

**WRANGELL MEDICAL CENTER  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
March 17, 2004**

**PRESENT:**

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

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Brian Merritt moved to approve agenda with the addition of Item D under New Business: Letter of support for 330 grant. Motion was seconded and passed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Regular Board Meeting of February 11, 2004* — Brian Merritt moved to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded and passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Nothing noted.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Gilbert reported that he and Mark Walker met with the Denali Commission regarding the 330 clinic grant. The Commission has set aside over \$200,000 for the building plans, with the stipulation that the medical center and the City of Wrangell come up with \$50,000. Mr. Gilbert has gone to the city and requested \$25,000 as its share. The request was tabled until the next meeting when the Finance Director and City Manager would be in attendance.

Clinic contract negotiations are continuing and making progress. The City appraiser has been here; however, we have not received anything in writing yet.

Cordova has received \$300,000 in Exceptional Relief. This is not expected to help for long, as Cordova is down to four LTC residents.

Representative Peggy Wilson has put in the budget \$500,000 for Exceptional Relief next year, but this will be for the whole state.

Sitka Community Hospital is still in communication with SEARHC and the city on where to go from here.

The regulations are being tightened up by the feds for monies given to the states for health care, as often the money was spent on other projects.

**MEDICAL STAFF REPORT:**

Dr. Prysunka acknowledged the wonderful job the volunteer fire department personnel did the previous week on containing the Ottesen's warehouse fire. Also, in typical Wrangell community spirit several others joined in to help without hindering the fire fighters.

**PERSONS TO BE HEARD:**

Dr. Prysunka presented a letter to the board asking for a letter of support from the board for Doctors Prysunka and McCandless, along with Wrangell Community Services, to apply for the 330 clinic grant.

**WRANGELL MEDICAL CENTER  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING  
MARCH 17, 2004  
PAGE 2**

---

Mark Robinson addressed Dr. Prysunka, stating that he would like to continue on with options after hearing from the community and other groups.

Valery McCandless announced that a committee is being formed to look into our health care system in the community.

Larry Barnes and Steve Miller both expressed that they felt that the way the board went into Executive Session was in violation of the open meetings law. Mr. Gilbert reported that according to our attorney, we were not in violation.

Mr. Barnes presented some material he found to further clarify the law. Mr. Gilbert will send to our attorney for his review.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Financial Statements* — Olinda White is out of town, so, Mr. Gilbert went over the financial statements.

*Cash Flow Statement* — Mr. Gilbert stated that the Accounts Receivables are down due to the billing out timely, but also, we have had less patients.

*Statistics* — Statistics showed all figures are down this month. This is the worst month in 2 ½ years. Nursing has gone back to 12-hour shifts to help save money.

*Letter of Support* — Brian Merritt moved to have Mr. Gilbert write a letter of support on behalf of the Board of Directors in support for the establishment of a 330 clinic, as outlined by Dr. Prysunka. Motion was seconded and passed.

**COMPLIANCE REPORT:**

None.

**BOARD COMMENTS:**

Doug Schwartz echoed Dr. Prysunka's appreciation for the job done by the Volunteer Fire Department.

At 6:30 p.m. Brian Merritt moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss matters that the general knowledge of which could harm the financial status of the facility or the reputations of certain individuals. Motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting was reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

Mark Robinson moved to accept the recommendation of the medical staff to re-appoint Dr. Crochelt to the medical staff. Motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

K.A. Wright  
Recorder