



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
July 21, 2022**

The Regular Meeting of the Eagle County Health Service District occurred on July 21, 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
Lynn Blake
Jack Eck
Scott McCorvey

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

Jim Bradford, Chief Operating Officer
Steve Vardaman, Operations Manager
Alice Harvey, Community Health Manager
Dana Query, IT Systems Administrator
Veronica Ross, Finance Manager
Michelle Gennett, Human Resources Manager
Sarah Braucht, Office Coordinator
Scott Harmsen, Paramedic Supervisor

Eagle County Health Service District Staff in attendance virtually:

Brandon Daruna, Chief Executive Officer
Katie Coakley, Communications Specialist
Jenn Cooley-Follett, Accounting Clerk
Brenda Hazard, Community Paramedic
Grant Middlebrook, Paramedic
Nate Krehbiel, Paramedic
Dr. Jason Zeller, Medical Director

Public in Attendance:

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

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 July 21, 2022 at 3:00pm noting a quorum was present.

CONSIDERATION OF CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

Mr. Vardaman proposed moving agenda item number 8A to earlier in the meeting so Mr. Goulding can get his presentation out of the way.

GRATITUDE & POSITIVE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Mr. Daruna welcomed Dr. Zeller to the meeting as one of the District's new Medical Directors.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

RESOLVED to approve the June 16, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes and June Monthly Expenditures.

ACTION ITEMS:

Todd Goulding to Discuss Vail Bar Floor Proposals –

Mr. Goulding has been brought in as a project manager to help with the tenant finish of the station space in the Vail Health building. He spoke about the current conditions and the proposals to fix the ambulance bay floor. The current floor drains do not have any slope towards the drain and the skier transport area at the hospital also has the same drainage problems. The District has retained the engineering firm of BC&E to come up with a solution and a significant portion of the floor can't be removed because it is structural. The current proposal is to install 19 floor drains with a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch slope throughout the ambulance bay area. The entire floor surface would be recoated with a waterproof membrane and a perimeter curb would be added that is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch tall and ADA compliant. Mr. Goulding collected construction proposals that priced the project around \$700,000 to \$800,000. If the amount of floor drains was reduced from 19 to 9, it would save about \$100,000. The construction will take around 8-10 weeks and it is the aim to complete the project before Thanksgiving. The entire ambulance bay would be inaccessible during that time, as well as block off 26 parking spots in the garage below the bay floor. There has been significant negotiations with Vail Health during construction to cover costs and they are unwilling to help with costs for this project.

Mr. Bradford said that if the floor drain issue is not fixed, then the option is to manually squeegee or vacuum up the water. Mr. Vardaman noted that the long term considerations with water pooling on the floor creates safety issues with electricity and slip and fall potential. Mr. McCorvey said the District needs to think about the long term problems, not just the short term costs. Ms. Bartnik wanted to know about drain and floor maintenance and if daily squeegeeing is different from the floor drain issue. Mr. McCorvey also asked if the

District has to pay construction costs all at once or if payments can be spread out. Mr. Smith suggested asking Vail Health to chip in on costs. Mr. Goulding recommended keeping the project at 19 drains since the cost savings for 9 drains would not be significant. Ms. Winn said she would take an indepth look at the lease with Vail Health. Mr. McCorvey said it is worth asking Vail Health with project costs since this is a significant expense for a taxpayer funded special district. Mr. Vardaman said that ambulance operations will need to be moved out of the bay during construction and to look at using the sally port during that time. Mr. McCorvey noted that it is a very tight timeline to get this project done by the beginning of November. Mr. Goulding can start the conversations immediately with Vail Health and construction costs will only rise if this project is put off until spring. Mr. Daruna's preference would be to get the project and conversations with Vail Health rolling as soon as possible. Ms. Winn wanted to know if the project has been formally bid and Mr. Goulding answered that there has not been a formal general contractor process, but bids have been put out to subcontractors. It is Ms. Winn's preference to proceed with a formal bidding process. Mr. McCorvey agreed that he wants to do the process correctly and legally. Mr. Goulding said the bid process typically takes 6-8 weeks but he can try to shorten it to closer to 4-5 weeks. Mr. McCorvey noted that the District needs to get Vail Health's approval before proceeding with the tight fall timeline.

Mr. Smith made a motion to offer a request for proposal (RFP) and simultaneously approach Vail Health regarding the construction timeline and costs. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously with Mr. McCorvey abstaining from the motion.

RESOLVED to offer a request for proposal (RFP) and simultaneously approach Vail Health regarding the construction timeline and costs.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Community Paramedic Staffing Model –

Ms. Harvey presented the proposed changes to the community paramedic (CP) staffing model. Staffing changes were approved for the 2022 budget, but were taken offline once Ms. Harvey came on board this spring so she could review how the community paramedics can better meet the community's needs. As a result, the community paramedic personnel will likely be under budget for this year and she is restructuring the tracking of CP costs. There were a lot of changes in the community paramedic personnel in the past year with a budget of \$620,000 in 2021 and \$740,000 for 2022. The CP call volume has doubled from 387 calls in 2019 to 750 calls in 2020 and has continued at that pace since. While there has been a decrease in covid patient care, the amount of referral sources has increased and there is a growing need for more home health services. Ms. Harvey is working with one of the District's new Medical Directors, Dr. Zeller, and the Eagle County Population Health team to expand CP services. Mc McCorvey agreed that utilization of the CPs is only going to increase. Ms. Harvey noted that the CPs are also providing screening and clinics for the county's senior population that aren't included in the referral or call numbers. The decrease in private home health care services in Eagle County has reached crisis levels. Out of 116 crisis calls last year, only 30 were outside of daytime hours between 7pm and 7am. Most of those calls needed to

be transported to the hospital anyway and could be handled by on-shift paramedics and the Hope Center. The community paramedics currently work 48 hour shifts and Ms. Harvey wants to switch them to 12 hour daytime shifts. Night time calls can be absorbed by the on-shift paramedics and co-respond with the Hope Center. The District is also wanting to add community paramedic specialist and case coordinator positions. This new model allows the applicant pool to be broadened and to develop new CPs. Mr. McCorvey asked what is the financial impact of these staffing changes. Ms. Ross stated that there is a very minor increase since budgeted positions for 2022 were not hired and there is a more efficient use of hours. Mr. Smith asked if there are possible funding sources for CPs? Ms. Harvey is leading the discussion with the county population health group on funding through insurance company reimbursement, though the only funding sources are currently through grants. Mr. McCorvey noted that most CP referrals are for underserved populations. Mr. Daruna said there is robust lobbying at the state level which is working towards community paramedic fee-for-service insurance coverage.

ACTION ITEMS:

Contract with Vail Valley Emergency Physicians for Medical Direction –

Mr. Daruna and Ms. Winn have revised and finalized the contract with Vail Valley Emergency Physicians for Medical Direction for the District. A final copy of the contract was included in the Board meeting packet.

Ms. Bartnik made a motion to ratify the contract effective July 1, 2022. Ms. Blake seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED to ratify the contract with Vail Valley Emergency Physicians for Medical Direction for the District effective July 1, 2022.

UPDATES:

Executive Report –

An all employee meeting was held last Tuesday and there was a lot of employee feedback. Mr. Daruna is eager to find solutions to issues brought up by staff. The CARES fiscal agent project is underway and the District has received a \$20k grant from EMTS to get started and will be soliciting donations from Statewide stakeholders to see the program through to a hopeful handoff in October. Mr. Daruna is restarting the EMS liaison group which will consist of representatives from each of the partner agencies in the system (fire, VMR, Vail Health, Ski Patrol, ECPS/Medical Direction) to provide a venue for clinical and EMS system discussions. Our first task will be discussing and formalizing the process for helicopter utilization in the County. The District has been experiencing a lot of issues with our current billing company and receiving more complaints from patients. We have tried to repair our relationship with them, but the District is now in a position to start looking at other billing companies and develop a request for proposal.

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Operations Report –

Mr. Bradford noted that only 13% of transfers in June were for mental health calls, which is the lowest number in a long time.

Admin/Financial Report –

Ms. Ross is starting the budget process and she is asking for requests from staff for items they might need. The budget committee will meet a couple times before the budget is presented to the Board in November. As the Board Treasurer, Mr. McCorvey would like to be on the budget committee. Ms. Blake asked for the employee housing budget to be further explained. Ms. Ross said that there is \$1.5 million earmarked for the employee down payment loan assistance program and \$768,000 is currently committed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Ms. Ross noted that the patient financial assistance policy is being updated, so there won't be any write-offs for the Board to consider until the new policy has been reviewed by legal counsel.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of July 21, 2022 at 4:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary for the Meeting
Sarah Braucht

Approved: Board of Directors






