



**MINUTES**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**6:30 PM - Wednesday, August 27, 2025**  
Conference Rooms 1&2 and Zoom

The meeting of the Board of Directors of South Peninsula Hospital was called to order on Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at 6:30 PM, in the Conference Rooms 1&2 and via Zoom.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**President Aaron Weisser called the regular meeting to order at 6:30pm.**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**BOARD PRESENT:** Aaron Weisser, Edson Knapp, Walter Partridge, Michael Dye, Bernadette Wilson, Beth Wythe, Preston Simmons, Matthew Bullard, Christopher Landess, and Kim Frost

**BOARD EXCUSED:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ryan Smith, CEO; Anna Hermanson, CFO; Amber Gall, CNO, Maura Gibson, Exec Asst.

*\*Only meeting participants who comment, give report or give presentations are noted in the minutes. Others may be present.*

**A quorum was present.**

**3. REFLECT ON LIVING OUR VALUES**

Amber Gall, CNO, told a Living Our Values story. She read a letter from an appreciative patient.

**4. WELCOME GUESTS & PUBLIC / INTRODUCTIONS / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**4.1. Rules for Participating in a Public Meeting**

**5. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ITEMS OF ANY MATTER**

There were no comments from the audience.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Michael Dye seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**7. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

**7.1. Consideration to Approve the South Peninsula Hospital (SPH) Board of Directors meeting minutes for July 30, 2025**

**7.2. Consideration to Approve July FY26 Financials**

Ms. Wythe read the consent calendar into the record.

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve the consent calendar as read. Preston Simmons seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no presentations.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**10.1. Consideration to Approve SPH Resolution 2025-19, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Approving a Plan Amendment for the Union and Non-Union 403(b) Plans to Adjust the Annual Employer Match Allowing for End of Year Match True Up Contributions**

Anna Hermanson, CFO, reported. The hospital has two 403b plans and the employer matches contributions per paycheck, however some employees frontload their contributions, in which case they don't get their full employer match. This resolution allows for a true up to ensure all employees get an equal match.

*Michael Dye made a motion to approve SPH Resolution 2025-19, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Approving a Plan Amendment for the Union and Non-Union 403(b) Plans to Adjust the Annual Employer Match Allowing for End of Year Match True Up Contributions. A roll call vote was held. Those board members who are employed by the hospital, or have family members employed by the hospital, were recused.*

*Matthew Bullard - Yes*

*Michael Dye - Yes*

*Kim Frost - Yes*

*Edson Knapp - Recused*

*Christopher Landess - Recused*

*Walter Partridge - Yes*

*Preston Simmons - Yes*

*Bernadette Wilson - Yes*

*Beth Wythe - Recused*

*Aaron Weisser - Recused*

*Preston Simmons seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

## 11. REPORTS

### 11.1. Chief Executive Officer

Ryan Smith, CEO, reported. He spoke about the recent transition to Epic, and how much preparation, work and patience it took from all employees and leaders. He shared that the recent SPH Foundation retreat went well and came with an action plan. The Kenai Peninsula Borough property purchases on behalf of the hospital have gone to the assembly for vote. Mr. Weisser noted that although one of the properties is the slope behind the hospital, there is no plan to build on that property.

### 11.2. BOD Committee: Finance & Pension

Walter Partridge, Committee Chair, reported. The committee met last week to review both Pension and Finance. They reviewed the resolution on tonight's agenda, as well as the standing pension reports. There were no recommendations to change any funds. The LDI is working appropriately. The committee also reviewed the financial reports for July. Ms. Hermanson shared that there are two new lines on the balance sheet, regarding how we account for the new GASB rules on PTO and Sick Leave.

### 11.3. BOD Committee: Strategic Planning & Communication

Aaron Weisser, Committee Chair, reported. The committee is working on a handful of things that aren't quite ready for approval yet. They are hopeful to have a clear, concise strategic plan to support the growth of this hospital. In the next few months, the committee plans to finalize the strategic plan and add the community communication plan.

### 11.4. BOD Committee: Governance

Beth Wythe, Committee Chair, reported. The Governance Committee continues to work on reviewing the bylaws. They are also working on new member recruitment, with Matthew Hambrick's departure leaving a vacancy, and Walter Partridge has decided to step down at the end of his term. The hospital will advertise for the open seat, and the board is particularly looking for good candidates to represent parts of the hospital's service area outside of Homer, like Anchor Point or Ninilchik.

### 11.5. BOD Committee: Quality

Preston Simmons, Committee Chair, reported. The committee set a safety topic for generative discussion at the September meeting. Mr. Simmons asked the board to send him any suggestions for topics they'd like to see covered in the future. The committee had a presentation by Rachael Kincaid, COO, on medication administration and storage, as well as a discussion on Patient and Family Advisory Councils. They reviewed near misses and serious safety events. The committee will now work on a plan for the coming year.

### 11.6. Chief of Staff

Dr. Sarah Roberts, Chief of Staff, reported. The medical staff has been working their way through the Epic transition. It's a rolling process, since the hospital has many visiting providers, and not everyone was present during the training

and Go-live. She shared a story of Epic allowing her to help a patient with care coordination with providers in another state.

**11.7. Service Area Board Representative**

Francie Roberts reported on behalf of the Service Area Board (SAB). The SAB met on August 19th and welcomed new member Erin Workman. They approved the resolution regarding the property purchases on behalf of the hospital.

**12. DISCUSSION**

There were no discussion items.

**13. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON ITEMS OF ANY MATTER**

There were no comments from the audience.

**14. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

(Announcements/Congratulations)

**14.1. Chief Executive Officer**

There were no additional comments from the CEO.

**14.2. Board Members**

Mike Dye thanked the Strategic Planning Committee for their work on a succinct document. Kim Frost congratulated the hospital staff on a successful transition to Epic. Dr. Knapp thanked everyone for their hard work on the Epic transition, particularly Tiffany Park, Travis Ogden and the radiology team. Christopher Landess echoed the appreciation for the Epic transition. He thanked everyone for the preparation and support for the medical staff. Bernadette Wilson thanked the staff for moving to Epic, and expressed appreciation on behalf of patients. Beth Wythe and Preston Simmons echoed the sentiments about the Epic transition. Aaron Weisser thanked Derotha Ferraro and the marketing team for the excellent social media posts, sharing the great work being done at the hospital with the community.

**15. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**15.1. [NRHA Rural Hospital Board of Trustees Certification Program](#)**

The National Rural Hospital Association's Board of Trustees Certification Program will be starting a new cohort in October.

**15.2. AHA Live Q&A Call with Governance Expert Jamie Orlikoff  
Tuesday, September 30, 2025 at 9:00am**

**15.3. Board Agenda Calendar**

**16. ACTION ITEMS FROM TODAY'S MEETING**

**17. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NEEDED)**

The board adjourned to executive session at 6:40pm. The board moved back into open session at 7:31pm.

**18. ANNOUNCEMENTS AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**18.1. Consideration to Approve Resolution 2025-20, Approving the Medical Staff Credentialing for August 2025**

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-20, Approving the Medical Staff Credentialing for August 2025, to include:*

*The initial appointment of:*

<i>Ed Gonzalez, FNP</i>	<i>Family/Emergency Med</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Joshua Kirbens, MD</i>	<i>Radiology</i>	<i>Courtesy-RCI</i>
<i>Teresa Kirchner, FNP</i>	<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>Active</i>
<i>Dietra Savage, PMHNP</i>	<i>Psychiatry</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>James Jordan, MD</i>	<i>Neurology</i>	<i>TeleStroke-Prov</i>

*And the reappointment of:*

<i>William Bell, MD</i>	<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>Active</i>
<i>Axia Espinosa Morales, MD</i>	<i>Neurology</i>	<i>TeleStroke-Prov</i>
<i>Larry Kessler, MD</i>	<i>Radiology</i>	<i>TeleRad-vRad</i>
<i>Pawani Sachar, MD</i>	<i>Neurology</i>	<i>TeleStroke-Prov</i>
<i>Claudia Thomas, MD</i>	<i>Orthopedics</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Hanbing Wang, MD</i>	<i>Neurology</i>	<i>TeleStroke-Prov</i>
<i>John Wuellner, MD</i>	<i>Orthopedics</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Albert Ybasco, MD</i>	<i>Radiology</i>	<i>TeleRad-vRad</i>

*And the granting of Epidural steroid injections and Radiofrequency ablation privileges to Dr. Gregory Aird.*

*Christopher Landess seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*


**19. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.


Respectfully Submitted,

Accepted:

Signed by:  
  
 50A05CEF63834CE  
 Maura Gibson, Executive Assistant

DocuSigned by:  
  
 7FEF264202044C6...  
 Aaron Weisser, President

Minutes Approved: 9/24/25

DocuSigned by:  
  
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 Mary E. Wythe, Secretary