

**WRANGELL MEDICAL CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
NOVEMBER 16, 2005**

PRESENT:

Roll call showed those board members present were: Brian Merritt, President; Lynne Campbell, Vice President; James Stough and Betty Keegan, Members. Also present were Brian Gilbert, Chief Executive Officer; Karen Wright, Admin. Asst. and Olinda White, Controller

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by President Merritt. President Merritt welcomed James Stough back on the board, stating it was nice to have someone with years of experience aboard.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

James Stough moved to approve the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded and passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Betty Keegan moved to approve the minutes of October 19, 2005 as presented. Motion was seconded and passed.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: None expressed.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Gilbert reported that we are beginning to see the lower reimbursement by Medicare due to our lowering of expenses, and this will begin to hurt us. As we lower our costs, Medicare lowers our reimbursement. This does not affect our Medicaid reimbursement, as we are in the third year of our five year contract with Medicaid.

Foundation paperwork has all been signed by the newly created board, and papers will be sent to Bob Blasco who will forward along to the federal government for review and approval.

Mr. Gilbert announced he has been appointed to the Executive Committee of ASHNHA due to being President of ASHPIN (Alaska State Hospital Performance Improvement Network).

Tessa Rinner, Program Manager of Health Facilities for the Denali Commission, was here last week and met with Mr. Gilbert and Mark Walker regarding funding for a comprehensive health plan for Wrangell and the north end of Prince of Whales. This study will be totally funded and conducted by the Denali Commission.

Ms. Rinner has asked that the medical center hold off on dedicating the

\$262,000 awarded previously by the Denali Commission for radiology equipment until the federal government decides what they are going to fund through the USDA. Bill Allen of the USDA will be accompanying Tessa on a return trip to Wrangell in December. The USDA has funds for grants and also loan guarantees.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT:

Dr. McCandless reported that Dr. Prysunka is out of town until February. Dr. McCandless has had further discussions with Providence regarding its Residency Program and possible rotations here in Wrangell. The residents are licensed physicians, not medical students as we have through the U of W Program, and may be a source for recruiting.

Dr. McCandless introduced the new medical student, Fiona Havers.

Dr. McCandless discussed some of the possibilities for the Prince of Whales clinics, such as building a small facility that would be set up permanently.

AICS is still looking to recruit a new physician.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD: None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Trustee — Some discussion of many articles which are not pertinent for facilities our size.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to consider.

NEW BUSINESS:

Management Letter and final audit for FYE 2005 were reviewed, and Olinda addressed the three concerns raised in the Management Letter.

Most of the superbills that are unsigned by the ordering practitioner, are from the visiting clinicians. Medical Records will work with this, as it is the medical center's policy that lab and x-ray will not be performed without a signed order.

The board felt that the auditors were reaching when citing that all journal entries are made by Olinda. She has been doing this for years. Olinda did state that perhaps she should train Mary Jo on how to do this.

The new computer system will take care of the inventory problems.

Cash Flow statement for October was reviewed.

Board Statistics for were reviewed.. It was felt by the board that they no longer

wanted five years for comparison, but go back to two years.

BOARD COMMENTS:

It was announced that this year's Christmas party will be held at the Elks on the 16th of December.

Meeting was adjourned.

Karen A. Wright, Admin. Asst.
Recorder