

## Minutes

Point Roberts Public Hospital District

Wednesday November 8, 2023

### **Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Stephen Falk, Commissioner (via Zoom)

### **Attending:**

Commissioners: Stephen Falk, Sara Oggel, Noel Newbolt  
Superintendent: Barbara Wayland  
Financial Advisor: Paulette Ladner  
Recording Secretary: Farrah Carsten

### **Introduction of Guests:**

Dr. Sean Bozorgzadeh, Judy Ross, Bill Zidel, Erin, Pat Grubb– APB

**Public Comment:** Judy Ross asked why the clinic doesn't have RSV and Covid vaccines. Per Stephen, based on the discussion at the last meeting. Dr. Bozorgzadeh said they were trying to look into it but at this point they were not planning to have the vaccines available due to the cost and billing issues. RSV never came up at the last meeting. (Alex and Dr. Bozorgzadeh were not available to confirm or deny that). The flu vaccine is being offered. Sara mentioned that the Fire Department has covid testing kits available.

### **Approval of Prior Minutes:**

Approval of minutes from previous PRPHD Regular Meeting (October 11, 2023)  
**Motion:** To approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

### **Financial Report:**

#### **Financial Report:**

Paulette Ladner presented the financial report. Current month payables \$16,575 / Payroll is \$3,400.96

There are no items to note.

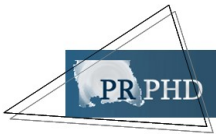
#### **Bills presented for approval as follows:**

Bills paid:

11/07/23 – SuperTrack Urgent Care PLLC = \$16,000  
11/01/23 – Point Roberts Bookkeeping = \$525  
10/27/23 – Point Roberts Press = \$50

#### **Payroll as follows:**

Barb Wayland – Superintendent = \$1,914  
Farrah Carsten – Secretary = \$528  
Stephen Falk – Commissioner = \$114  
Sara Oggel – Commissioner = \$114  
Noel Newbolt – Commissioner = \$114  
Deanna Perkins – Cleaner = \$448



**Motion:** To approve warrants and payroll for prior months' expenditures as presented. **Motion carried.**

**SUPERTRACK**

YOUR BUDGET TRACKING SOFTWARE FOR EXCEL

DATE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE
10/1	100	...	...	...	...
10/2	...	...	...	...	...
10/3	...	...	...	...	...
10/4	...	...	...	...	...
10/5	...	...	...	...	...
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10/30	...	...	...	...	...
10/31	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	...

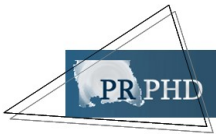
**Clinic Medical Director Update:**

The clinic numbers were at 217 which is an increase by 20 visits in comparison to last year. There were 2 successful flu clinics held and the clinic will continue to give shots as patients walk in. Quite a few have come in for the 65 and over flu vaccine.

Sara Viant has been onboarded at the clinic and is now expanding the blood draw hours for patients. On Fridays she does INR clinics and B12 shots. For the first time last week she had a Zoom call with Dr. Bozorgzadeh so that he could inspect a laceration and remotely treat the patient.

Dr. Bozorgzadeh brought in a piece of equipment that will enable the clinic to be more independent in regards to labs. The equipment is a siemens machine that does an important test for diabetics. The first test is the hemoglobin A1C which all diabetics should have every 4-6 months to measure their average blood sugar for a period of 3 months. Another test the machine can do is microalbumin creatinine ratio urine test. This test is for people that are diabetic or have high blood pressure that have renal effects. This test looks for minuscule amounts of albumin in your urine. Albumin is a protein needed for tissue growth and healing. It can leak into your urine when your kidneys aren't working as they should. The test can find out if diabetes has damaged your kidneys.

Patients were sent to Quest labs to have this done and now it will take only 4 minutes to complete the test at the clinic. There is still more training to be completed but the first test was done this past Tuesday while the doctor was present.



There is a machine that could be put into use at Point Roberts which is made by Abbott and can do complete metabolic testing and cholesterol testing. However, the cartridges are quite expensive. Dr. Bozorgzadeh can present the numbers to the commission. Sometimes the reimbursement for these kinds of tests is below what the cartridge actually costs. For example, if the cartridge is \$12 Medicare may pay \$10. Given the fact that Point Roberts is geographically isolated, having the ability to complete these tests versus having to send patients down south would be a great capability to have. SuperTrack's goal is to continue to build on that capability while being cognizant of the realities of insurance reimbursement and payment.

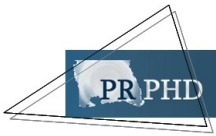
Stephen brought up Judy Ross's earlier comment in regards to Covid vaccine availability. Dr. Bozorgzadeh responded that it will not be offered and he didn't have more information to share. It's a rapidly changing environment and there's not a lot of clarity in the rules and the way insurance companies treat this area. The big companies have more resources to negotiate with insurance and pharmaceutical companies for coverage and they have more leverage for buying the vaccines at a discounted price. It's all about feasibility.

Judy Ross asked about Medicare since SuperTrack is contracted with them. Dr. Bozorgzadeh explained that providing vaccination is a completely different logistical issue. The clinic would have to buy the vaccine, store it, and keep inventory of it. As providers the services offered are healthcare services. It's not mandated by Medicare as mandatory parts of the service. As physicians they are obligated to provide medical services.

## Superintendent's Report:

**Records Retention Policy:** To be tabled for next month.

**Budget:** The budget had not been drafted because the county had not sent Paulette the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter figures in time. She did receive them now and Barbara will start working on the draft. There will need to be a special meeting later to approve the budget. The basis of the budget is to start with the figure from last year and add 1% of last year's actual budget and any refund, then decide how much to increase each of the budget categories. The increase is varied based on several things. Some categories will get significantly larger, some will be decreased and some will be eliminated if it has never been in use with the exception of the emergency fund the hospital district has always had in place. Barbara to send out the draft to everyone when it's completed and the date can be set for the special meeting.



**Other:**

Paulette received an invoice (via email from Joanna) dated 12/15/22 from AWPHD (Association of Washington Public Hospital District) for dues not paid. There isn't a vendor number so the county will not issue a check. It's addressed to the clinic and not the hospital district but PRPHD has not paid yearly dues for this, there is no record of payments going to them at any time in QuickBooks. Per Barbara they will need to apply to the county for a vendor number, Paulette is unable to do this for them.

**Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 7:00 pm via ZOOM**

Meeting adjourned: 7:33 p.m.

*Minutes approved verbally at the following month's ZOOM meeting*

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Stephen Falk

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Sara Oggel

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Noel Newbolt

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Farrah Carsten