



## MINUTES

# Board of Directors Meeting

5:30 PM - Wednesday, December 18, 2024

Conference Rooms 1&2 and Zoom

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The meeting of the Board of Directors of South Peninsula Hospital was called to order on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 5:30 PM, in the Conference Rooms 1&2 and Zoom.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Aaron Weisser called the regular meeting to order at 5:30pm.

### 2. ROLL CALL

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

**BOARD EXCUSED:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ryan Smith, CEO; Rachael Kincaid, CNO; Maura Jones, Executive Assistant; Lori Murray

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

#### 2.1. A quorum was present.

### 3. REFLECT ON LIVING OUR VALUES

Rachael Kincaid, CNO, shared a story. After feedback from the public about the difficulty in finding nail care for seniors in Homer, two of our nurses are embarking on getting the necessary training and certifications to be able to offer this service to the community. The hospital has been working with many community partners this month, including the Senior Center, Share the Spirit and the Food Pantry on various programs.

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

Mr. Weisser welcomed all members of the public in attendance.

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

The rules for participating in a public meeting were included in the packet and provided in the meeting room.

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

Lori Murray gave comment. She reiterated the need for nail care for seniors in Homer. Her mother lives at the Terrace and it is a struggle to get her to Soldotna for ingrown toenail care, and there is nowhere in town to get this service. It is a big need in the community, and she was happy to hear the hospital is taking up this mantle.

**6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Chief of Staff Christopher Landess seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**7. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR**

Ms. Wythe read the consent calendar into the record.

**7.1. Consideration to Approve the South Peninsula Hospital (SPH) Board of Directors meeting minutes for October 23, 2024**

**7.2. Consideration to Approve October FY2025 Financials**

**7.3. Consideration to Approve the Revised South Peninsula Hospital and Long Term Care Facility Corporate Compliance & Ethics Program and Corporate Compliance and Ethics Policy, HW-101**

**7.4. Consideration to Approve the South Peninsula Board of Directors Calendar for 2025**

**7.5. Consideration to Approve the South Peninsula Hospital and Long Term Care Infection Prevention Plan and Risk Assessment**

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

**8. PRESENTATIONS**

There were no scheduled presentations.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**10.1. Consideration to Approve SPH Board Resolution 2024-26, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Supporting the Hospital's Request to List the Pharmacy Relocation, Infusion Relocation and Expansion, and Nuclear Medicine Addition as Legislative Priorities for the Kenai Peninsula Borough to Request Congressionally Designated Spending Funds**

Ryan Smith, CEO, gave a staff report. We are working with John Hedges and the Mayor at the Kenai Peninsula Borough. They recommended we take our Certificate of Need Project and put it forward to the City of Homer and State of Alaska priorities and also for the congressional delegation to look for funding through those avenues. It would be a couple years down the road before we would see any returns for these requests, but it is important to make them.

Mr. Partridge added this was reviewed and discussed at the November Finance Committee meeting, and the committee agreed it made sense to move forward. While it's not guaranteed by any means and the timeline is long, it is good to continue moving forward and do what is possible towards our long-term goals.

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve SPH Board Resolution 2024-26, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Supporting the Hospital's Request to List the Pharmacy Relocation, Infusion Relocation and Expansion, and Nuclear Medicine Addition as Legislative Priorities for the Kenai Peninsula Borough to Request Congressionally Designated Spending Funds Edson Knapp seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**10.2. Consideration to Confirm Sarah Roberts, MD as Chief of Staff for 2025 and 2026 as elected by the South Peninsula Hospital Medical Staff.**

Mr. Smith reported. The medical staff bylaws require the Board of Directors to approve the Chief of Staff as elected by the Medical Staff. The medical staff met in November and elected Dr. Roberts as the Chief of Staff for the coming term. Dr. Roberts expressed her excitement to serve in this role for a full term.

**10.3. First Reading (No Action Required)  
Consideration to Approve a Bylaws Amendment to Update Article III, Section 5 to Change the Affirmative Votes Required to Censure or Remove a Board Member from 75% to 2/3, and to Update Article VIII to Remove References to the Retired Medical Staff Development Plan.**

Ms. Wythe reported on behalf of the Governance Committee. Mr. Bullard and Ms. Wilson did a review of the bylaws throughout the year and reported their findings to the committee. There were only two suggested changes to the document, and those are presented here for a first reading tonight. There is no action to be taken tonight.

**11. REPORTS**

**11.1. Chief Executive Officer**

Ryan Smith, CEO reported. The hospital experienced a power outage on Friday, December 13th and the emergency generators did not engage. We were without power for approximately an hour and 25 minutes. We set up Incident Command at Homer Medical Center, which did have power. We're working on our After Action Report. This was unacceptable, and we're working to make sure it doesn't happen again. We're working with NC Machinery and the borough, and we'll perform a complete test in the next month. Fortunately, there was no patient harm caused as a result of the power outage. The board directed Mr. Smith to verify if there are any reporting requirements related to this incident.

**11.2. BOD Committee: Pension**

Walter Partridge, committee chair, reported. The Pension Committee met on November 21. Newport/Acensus gave a detailed report. They reported on upcoming changes for pension laws, and it appears the catchup rules are the

only ones that might affect the hospital plans. There are no required changes to our plan and they're ready to go for 2025. The committee did not have all the reports on gains and losses on the plan due to the recent conversion from Newport to Acensus, but those reports will be provided to the Finance Committee as the conversion is finished. There was an 8% gain for the quarter which is healthy. There were no recommended changes to our funds. Mr. Weisser added that the Newport presentations are very educational.

### **11.3. BOD Committee: Finance**

The Finance Committee met on November 21 to review the October financials. It was a good month. Revenue was on target, expenses were below and so were deductions so there was a net 3% gain instead of an 8% loss as budgeted, so it was a good month.

### **11.4. BOD Committee: Governance/Education**

Beth Wythe, committee chair, reported. The Governance/Education Committee met in November and reviewed the board self evaluation. Barb Lorsbach from Governwell presented the findings to the group and all board members were invited to attend. The meeting was also recorded and made available online. The committee requested you send your top 3 topics you'd like to address in 2025, so we'll be discussing that at our meeting tomorrow. If you haven't had a chance to send those priorities in, please do so.

### **11.5. Chief of Staff**

Dr. Roberts thanked the board for confirming her election as Chief of Staff for 2025-26. Also elected to the MEC were Dr. Hans Amen (Credentials Committee), Dr. Lucy Fisher (at-large member) and Brian McCorison (APP at-large member). We also celebrated the service of four outgoing MEC members - Dr. Landess, Dr. Inglis, Dr. Christy Martinez and Julie McCarron, CNM. The MEC approved the bylaws as written for the next calendar year, and a deeper dive into reviewing the bylaws is planned. Daniel Skousen, RT Director, gave a presentation on the possible addition of cardiopulmonary rehab, which the medical staff supported adding as a service line. Ms. Wilson expressed her strong support of adding this service at SPH.

### **11.6. Service Area Board Representative**

Francie Roberts reported on behalf of the Service Area Board (SAB). The SAB met on November 14th, but the December meeting was cancelled. At the November meeting the resolution supporting the capital funding requests was passed. We also welcomed new member Lynda Reed to the board.

## **12. DISCUSSION**

There were no additional items for discussion.

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

There were no additional comments from the audience.

## **14. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD**

(Announcements/Congratulations)

**14.1. Chief Executive Officer**

Mr. Smith had no additional comments.

**14.2. Board Members**

Dr. Knapp shared the power outage had a lot of impact in the Imaging Department, and uncovered several areas for improvement. Mr. Simmons expressed gratitude that no patient harm came from the power outage and wished everyone a happy holiday. Ms. Wilson congratulated Dr. Roberts on her election as Chief of Staff and Katie Martin, LTC Director, on earning her Administrator's License. Dr. Landess also congratulated Dr. Roberts. Mr. Weisser shared he was most of the way through NRHA's Governance Course for Board members of rural hospitals. He has found it extremely valuable and would strongly recommend other board members enroll in the course. It takes about 2.5 hours of time, every 2 weeks. There is a new cohort starting in March 2025.

**15. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**15.1. Service Area Board Schedule - Volunteers Needed**

The schedule of Service Area Board meetings was circulated for signup.

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

The board adjourned to executive session at 6:12pm.

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

The board re-entered open session at 7:34pm.

**17.1. Consideration to Approve SPH Resolution 2024-28, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Approving Medical Staff Credentialing for December 2024**

*Beth Wythe made a motion to approve SPH Resolution 2024-28, A Resolution of the South Peninsula Hospital Board of Directors Approving Medical Staff Credentialing for December 2024, to include the initial appointment of:*

*Christopher Dale, MD*

*TeleICU-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Joshua Jones, MD*

*TelePsych-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Matthew MacKinnon, MC*

*TelePsych-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Michael Doherty, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Paula Gerber-Gore, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Kitti Kaiboriboon, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Madhavi Lekkala, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Eric Prince, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Ednea Simon, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

*Steven Smith, MD*

*TeleEEG-Prov*

*Telemedicine*

<i>Natasha Sparrow, DO</i>	<i>TeleEEG-Prov</i>	<i>Telemedicine</i>
<i>Derek Yu, MD</i>	<i>TeleEEG-Prov</i>	<i>Telemedicine</i>
<i>Christopher Varani, MD</i>	<i>TeleICU-Prov</i>	<i>Telemedicine</i>
<i>Bionod Wagel, MD</i>	<i>TeleStroke-Prov</i>	<i>Telemedicine</i>

*and the reappointment of:*

<i>James Andrews, MD</i>	<i>Otolaryngology</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Christine Pratt, PA-C</i>	<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>Active</i>
<i>William Oley, MD</i>	<i>Emergency Medicine</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Renaë Blanton, ANP, FNPBC</i>	<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>Community</i>
<i>Claire Waite, MD</i>	<i>Radiology-vRad</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Sonja Martin-Young, CNM</i>	<i>Midwifery</i>	<i>Community</i>
<i>Jessie Wray, MD</i>	<i>Emergency Medicine</i>	<i>Courtesy</i>
<i>Carrie Warren, FNP</i>	<i>Family Medicine</i>	<i>Active</i>

*and the modification of the following:*

<i>Melissa Heiry, MD</i>	<i>Skin Biopsy Privilege</i>
<i>Maureen Filipek, MD</i>	<i>Courtesy to Active Category</i>

*Walter Partridge seconded the motion. Motion Carried.*

**17.2. Board Member Election for 2025**

A secret-ballot election of board members for 2025 was held during executive session. The following board members were appointed/reappointed with an affirmative vote of the majority of the Board: Kim Frost, Matthew Hambrick, Aaron Weisser and Christopher Landess, MD.

**18. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Accepted:

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Maura Jones, Executive Assistant

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Aaron Weisser, President

Minutes Approved: 01/29/25

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Mary E. Wythe, Secretary