



**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
January 19, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Eagle County Health Service District occurred on January 19, 2023 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 (virtual)

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

Brandon Daruna, Chief Executive Officer
Jim Bradford, Chief Operating Officer
Will Dunn, Chief Clinical Officer
Veronica Ross, Finance Manager
Dana Query, IT Systems Administrator
Michelle Gennett, Human Resources Manager
Lauren Barcza, Operations Specialist
Katie Coakley, PIO/Communications & Marketing
Hank Bevington, Paramedic Supervisor
Dawn Vogeler, Paramedic Supervisor
John Farris, Community Paramedic
Meredith O'Malia, Community Case Coordinator
Amelia Van Dyke, Paramedic

Eagle County Health Service District Staff in attendance virtually:

Christopher Ewart, Paramedic
Ande Rasmussen, Paramedic
Chris Marsh, Paramedic
Sarah Braucht, Office Coordinator

Public in Attendance:

Kathryn Winn of Collins, Cole, Flynn, Winn & Ulmer (virtual)

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 January 19, 2023 at 3:00pm noting a quorum was present.

GRATITUDE & POSITIVE PATIENT EXPERIENCE

Eagle County Paramedic crews ran 440 calls over three holiday weeks at the end of December and early January and they did an exceptional job handling the high volume of activity. There were a lot of critical care interfacility transfers. Three cardiac arrests happened this past weekend and were taken care of by ski patrol. The District is fortunate to have such a good relationship with our local ski patrols.

CONSENT AGENDA:

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

RESOLVED to approve the December 15, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes and December Monthly Expenditures.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Brandon Daruna CDPHE Consulting/Teaching -

Mr. Daruna wanted to discuss maintaining his relationship with the University of Denver, Daniels College of Business; and the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment's request for him to participate in county EMTS consultative visits. While the district is always his absolute priority, he believes participating in education, and maintaining close relationships with CDPHE are also beneficial to the District and our staff. His work with CDPHE, previously, has been roughly one site visit every other year (3 days) – 2023 is unique because the Lake County evaluation is being executed as an emergency due to their health districts' recent challenges. He teaches one program at DU, Public Safety Leadership Development, with three annual offerings that sums to 12 days per year. The program is specifically tailored to teach leadership and management principles to first response leaders, our last cohort included 4 members of the Eagle County response community, including the Chief and Deputy Chief of Avon Police Department. Mr. Daruna's contract last year approved these activities and he hopes to continue with them this year as well. Ms. Blake believes his involvement with these organizations adds credibility to the District. Ms. Bartnik would prefer for Mr. Daruna to work his paid DU teaching days as unpaid time off from the District or provide him with additional vacation days. Mr. McCorvey just wants to make sure that his District responsibilities are balanced with his time commitments away from work. Mr. Daruna said he was teaching 30 days per year and scaled back to 12 days when he came to work for the District, but he has a passion for this program and the relationships it helps to build. Mr. Dunn commented that staff supports any outreach that represents the District in a positive manner and permits it as long as his primary duties are covered. Ms. Bartnik wanted to look into having a company-wide policy for staff to take time off for a paid second job. Ms. Winn explained that this is already the case for the vast majority of staff, however it's challenging to apply it to the CEO position since he is and exempt and contract employee. Mr.

Daruna explained that his total time commitment would be 12 days a year teaching at DU and 3 days every other year for CDPHE.

Ms. Bartnik made a motion to direct legal counsel to draft an addendum to the Chief Executive Officer's employment contract authorizing up to 15 days of flexible time to accommodate consulting and teaching activities and to direct staff to create a policy that would address other District staff for outside work commitments. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED to direct legal counsel to draft an addendum to the Chief Executive Officer's employment contract authorizing up to 15 days of flexible time to accommodate consulting and teaching activities and to direct staff to create a policy that would address other District staff for outside work commitments

2023 Election Direction -

Staff is looking for direction on whether to do a polling place or mail ballot election for the Board of Directors election that will take place on May 2, 2023. Staff would also like direction on the level of candidate recruiting as well. The only legal requirement is to put a Call for Nominations in the legal section of the newspaper once, however last year staff posted in on social media and held a meet the candidate evening. In the past, elections have been canceled due to having as many candidates as there were open seats. In the rare event an election was held, a polling place election took place. The election in 2022 was the first mail ballot election the District has held. Ms. Winn explained that absentee ballots are available for polling place elections and most other special districts did a polling place election in 2022. Ms. Blake asked why there was so much candidate interest in the District's election in 2022? Ms. Coakley answered that it was the first election the District had in which marketing staff had been employed and it was just good public relations to put election information out to the public. Mr. Smith said that in the past, District Board candidates were asked to be on the Board and it was very noncontroversial. Ms. Bartnik questioned if it is worth the immense amount of staff time and large expense to get additional votes with mail ballots. Mountain Recreation is holding a polling place election this year. Ms. Ross stated that Gran Farum Printing in Glenwood Springs supplied the ballots and mailing for the election last year. Because District staff was so proactive last year in securing Gran Farum early in the election, the cost was far less than other special districts experienced. Mr. Smith said he wanted the election process to go back to how it was before. Ms. Bartnik feels that promoting the election and candidate call for nominations on social media is ok. Mr. Bradford commented that the more District presence and differentiation from the fire departments, the better.

Mr. Smith made a motion to conduct a mail ballot election for the May 2, 2023 Board of Directors Election. Mr. Eck seconded the motion. The motion passed with Mr. Smith, Mr. Eck, and Ms. Bartnik voting for and Ms. Blake voting against.

RESOLVED to conduct a mail ballot election for the May 2, 2023 Board of Directors Election.

The Board supported staff to post the call for candidate nominations, and subsequent candidate information, on the District's website and social media outlets, and to host a candidate forum.

Ms. Ross stated that upwards of probably \$130,000 will be spent on a mail ballot election versus \$20,000 for a polling place election, to include election expenses and staff time. The District has a responsibility to taxpayers to explain the reasoning why the Board chose a mail ballot election over a polling place and the additional expenses incurred.

ACTION ITEMS:

2023 Billing Rates -

Ms. Bartnik made a motion to approve Resolution 1 of 2023 - APPOINTING A DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL AND AUTHORIZING DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL TO CANCEL ELECTION. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

RESOLVED to appoint Sarah Braucht as the Designated Election Official for the regular special district election scheduled for the 2nd day of May, 2023.

UPDATES:

Executive Report -

Mr. Daruna thanked staff for a stellar job over the busy holiday season. He welcomed Lauren Barcza to the team as the new Operations Specialist as well as other new District additions, Meredith O'Malia as the Community Case Coordinator and Brian Lee as a Paramedic.

Finance Report -

Ms. Ross is getting ready for the audit to take place this spring and balancing accounts. The District ended the year in a good financial situation with \$879,000 in surplus. Additionally, investments increased and bond rates rose. The District is making the transition of billing companies from EMSMC to Sharp and so far it is going well.

Operations Report -

Mr. Bradford stated that there was a 42% increase in calls in 2022 over 2021. There were a few five interfacility transfer days during the holidays and one day with six transfers, which is unprecedented. Mr. McCorvey commented that acuity and volume were also up in the Vail Health emergency department over the holidays.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mr. Smith 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. Bartnik seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. The Board entered into Executive Session at 4:18pm.

Eagle County Health Service District Regular Meeting Minutes
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The Board reconvened at 4:36pm

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

ADJOURNMENT:

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

RESOLVED to adjourn the Regular Meeting of January 19, 2023 at 4:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Secretary for the Meeting
Sarah Braucht

Approved: Board of Directors









