

**WRANGELL MEDICAL CENTER
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
DECEMBER 17, 2003**

PRESENT:

Roll Call showed those board members present were: Doug Schwartz, President; Brian Merritt, Vice President; Larry Clarke and Mark Robinson, Members. Also present were: Brian Gilbert, CEO; Olinda White, Controller; and Karen Wright, Administrative Assistant.

CALL TO ORDER:

President Doug Schwartz called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Olinda White asked that the agenda include a resolution of the board to accept the amendment to the retirement plan.

Brian Merritt moved to approve the agenda as amended. Motion was seconded and passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Regular Board Meeting of November 19, 2003 — Larry Clarke moved to approve the minutes as written. Motion was seconded and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no discussion on Trustee received this month.

PERSONS TO BE HEARD:

There was discussion of the new five minute rule for persons to be heard. President Schwartz stated this was not a hard and fast rule, and time may be extended at the discretion of the board.

Peggy Wilson spoke regarding the necessity of a plan for future funding of the facility to the state by March 1, and that the community needed to present a united front.

Lynn Prysunka, M.D. stated that she and David McCandless, M.D. would end their employment with the Medical Center, effective July 1, 2004. The physicians intend to move into an independent arrangement.

Dick Ballard presented several concerns and will meet with Mr. Gilbert on Monday to clarify these questions.

NEW BUSINESS:

Financial Statements — Financial statements were reviewed, along with graphs for Accounts Receivable, and Gross Revenue..

Brian Merritt asked if these graphs, could cover a year, month by month. Ms.

White stated that she would do this.

Cash Flow Statement — The designated funds which the board appropriated for the decorating of the LTC rooms has still not been needed yet.

Economic Development Representative — President Schwartz reported that the mayor has asked that a board member volunteer to serve on the Economic Development Committee. Following discussion, Larry Clarke volunteered to serve. Brian Merritt moved to approve the appointment of Larry Clarke as representative of the Wrangell Medical Center Board of Directors to the Economic Development Committee. Motion was seconded and passed, with Larry Clarke abstaining.

Statistics — Statistics were reviewed for November..

Retirement Plan — Olinda reported that Lincoln Life, our retirement plan holder, has stated that there are IRS amendments to the plan that need a resolution from the board for acceptance.

Larry Clarke moved to resolve to accept the amendments to the Pension Plan as to conform to the IRS distribution rules. Motion was seconded and passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Contracts — Contracts were reviewed for Brian Gilbert, Dave McCandless and Lynn Prysunka.

Larry Clarke moved to enter into a new contract with the CEO good until July 1, 2004. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Following the recommendation of Brian Gilbert, Larry Clarke moved to accept the contracts signed by each physician good for thirty days. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT:

Dr. Hoffman is currently doing a locums to cover for Dr. Winebarger over the Christmas Holidays.

The U of W people were here for a site visit, and will be sending a written report.

At the request of Brian Merritt, Dr. McCandless explained the student program for the new board members. Also, under their new contracts, the physicians will now be paid more by the medical facility to participate in this

program.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Gilbert reported on some of the problems facing Cordova Hospital.

The state is having a problem with paying the high cost of long term care daily rates and is looking at a better way of getting Medicaid money to small hospitals, but trying to get federal matching funds to be given in one lump sum. Brian Gilbert and Mark Walker are leaving for Juneau for the next two days to speak with the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Doug Schwartz thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and wished them all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Larry Clarke talked about patients being seen by the physicians and the need to increase that number, if not all patients are being seen that try to make appointments.

Brian Merritt stated he would like to work with the physicians to see about their remaining on staff.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

K.A. Wright
Recorder