



Klickitat Valley HEALTH

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1 OF KLICKITAT COUNTY**
Special Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2023
Zoom Meeting ID #833 3482 7527

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

A special meeting of the Klickitat Valley Health (KVH) Board of Commissioners was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 8 a.m. in The Admin Conference Room as via Zoom Conference Call for information and discussion regarding the proposed Rural Health Enterprise Consultant Services Agreement, as well as Executive Session for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of an applicant for public employment allowable per RCW 42.30.110 (g). Commissioner Scott, President of the Board of Commissioners, was the presiding officer. A quorum was present including: Commissioners Pond, Ihrig, Hoctor and Sigfrinius.

Also present were: Leslie Hiebert, CEO; Lori Groves, CFO; Jonathan Hatfield, COO; as well as Barbara Bostick, Recorder.

CALL TO ORDER & CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Board President Scott called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Board President Scott asked all commissioners present if anyone had any conflict of interest regarding any items on the agenda. Commissioners noted no conflict of interest.

Rural Health Enterprise Consultant Services Agreement – Leslie Hiebert

Commissioner Scott noted that the Board didn't realize that the consultant agreement would be through the Rural Health Collaborative and thought that it would be directly with Leslie. She added that Jonathan Hatfield will be able to sign the consultant services when he is appointed CEO as it will be within his signing authority, but that she wanted to be sure that the Board was onboard with the terms prior to the agreement being signed.

Jonathan Hatfield noted that when Leslie Hiebert gave her notice the need for consultation availability was discussed. Additionally, he noted that there would be significant cost savings to the District with his CEO salary and those savings will offset the cost of the proposed consultation service. Lori Groves, CFO noted her agreement. Jonathan noted that with the salary being a reduced cost to the District there is room in the budget for continued access to Leslie in a meaningful way. He added that the District frequently uses consultants and it is not uncommon to use consultants to bridge a knowledge gap. He noted that there is a lot that he will need her insight and historical knowledge, i.e. provider contracts.

Leslie apologized noting that she didn't realize that it wasn't clear to the Board that the agreement would be through the Rural Health Enterprise and not directly with her. She noted that they feel that when they take personnel from a rural hospital that it is important for them to provide support during the process.

Commissioner Hctor noted that providing consulting services may be another thing the RHE can do. Leslie replied that it is something they want to do. She noted that turnover makes it difficult to keep consistency. She added that the length of time noted in the consultant agreement can be changed and if Jonathan or Lori does not need her consultation services for the proposed length of time, it can be changed at any time. Commissioner Hctor noted that he hopes it proves to be a positive experience for both parties. Lori noted that it will be nice to have someone to brainstorm with that has historical knowledge. Leslie noted that her intent is to help the District.

Commissioner Scott inquired how the hours would be tracked. Leslie responded that it can be tracked in six- minute increments or it can be done as a monthly rate. She added that the CEO job is not an easy one. She noted that she still learns something new every month and things are consistently changing.

Commissioner Hctor noted that at is previous employment they kept track in six- minute increments. Commissioner Scott noted that could be difficult to track. Lori Groves noted that she and Jonathan will need 8 hours per week during the budget for sure and that she feels that 8 hours per week should be enough. She added that she will have the first run of the budget completed before Leslie is gone.

Commissioner Scott inquired regarding KVH paying travel costs. Leslie noted that the agreement doesn't have to include travel, but it is included in our other consultant agreements and there may be an occasion that Jonathan would need her to be here in person. Commissioner Ihrig asked where travel from would be based. Leslie noted that other consultants we have hired have been paid for travel expenses from where they are located. She noted as an example Cindy Champion, who provided consultation services in the Laboratory travelled from South Carolina and that is where her travel reimbursement was based on. Leslie added that her position is a hybrid position, that includes the option for her to work in Olympia once a month, but she is not required to. Jonathan Hatfield noted that he doesn't foresee the need for her to travel to Goldendale currently.

Commissioner Scott again noted that Jonathan Hatfield will have the authority as the CEO to approve the agreement, and Lori Groves has that authority currently. She reiterated that she just wanted to be sure that the Board is in agreement with the terms prior to the agreement being executed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

President Scott stated that the Board would be going into Executive Session at 8:30 a.m. for approximately 30 minutes for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of an applicant for public employment RCW 42.30.110 (g) and will return to open public session at 9:00 a.m. At 9:00 a.m.,

Commissioner Scott noted that the Board would remain in Executive Session for an additional 30 minutes and will return to open public session at 9:30 a.m. At 9:30 a.m. Commissioner Scott noted that the Board would remain in Executive Session for an additional approximately 30 minutes and will return to open public session at 10:00 a.m.

RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION

The Board returned to open public session at 10:00 a.m.

Having no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Ihrig made a motion to adjourn at 10:03 a.m. Commissioner Sigfrinius seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



Crystal Scott, Board President



Ron Ihrig, Board Secretary