

**SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT No. 1**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Regularly Scheduled Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 26, 2014**

**Commissioners Present:**

Commissioner Lenore Bayuk - Chair

Commissioner Mark Schwinge

Commissioner Keri Talbott

**By Phone:** Commissioner Michael Edwards

**Absent:** Commissioner Rosanna O'Donnell

**Others Present:**

SJCPHD#1 Superintendent: Pam Hutchins

EMS: E. James Cole, SJIEMS Administrator

Dr. Michael Sullivan, SJI Medical Dr.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Commissioner Bayuk called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

➤ **Approval of January 22, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes**

➤ **IIMC Warrants**

<b>A/P Warrants</b>	<b>total \$ 747,052.62</b>
<b>Payroll</b>	<b>total \$ 1,612.70</b>
<b>Payroll Liabilities</b>	<b>total \$ 127.13</b>
<b>Electronic transfers for payroll taxes</b>	<b>total \$ 223.39</b>

➤ **SJIEMS Warrants**

<b>January Payroll</b>	<b>total \$ 108,514.21</b>
<b>A/P Warrants</b>	<b>total \$ 91,540.20</b>

**Commissioner Bayuk asked for a motion to accept consent agenda items, Commissioner Talbott --- so moved, seconded by Commissioner Edwards ---, unanimously approved.**

**EMS FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONS REPORTS:** January had 106 calls. Response times were great. The thirteenth month was almost just like the original. Had an additional \$92,000 more cash roll over than budgeted. EMT class will graduate 9 EMTS for San Juan Island, and 2 for Lopez and 1 for Orcas will graduate on March 8, 2014. Everything scheduled for the year and headed in the right direction. January financials are on track and on budget. In January we pay some bills up front like service contracts and insurance liabilities. Busy month on the flight side. We had 7 critical care Air Medical transports needed throughout the county because Airlift couldn't get here because of weather. Had meeting with NW Airlift in Bellingham at St Joseph's hospital. Dr. Sullivan said it was a productive meeting. There was discussion about all the concerns there have been the past few months. There was an agreement that there will be a joint statement for both agencies and PeaceHealth. It was agreed to have a quarterly meeting of an air medical group to work on continued issues. The meeting went really well and it is hopeful that in time the two agencies will be a regional source of partnership. NW Airlift was asked if they could provide reciprocity. They are studying the issue further. It is hopeful that with the quarterly meetings something can be reached about reciprocity. James Bryner is

helping out about 10 days a month while Joe Conway is still out on medical leave. Lainey Volk was elected to be the chair of the North Region Injury Prevention and Prevention Education Committee. Lainey Volk's outreach is of high quality and she is doing a fantastic job for our community and our region. Dr. Sullivan spoke to the feasibility of having a fixed wing plane at our disposal. Dr. Sullivan spoke about one day having 3 critical transports with one being a heart attack, a stroke, and a critical brain injury in one day. The brain injury was on Orcas Island and without Island Air Ambulance she would have died. When that happened Dr. Sullivan started keeping track of how many times NW Airlift was requested, but could not fly in here. NW Airlift was requested because of the critical nature of the patients but could not come because of weather. Dr. Sullivan counted 7 in January that NW Airlift could not fly in here. That is why we need the Island Air Ambulance for those instances and also the difficulty with the ferries at times. It is critical that we have these two options for our community. The system is working and all are getting physician level training here on the island. Commissioner Mark Schwinge asked if we are keeping statistics on turn down versus freezing rain. Jackie and Will Hamilton are starting to keep more data along those lines. It will be a couple of months before that will be ready.

**Island Air Ambulance Report – Larry Wall:** Trish Fenstermacher was hired as flight nurse. She is a Nurse Practitioner, Flight Nurse, and Paramedic which came up through the ranks and started as an EMT. She has been in the industry twenty-six years. She has flown for Gold Cross Ambulance/Mayo ambulance. She has lots of experience with critical care transports. People on flight, ER, and clinic like her. Great to get emails from EMT's saying they like working with Trish. She is very laid back and is approachable and teachable. She has been to the other islands and likes it here a lot. She is bringing a whole different level of experience and teaching here. She is working well with Weyshawn and the other paramedics. I have seen Trish with her patients and she puts them at ease. She is a great fit for this community. We searched all over the county to find her. This month was very busy on the flight side. There were a number of times where others could not fly in. We were able to do IFR at times. The investment that Will and Jackie Hamilton did for the single pilot plane was substantial. It is a huge benefit to have a plane we can get out on in bad weather.

**IIMC FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONS REPORTS:** Pam Hutchins presented her financial and operations report. January total receipts were \$60,978 of which was \$4,672 tax revenues, \$18,000 in past patient fees, and HRSA Telemedicine Grant Revenue of \$38,306. Disbursements totaled \$748,792 which included \$747,180 payables which included payroll taxes of \$127 and employee payroll of \$1,613 for 1 employee for January while working on closing out IIMC business and 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Commissioners wages. It also included the second half of the PeaceHealth Subsidy of \$741,541 which was paid in January instead of December because PeaceHealth waited to give their report detailing what the subsidy was spent on until January so they had yearend totals. Total Cash available at the end of January with cash on hand was \$83,143 of which \$42,328 was for the Telemedicine grant.

Please see attached Financials for month of January and yearend 2013. The 2011/2012 State Audit is officially finished and the Exit Conference is scheduled for a phone interview on March 5, 2014 at 12:30 p.m. Commissioner Lenore Bayuk and Commissioner Michael Edwards will be attending the exit interview on March 5, 2014.

**OLD BUSINESS EMS Levy Discussion:** The Levy failed by several hundred votes. Jim Cole thought that information was not put out enough ahead of time for the community could digest it and get their questions answered. There was also the problem of the people mixing up the Levy being confused with the Hospital, and not just EMS services. We did not have any people to go and do the speaker circuit and promote. At some point the Commissioners may want to do something by the end

of 2016 to have more funding coming in to the organization. We will need to declare early and understand who we need to talk to have questions answered. We should have a committee heading this information sharing and start early. Need information out in a clear, concise way. As employees we can't promote the levy with district time or money. We can talk about the facts of the levy, but can't lobby for the levy. We need a group of passionate people to get out and spread the facts and champion the idea. \$1.3 million is what we would have received without the values going down of property values. Now we are receiving only \$960,000. Only district along with Orcas Rec have a negative effect and decreasing values of tax revenue. Close to 1.4 million loss if not renew the levy or do a permanent levy. There will need to be a budget adjustment for the tax revenue not being the \$1.1 million and down to the \$960,000. The Affordable Care Act still could have losses. Can't answer the question yet of do we need to go out for a permanent levy, but watching it monthly. Have interested people call the board to help. Commissioner Edwards said he wanted to help with the levy issue not only from being a Board Commissioner but also being involved with The Inter Island Healthcare Foundation which has helped with political issues in the past and would be willing to help with this levy issue. Tom Cable said the Peace Island Volunteers could be informed and involved. Call Barbara Cable. Commissioner Edwards could be a liaison with the Peace Island Volunteers. Commissioner Edwards's observation was people didn't know what was going on with the board. Putting the last quarter of minutes on website is a good step forward.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Change of April Board Meeting to April 30, 2014 - approved this change.

Board of Commissioners' Retreat Discussion: Started discussion with the Executive Director of the Washington State Hospital Association, Ben Lindekugel, about a retreat for the commissioners. It will be the first weekend in May for the Board Retreat on Friday May 2 and Saturday, May 3, 2014. It will be a public meeting since all commissioners will be there.

Commissioner Bayuk attended the Community Experience committee with Tom Cable. She would like Commissioner Schwinge to attend as a board member.

Documents were presented with the other board documents to sign to take Beth Williams Gieger off the Inter Island Medical Center Account and add Commissioner Keri Talbott to the account since Beth Williams Gieger no longer works for the hospital district.

**Dr. Sullivan is focusing on improving staffing at Peace Island Medical Center ER.** Dr. Sullivan gave a report on two new ER Doctors that will be starting at Peace Island Medical Center. One is Dr. Roy Graves with over 30 years of emergency medicine training. He was most recently Director of Skagit Valley Hospital's clinics. He has accepted a little more than a half-time position. Also have hired a full time physician, Dr. Jason Hiner, which currently works as a teaching physician at Harbor View Medical Center and University of Washington. He will be starting early May or June and will bring a wealth of new practice and innovation here. There will also be a per diem physician starting from Overlake Hospital. He is trying to line up a great line of specialists for the ER. There will also be a new nursing assistant manager that will be starting soon. All of this experience is rare for a critical care hospital. Dr. Hiner wants to start a rural health practice track here at Peace Island Medical Center. Commissioner Edwards stated he had meet both Dr. Hiner and Trish Fenstermacher and both were rock stars.

Beth commented on Telemedicine. The psychiatrist is actually going to start this Friday and every Friday. Commissioner Bayuk hopes that there will be some press releases on these new doctors. The In Touch remote equipment is up and ready. It connects to Bellingham.

Dr. Doug Tuttle is leaving PIMC and a party has been planned for April 26, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Grange.

**Audience Participation:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Commissioner Schwinge -----moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Talbott, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at --- 5:35-pm.

**ALL EXHIBITS AND SUPPORTING MATERIAL AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.**

  
Signed By Chairperson

3-26-2014  
Date