

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1
OF KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Held on September 8, 2009

Attendance:

Commissioner G. Sue Bowman, Commissioner, Commissioner-at-large
Commissioner Anthony R. Hemstad, Commissioner, District No. 3
Commissioner Michael W. Miller, Vice President, Commissioner-at-large
Commissioner Carolyn V. Parnell, Secretary, Commissioner, District No. 2
Richard D. Roodman, Administrator/CEO – Superintendent
Paul S. Hayes, R.N., Executive Vice President
Kathryn D. Beattie, M.D., Senior Vice President - Chief Medical Officer
Larry Smith, Senior Vice President – Chief Financial Officer
Scott Alleman, R.N., Senior Vice President – Patient Care Services
L. Michael Glenn, Senior Vice-President – Business Development
Barbara Mitchell, Senior Vice President – HR and Marketing
Kris Tiernan, Assistant to CEO and Board of Commissioners

Those present for a portion of the meeting:

Kim Blakeley, Community Affairs Manager
Todd Thomas, Vice President – Facilities
Amy McElroy, Marketing Coordinator and Webmaster

This meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Hospital District No. 1 of King County was opened by Vice-President Miller at 3:36 p.m. in the Board Room of Valley Medical Center. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of August 17, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Affairs Ms. Blakeley reported on various community outreach activities of the Public Relations and Marketing Department as follows:

Bill Marcella, VRADS (Valley Radiology Imaging) was interviewed recently by Dr. Larry Donohue for his P-I online column, "Seattle City Brights" on PET-CT scanning technology and the impact on healthcare reform.

Newcastle News ran a story on the August 29th Newcastle 5K run that included an interview with Shelly Waldren, RN, Newcastle Urgent Care, who helped staff the VMC medical tent. VMC was title sponsor for the event. Over 400 runners and walkers turned out.

Covington/Maple Valley Reporter is featuring our *Cancer as a Turning Point Seminar* online and it will be in the print publication as well.

VMC will participate in a Healthy Aging Seminar at the Coal Creek YMCA on September 17th.

Program [Internet Connectivity with District Residents](#)

Amy McElroy reviewed web services improvements and updates made this year to the VMC website, www.valleymed.org, which is considered VMC's "front door." The number of American adults using the internet has increased by 62% since 2000 and those seeking health information on-line is up by 41%. As consumers' reliance on web content evolves, the VMC website is continually evaluated for improvement. In 2008, the website was

simplified which made it easier for search engines to catalog the site. The ability to update website content in-house was added and maintenance costs were lowered by more than 50%. This year the website has undergone a "facelift" making it more functional and user-friendly with enhanced content, expanded transparency and optimization of the search ability. Ms. McElroy demonstrated navigating the website including finding a doctor, seminars and events, directions, patient and visitor's page and links to educational information.

Kim Blakeley reported that VMC has recently joined the world of social media, including Twitter and Facebook. She explained that consumers are seeking knowledge about healthcare conditions in new ways including blogs, "wikis," podcasts, social networking sites such as Twitter and Facebook, and other internet-based services. The most commonly used social media sites were reviewed, including www.twitter.com, a free social networking and micro-blogging service launched in 2006. Twitter has an estimated five million users who send and receive updates, called "tweets." Ms. Blakely discussed many ways to use Twitter in a healthcare setting and described what other Puget Sound hospitals are doing, including Seattle Children's, Virginia Mason, UWMC, Evergreen, Overlake and Swedish. VMC is conservatively launching into Twitter to interact with our community, patients, and prospective employees promoting our services lines, seminars, new physicians and technologies. VMC's Twitter page was displayed along with examples of recent posts.

Medical Affairs

Medical Executive Committee

It was reported by Dr. Beattie that the MEC met earlier today and a report will be presented at the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners.

Quality Management Update

Dr. Beattie also reported on the September 1st meeting of the Quality Improvement Council. The Critical Care Committee has proposed a *Central Venous/Arterial Catheter Bundle Policy* to be applied in all instances of insertion of ventral vascular access to minimize incidence of Hospital Acquired Infections associated with central lines. This will be reviewed by MEC for approval in October and expected implementation by the end of 2009.

Dr. Richard Wall, Medical Director of the Critical Care Unit presented the annual summary of resuscitation outcomes for 2008, the first year that VMC participated in the National Registry of CPR (NRCPR) for national benchmarking of our data. There has been an increased use of the Rapid Response Team and a decrease in the incidence of Code Blue outside of the ICU, meaning that patients with increased need for intensive care are identified and moved to the appropriate level of care in time.

Dr. Michael Hori provided a review of all performance improvement activities in the pharmacy and for house-wide medication management.

The most recent HCAHPS (Hospital Consumers Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems) report was reviewed. Valley Medical Center's overall rating climbed to 72.6% of patients ranking us as a 9 or 10 out of 10 which puts us at the 78th percentile!

Reports

Reports from Administration

Financial Affairs

Mr. Larry Smith reported on the month of August, noting that financials are not yet available. Volumes were good during August, with average daily census at 161. There were 6,000 Emergency Room visits in August which was above budget. It was anticipated that opening the new Benson Urgent Care clinic would cause a drop in ER visits, but that has not occurred and, in fact, Benson Urgent Care continues to see 35-37 patients per day, which is significantly above expectations. August financials will be emailed to commissioners as soon as available and will be presented at the September 21st meeting. VMC's financial challenge does not appear to be volume related. Medicaid, charity and self-pay patients all reimburse VMC below cost levels. Mr. Roodman pointed out that 64% of the hospital admissions are either Medicare, Medicaid or uncompensated care patients. This makes it very difficult to achieve a balanced budget.

Bills/Vouchers

MOTION

The Board, by motion, approved payments of the following bills and vouchers:

H.S. Builders, Inc.
 Urgent Care – Retainage \$ 18,002.77

	WARRANT NUMBERS		DATED	AMOUNT
	FROM	TO		
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	31198	31205	8/18/2009	0.00
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	31206	31412	8/19/2009	83,802.45
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	31413	32018	8/25/2009	0.00
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	32019	32159	8/25/2009	86,843.89
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	32160	32607	9/1/2009	241,017.14
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	32608	34376	9/1/2009	0.00
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	825990	826033	8/25/2009	2,234.69
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	826034	826051	9/1/2009	1,384.89
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2127282	2127496	8/13/2009	1,100,872.23
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2127497	2127497	8/13/2009	202,201.04
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2127498	2127647	8/18/2009	937,409.50
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2127648	2127648	8/18/2009	772.50
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2127649	2127887	8/20/2009	3,505,712.81
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2127888	2128044	8/25/2009	804,860.10
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2128045	2128264	8/27/2009	1,680,952.96
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2128265	2128425	9/1/2009	1,332,392.31
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	2128426	2128488	9/1/2009	5,434.05
 TOTAL AP				 9,985,890.56
 AUGUST PAYROLL				 8,249,598.86
 WIRES OR EFT				 2,714,976.74
 GRAND TOTAL				 \$20,968,468.93

Award of Contract – Renton Landing Clinic Project

Mr. Thomas reported that 14 bids were opened on August 26th for the Renton Landing Clinic Project. He requested Board approval to award a bid for the Renton Landing Clinic Project to SD Deacon, the lowest responsible bidder. SD Deacon has been in business for over 26 years and was the general contractor for 60% of the Renton Landing Project. Several reference checks have been positive. The construction estimate for this project is \$851,000. The overall project cost for this project is \$1,834,000.

MOTION

Following discussion, it was moved and seconded to award a bid to SD Deacon, the lowest responsible bidder, for the Renton Landing Clinic Project, in the amount of \$1,026,289, including taxes and contingencies. Motion carried.

Resolution No. 917 – Surplus Property

MOTION

It was moved and seconded to approve Resolution No. 917 declaring certain equipment in the District's hospital as surplus to the needs of the District and direct the Superintendent of the district's hospital or his designee to effect proper disposal of such surplus property, as provided by the statute. The motion carried unanimously.

Operations Update

Mr. Hayes reported that disaster planning continues and an organizational plan has been established for possible outbreak of H1N1 Flu this fall/winter. The comprehensive plan includes Infection Control, the Clinic Network, Security, Materials Management and Public Relations. Staff is being encouraged to obtain seasonal influenza vaccination which will be available this week. A hotline is being developed and will be updated regularly as information becomes available. A lock-down plan, sleeping rooms, transportation and storage of extra supplies is being addressed. Public Relations is focusing on internal and external communications.

VMC also continues planning, in conjunction with King County Public Health, for possible fall/winter flooding in the Green River Valley. A community forum attended by over 100 participants was recently held on the VMC campus. The Pediatric Interim Care Center in Kent has contacted Valley regarding temporary housing for their program should flooding occur.

Mr. Roodman noted that VMC could be impacted by both an influenza epidemic and flooding in the Green River Valley. Disaster planning is being taken very seriously. These problems could impact VMC both as an employer as well as a provider of care.

Patient Care Services

Mr. Alleman reported that patient satisfaction scores over the past 12 months have been high. Recently released scores for last quarter are at the 78th percentile continuing the trend. He noted that one area where there is opportunity for improvement is in "listening carefully to patients."

Business Development

It was reported by Mr. Glenn that expansion of The Getwell Network continues with particular focus in Endoscopy and the Sleep Lab.

Jeannette McCormick, who has been Manager of the Radiation Oncology Department for several years, has accepted the position of interim Director of Cancer Services at VMC. Ms. McCormick will focus on continuing the advancement of our Cancer Services Program.

Clinic Network

Mr. Roodman stated that negotiations are in the final stages with a candidate for Chief Medical Director of the Valley Medical Clinic Network. It is anticipated that Mr. Larson will report on the status of this position at the next meeting.

HR & Marketing

Ms. Mitchell reported on October events including the Emergency Services South Tower Sneak Previews scheduled for the week of October 5th and the annual Flu Shot Program for our GoldenCare membership scheduled for October 12th – 17th. A total of 59 touring hours are included during these events. Ribbon cutting for the new tower has been scheduled for early morning on Monday, January 11, 2010. A public open house will be held Saturday, January 16, 2010. She added that staff is working hard to meet the Board's objective for outreach events.

For the second year in a row, Valley has been named by *Modern Healthcare* as one of the *100 Best Organizations to Work in Healthcare in the Nation*. *Modern Healthcare* is considered the premier monthly healthcare industry publication. Commissioner Hemstad questioned the selection process for awards. Ms. Mitchell described the methodology wherein *Modern Healthcare* independently and directly surveys a random sampling of employees regarding their perception of the organization's leadership and planning, culture and communications, working environment, training, benefits, and overall satisfaction. Valley was the only employer in Washington State to receive this year's recognition.

Recess Vice-President Miller acknowledged a request for a recess at 5:11 p.m. following which the Board convened in Executive Session for approximately 20 minutes for the purpose of discussing specific litigation issues permitted by RCW.42.30.110 (1) and real estate issues permitted by RCW.42.30.110 (b) and (c).

Reconvened The meeting reconvened at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION Commissioner Excused

It was moved, seconded and carried to excuse Commissioner Jacobson from this meeting.

Adjournment There being no further business, motion was made to adjourn this meeting at 5:31 p.m.

Public Comment Public Comment

Commissioners Parnell and Bowman remained in the Board Room in case there were any members of the public wishing to speak at the 6:00 p.m. designated time. No members of the public appeared to speak. Commissioners Parnell and Bowman remained until 6:15 p.m. and left the building.