

Minutes

Point Roberts Public Hospital District

Wednesday November 9, 2022

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:

Virginia Lester, Alexandra Wiley, Vic Riley, Elisabeth Mason, Judy Ross, Patrick Grubb – APB

Public Comment: None

Approval of Prior Minutes:

Approval of minutes from previous PRPHD Regular Meeting (October 12, 2022)
Motion: To approve minutes as presented. **Motion carried.**

Financial Report:

Financial Report:

Paulette Ladner presented the financial report. Current month payables \$16,933.37 / Payroll is \$3,232.00

There is one item to note: reimbursement to Paulette Ladner = \$212.00 for PRPHD P.O. Box 164 annual payment

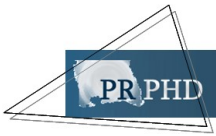
Bills presented for approval as follows:

Bills paid:

11/03/22 – SuperTrack Urgent Care PLLC = \$16,000
10/31/22 – Point Roberts Bookkeeping = \$224
11/01/22 – Bellingham Business Machine = \$57.44
11/02/22 – Whatcom County FD #5 = \$112.41
11/01/22 – Whidbey Telecom = \$37.52
11/01/22 – Point Roberts Press = \$100
10/18/22 – Point Roberts Bookkeeping reimbursement = \$212
10/18/22 – Whatcom Co. Admin Svc (Q3 payroll) = \$190

Payroll as follows:

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



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

Clinic Medical Director Update:

SUPERTRACK

NEW PATIENTS (NOVEMBER 2022)

| AGE | SEX | ETHNIC | DIAGNOSIS | DATE | TIME | STATUS | REMARKS |
|-----|-----|--------|-----------|------|------|--------|---------|
| 1 | M | | | | | | |
| 2 | F | | | | | | |
| 3 | M | | | | | | |
| 4 | F | | | | | | |
| 5 | M | | | | | | |
| 6 | F | | | | | | |
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| 8 | F | | | | | | |
| 9 | M | | | | | | |
| 10 | F | | | | | | |
| 11 | M | | | | | | |
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| 14 | F | | | | | | |
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October's numbers were up from last year in comparison, 197 visits this year versus 139 last year.

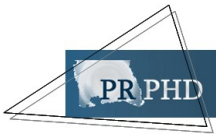
80% of the flu vaccines have been administered. SuperTrack has been catching up on billing the government for the Covid vaccines. The clinic has distributed some Paxlovid to Point Roberts residents but not much.

The Bellingham clinic is very cautious about admitting patients with upper respiratory issues due to the fact that if the clinical staff become ill there is not anyone that is able to fill their position. They require patients to provide a negative PCR test prior to being admitted into the clinic. SuperTrack is asking Point Roberts residents that are experiencing upper respiratory illness (chest, cold, headache issues) to provide a negative PCR test before they come to the Bellingham clinic. Virginia clarified that the Fire Department provides PCR testing on Sundays and the test results come back by Tuesday so if someone needs the test result before then they would have to go to Avero Diagnostics in Bellingham. Walgreens provides the PCR testing as well via drive thru. The protocol for the Point Roberts clinic will remain the same. If someone is experiencing Covid like symptoms and/or has a positive result from the rapid antigen test, they should call. The clinic can then provide Paxlovid (in the parking lot) if the person qualifies.

Superintendent's Report:

Today Barbara attended the remote public officer records training provided by the WA Association for Public Hospital Districts. She realized so many have much more in the way of public records requests compared to our hospital district. They sent links providing useful information regarding public records requests and also pointed out that when you are subject to these types of requests emails are included as part of the public records.

The 2023 budget draft has been sent out. Barbara contacted Chief Carleton regarding the rent which runs from May to April, the bill does not come right away resulting in it not being paid on time.



There is a line on how much interest they can apply to the previous year's bill. The Fire Department commissioners decided that they would only raise it by the same amount they raised it last year which was 7.6% (the current CPI is 9%). Rent is going to be \$17,452.24

The actual levy last year was \$281,814.67. There was a refund for \$1,259.19, a refund is given every year. Barbara is unsure of what that means or where it is applied to on the budget but will get in contact with Kathy Zegers at the County Office.

#4425 – Medicaid Transformation Project: It shows \$4,999.00 was received, normally we extrapolate (divide it by 4). This time it was divided by 3, then the amount from the 4th quarter will be added into that total to get the extrapolated amount. Barbara spoke with Matt Ellsworth (WHS) and he said that another deposit will be issued in December for \$4,000.00. Matt also mentioned he made a request for money and is hoping to get it for PRPHD next year. Barbara has not budgeted for it because it is not guaranteed.

#5785 – Clinic Equipment: In the past this account was used for equipment but currently stated in the contract is that SuperTrack provides their own equipment. The Dell computer which was purchased several years for the superintendent's position is in need of being replaced by next year. Barbara will ask the county what this account covers and if it could include the computer she needs to have replaced.

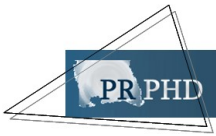
#5720 - Legal Expense: The district has had attorney fees and it was placed into the budget however it was not used this year so the amount is being reduced.

A special meeting will need to be held to approve the budget since the numbers are not finalized and the final figures are still needed to go into the levy increase resolution that needs to be voted on and signed. Barbara will be out of town but available via ZOOM. She will coordinate with Stephen on a meeting date and time. Special meeting notices must be posted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Other:

Elisabeth Mason asked Barbara for an example regarding emails being part of public records. Barbara said anytime she is sending an email on behalf of the hospital district, those are open to public records. For example, someone may request that they would like to see the email exchange between certain parties. This is why companies have email disclaimers added to their signature.

Elisabeth also inquired as to whether the clinic was letting residents know of increases in positive Covid cases. Alex responded that she is not able to disclose this information and advised getting information from the department of health and Peace Health hospital admissions (it is public information). No one has stated that the pandemic is over despite Governor Inslee lifting the Emergency Order last Monday.



There are 3 new highly contagious variants this week and despite Alex being fully vaccinated and triple boosted she still managed to become infected twice. Virginia brought up another angle which is the self-testing. People can test themselves, be Covid positive, not tell anyone and there is no way to enforce that and you may end up being exposed inadvertently. There is nothing the clinic or any other facility can do.

Stephen wanted to make one comment that he chose to ignore at the last meeting. At first, he perceived it as a personal attack when in fact it was a commission matter. Stephen received an offensive and vulgar message from a member of the public in the ZOOM chat function. His general approach with bullies and intimidation is to ignore them but because he was operating as the chairman and commissioner of the meeting, he decided to bring it to the attention of the group. There isn't any place for bullying and intimidation in a public manner such as this and hopefully it will not recur. Stephen wanted to have this on the record before the meeting adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday December 14th, 2022 @ 7:00 pm via ZOOM

Meeting adjourned: 7:31 p.m.

Minutes approved verbally at the following month's ZOOM meeting

Stephen Falk

Sara Oggel

Noel Newbolt

Farrah Carsten