benton County continues to pursue recovery center efforts independently with no role yet defined for the District. Lee met with John Solheim and learned there is still interest from Benton County in purchasing the Auburn Hospital. The bankruptcy is almost complete. The last creditors have been paid. No hearing is set to formally close the bankruptcy, but Lee is staying in touch and will keep everyone informed.  
Regarding 805/807 S. Auburn, no formal offer has been received, but the property is being shown. With the news of the Auxiliary closing, the District is losing its tenant in 807.
2. Legal Report - Heidi Ellerd, Legal Counsel
  - a. Public Records Requests – Still working on fulfillment of one large request.
3. Administrative Report, Salem Thompson, Board Coordinator
  - a. Records project update – An all stakeholders meeting was held this week with representatives from the District, Columbia Industries, RCCH/LifePoint, and the records specialist that the District wishes to hire. At this time, work is expected to begin in November.

**B. Committee Reports/Recommendations**

1. Finance Committee – Steve Blodgett, Finance Chair / Nathan Burt
  - a. September financial statements – Nathan Burt – General overview. ADS contributed to the audit costs, which was appreciated.
  - b. Treasurer's Report – Steve Blodgett
  - c. EFT Policy\* - Steve states the policy in the packet still needs some revision by governance, so it will not be recommended for adoption tonight.
2. Adult Day Services – General Update Steve Blodgett / Rick Reil – ADS continues to serve at the capacity it can.
3. Governance Committee Updates – Gary Long
  - a. Selection of Officers for 2022\*

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO ELECT GARY LONG PRESIDENT, MARK BRAULT VICE PRESIDENT AND STEVE BLODGETT SECRETARY FOR THE YEAR 2022. NO DISCUSSION MOTION CARRIED.

- b. Discussion on future policy for selection of officers
4. Planning Committee – Wanda Briggs
  - a. Update on candidates for the open position on the Commission. There are eight candidates: Scott Carpenter, Dr. Sheila Dunlop, Spencer Harris, Dr. Adrian Heap, Carol Moser, Steve Osborne, Henry (Hank) Sauer, Sandi Strawn.

**C. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER QUALIFICATIONS OF A CANDIDATE FOR APPOINTMENT TO ELECTIVE OFFICE PURSUANT TO RCW 42.30.110(h)**

**1. Potential appointment of new Commissioner\***

**The executive session was called at 5:45 pm for 30 minutes.**

Members of the public in attendance were placed in the Zoom waiting room.

**The meeting was opened back up to the public at 6:15 pm.**

Members of the public were admitted back into the meeting.

Gary Long called for an additional 10 minutes of Executive Session.

**An executive session was called at 6:16 pm for an additional 10 minutes.**

Members of the public were placed in the waiting room.

**The meeting was opened back up to the public at 6:26 pm.**

Members of the public were admitted back into the meeting.

Gary Long called for nominations for the open commission position.

Wanda Briggs nominated Dr. Sheila Dunlop. Mark Brault nominated Spencer Harris. Marv Kinney nominated Hank Sauer. The voting resulted resulted in a tie between two candidates, Dr. Sheila Dunlop and Mr. Spencer Harris.

IT WAS MOVED AND SECONDED TO TABLE THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSIONER FOR THE OPEN POSITION TO THE NEXT MEETING. NO DISCUSSION MOTION CARRIED.

**V. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

**A. Upcoming items –**

**VI. BOARD MEETINGS/EVENTS/EDUCATION:**

**Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting – Thursday, November 18, 2021, @ 5:00 pm.**

**ADJOURNMENT 6:40 pm**