



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
June 16, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Eagle County Health Service District occurred on June 16, 2022 at 3:00pm at 1055 Edwards Village Blvd., Edwards, Eagle County, Colorado, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Colorado.

The following Directors were present and acting:

Janet Bartnik
Dan Smith (virtually)
Lynn Blake
Jack Eck
Scott McCorvey

Eagle County Health Service District Staff in attendance in-person:

Brandon Daruna, Chief Executive Officer
Steve Vardaman, Operations Manager
Ryan Bush, Operations Specialist
Dana Query, IT Systems Administrator
Veronica Ross, Finance Manager
Michelle Gennett, Human Resources Manager
Sarah Braucht, Office Coordinator
Christopher Ewart, Paramedic

Eagle County Health Service District Staff in attendance virtually:

Will Dunn, Chief Clinical Officer
Grant Middlebrook, Paramedic

Public in Attendance:

Kathryn Winn of Collins, Cole, Flynn, Winn & Ulmer
Todd Goulding of Goulding Development Advisors LLC

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of Eagle County Health Service District was called to order by Mr. Smith on June 16, 2022 at 3:00pm noting a quorum was present.

GRATITUDE & POSITIVE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Mr. Vardaman noted that the community paramedics helped a resident with a terminal illness on a Vail mountain tour as one of his final wishes.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A motion was made by Ms. Bartnik to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED to approve the May 19, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes and May Monthly Expenditures.

BOARD BUSINESS ITEMS:

Employee Housing Committee Designees –

Ms. Bartnik made a motion to appoint Mr. Smith, Ms. Blake, Ms. Gennett, Mr. Bradford, and Mr. Nate Krehbiel to the Employee Housing Committee. Mr. McCorvey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Daruna will organize a meeting once Mr. Bradford is back in the office next week.

RESOLVED to appoint Mr. Smith, Ms. Blake, Ms. Gennett, Mr. Bradford, and Mr. Nate Krehbiel to the Employee Housing Committee.

Scheduled Time for Board Meetings –

After some discussion amongst the Board and staff, it was decided to leave the Board meetings on the third Thursday of the month at 3:00pm.

CARES Registry Fiscal Agent Temporary Support –

Mr. Daruna spoke about the CARES (Cardiac Arrest Registry to Enhance Survival) database that is kept for cardiac prehospital care. Funding for the program ended in December 2021 and the District has been overseeing the financial aspect of the program until CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment) takes over later this fall. A committee was created to move the program along and bridge the gap until the state can establish staff to run the program. Mr. Dunn noted that the District managing the finances of the program incurs minor overhead costs for the District, but is a big benefit for the program and its participants. Mr. Daruna stated that it costs about \$20,000 per year to maintain the database and currently a former District employee is helping to maintain it for free.

Contract with Vail Valley Emergency Physicians for Medical Direction –

Dr. Diana Hearne is officially retiring as the District's Medical Director on July 1st. Mr. Dunn commented that the District needs a specialized EMS physician with a year of EMS fellowship. He wants a medical director to be more involved in the day to day operations and meetings of the District. The hiring process for an EMS physician has taken much longer than expected. Ms. Winn has looked over the medical director contract and it is almost ready to sign as soon as it is returned from Vail Health. Dr. Zeller is starting at Vail Health on July 1st with the understanding that about 60% of his time will be with Vail Health and 40% with the District. Dr. Engeln will be utilized as a backup medical director. Some members of the Board struggled to give their approval for the contract without seeing at least a draft copy first.

Ms. Bartnik made a motion to direct Mr. Daruna to enter into an agreement with Vail Valley Emergency Physicians in the amount of \$125,000 per year for a two-year contract for medical direction services with the caveat that the contract be brought back to the Board to ratify at the July meeting. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with Mr. McCorvey abstaining from the motion.

RESOLVED to direct Mr. Daruna to enter into an agreement with Vail Valley Emergency Physicians in the amount of \$125,000 per year for a two-year contract for medical direction services with the caveat that the contract is brought back to the Board to ratify at the July meeting.

ACTION ITEMS:

Review 2021 Audit with Jim Hinkle and Approve Audit as Presented –

Jim Hinkle of Hinkle & Company presented the independent auditor's report on the audit of the District's financial statements. In his opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Eagle County Health Service District, as of December 31, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Mr. Hinkle praised the District for the segregation of duties and internal process controls. There were no significant deficiencies noted and no auditor adjustments were needed. The format of the opinion from the auditor has been updated. Mr. Hinkle said the District's financial records are in good shape.

Ms. Blake made a motion to accept the 2021 audit as presented. Mr. McCorvey seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously

RESOLVED to accept the 2021 audit as presented.

UPDATES:

Executive Report –

Mr. Daruna noted that he moved to Eagle last week and he has received an incredibly warm welcome from staff. He has upcoming meetings with the county fire chiefs and individual Board members. Mr. Daruna plans on doing a lot of ridealongs with the crews to better understand the workings of the District and to get to know the field staff.

Operations Report –

Mr. Vardaman noted that spring call volume dipped, but the crews are getting busier now that the summer season and events are in full swing. The State of Colorado is extending the timeline for a grant the District received last year to fund a new ambulance. There have been significant supply chain issues and the District may not see any new ambulances until next year. Though the Eagle County covid positivity rate is currently around 15%, there are no proposed changes to the internal covid policies.

Admin/Financial Report –

Ms. Ross commented that the cash on hand is increasing, but it will need to last the District through the rest of the year. Staff meet with the District's external billing company, EMS Management & Consultants, at the end of May and they are still working through some issues related to incorrect billing for calls and moving accounts too quickly to collections. The billing company is not supposed to send accounts to collections without District staff approval first and they are also having challenges finding patient insurance. Mr. Dunn thinks that changing billing companies at this point would set the District back, so staff is trying to work things out with the current company as much as possible.

Staff Reports –

Ms. Bartnik noted that she likes the change in the recruiting strategy for field staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Ms. Winn reviewed the summary of executive sessions and when to appropriately use them. Ms. Bartnik made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to Colorado Revised Statute §24-6-402(4)(c), C.R.S., Matters required to be kept confidential by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:15pm.

The Board reconvened at 4:37pm

Mr. Smith made a motion to approve charitable write offs as recommended by staff. Ms. Bartnik seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. Bartnik made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of June 16, 2022 at 4:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary for the Meeting
Sarah Braucht

Approved: Board of Directors





