



315 North 14<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Othello, WA 99344-1297  
[P] 509.488.2636  
[F] 509.331.2617

[www.othellocommunityhospital.org](http://www.othellocommunityhospital.org)

**Adams County Public Hospital District No. 3  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Thursday September 30, 2021 via webex due to the COVID-19 pandemic  
Dial in using your phone: 1-408-650-3123**

**Access Code:**

**731-222-957**

**Board Meeting: 4:00 p.m.  
Regular Board Meeting**

1. Call to Order
2. Comments from Audience
3. Auxiliary Report
4. Medical Staff Report
5. Department Report
6. Conflict of Interest Declarations
7. Consent Agenda
  - A. August 26, 2021 Regular Board; September 28, 2021 Finance; September 29, 2021 Personnel Committee meeting minutes
  - B. Claims and payroll
  - C. Bad debts and charity care.
8. Patient Satisfaction Survey
9. Financial and Statistical Report
10. Old Business:
11. New Business:
  - A. Adjustment to 2021 Capital Equipment for Nurse Call System
  - B. Approval of Resolution 21-05 Surplus Property
12. Administrative Report
  - A. Nursing Report
  - B. Patient Story
  - C. CEO Report

13. Articles

14. Process Feedback

15. Executive Session: The Board will enter closed Executive Session per: RCW 42.30.110(g) to evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee. However, subject to RCW 42.30.140(4), discussion by a governing body of salaries, wages, and other conditions of employment to be generally applied within the agency shall occur in a meeting open to the public, and when a governing body elects to take final action hiring, setting the salary of an individual employee or class of employees, or discharging an employee, that action shall be taken in a meeting open to the public. Executive session is expected to last 30 minutes.

16. Adjournment

**Adams County Public Hospital District No. 3  
Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes  
Thursday September 30, 2021 In Person and via webex due to the COVID-19  
pandemic**

**<https://www.gotomeet.me/MaryGarza1/board-meeting-9>**

**Dial in using your phone: 1-408-650-3123**

**Access Code:**

**731-222-957**

**Board Meeting: 4:00 p.m.**

**Regular Board Meeting**

**Call to Order:** President McCullough called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. President McCullough announced that the meeting is being recorded. President McCullough asked if everyone could hear her. All present acknowledged they could hear her.

**Present:** President McCullough asked for a roll call for Commissioners present. All were present. Shirley McCullough, Bob Carlson, Gayle Bohannon, Sue Long-Hosek, and Lynda Bowers

**Others Present:** Connie Agenbroad, Mark Bunch, Mary Garza, Tina Bernsen, Jim Lomax and Keli Valles

**Comments from Audience:** None

**Auxiliary Report:** None

**Medical Staff:** PI/Executive Medical Staff recommends Board approval for appointments per the attached list. Lynda Bowers made a motion to approve Medical Staff appointments per the attached list. Gayle Bohannon seconded the motion. President McCullough asked for a roll call for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

**Department Report:** Andy Torres from R-Zero/ARC-UV disinfection gave a presentation on ARC-UV disinfection technology.

**Conflict of Interest Declarations:** President McCullough asked for a roll call on conflict of interest. All stated they did not have a conflict of interest.

**Approval Consent Agenda:** Bob Carlson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda comprised of the; 1) August 26, 2021 Regular Board Meeting; September 28, 2021 Finance Committee Meeting; and September 29, 2021 Personnel Committee Meeting minutes. 2) Claims, Payroll, Payroll taxes, and Auxiliary in the amount of \$2,249,597.58 3) Bad Debts and Charity in the amount of \$261,197.10 and \$30,193.86 respectively. Sue Long-Hosek seconded the motion. President McCullough asked for a roll call for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

**Patient Satisfaction Survey:** None

**Financial Report:** Mark Bunch is still working on the draft budget and it was not finalized to present to the Commissioners at this time. Mark Bunch presented the capital equipment request FY 2022, and projected capital equipment FY 2023 and FY 2024 for their review. The budget and capital equipment will be presented at Finance Committee on October 26, 2021 and the Budget Hearing meeting on October 30, 2021 for the Commissioners consideration and approval.

For the month ending, August, 2021, OCH incurred an operating loss (including approximately \$47,058 in disproportionate share; \$75,990 in hospital levy; \$47,196 in EMS levy) in the amount of \$38,389 with investment gain of \$17,416 for a total net loss of \$20,973; year-to-date operating loss (including approximately \$376,468 in disproportionate share; \$607,922 in hospital levy; \$377,575 in EMS levy) was \$2,0703,477 with investment gain of \$140,492 for a year-to-date net loss of \$1,932,985.

President McCullough asked for a roll call if any of the Commissioners had a question for Mark Bunch. All stated no.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business: Approval to adjust 2021 Nurse Call System Capital Equipment due to change orders:** Bob Carlson made a motion to approve an adjustment to the Nurse Call System Capital Equipment Budget from \$250,000 to \$255,000 an increase of \$5,000. Sue Long-Hosek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Surplus Property Resolution 21-05:** Lynda Bowers made a motion to approve Surplus Property Resolution 21-05. Gayle Bohannon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval to purchase R-Zero ARC Devices:** Bob Carlson made a motion to purchase 3 R-Zero ARC Devices and 2 R-Zero ARC "AIR" devices not to exceed \$125,000. Sue Long-Hosek seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Nursing Report:** Tina Bernsen reported admission restrictions and transfers for August 2021. Tina Bernsen stated that August was probably the largest restriction of admissions that the hospital has ever had. There were several isolation patients admitted to the floor in August. From August 9, 2021 through August 29, 2021 there were multiple times admissions were restricted due to high acuity of patients and staffing shortage. During this time, there were 10 admissions and 15 transfers. All transfers needed a higher level of care.

Tina Bernsen reported that the CNA's would be going to 12 hour shifts starting in November.

**Patient Story:** Tina Bernsen reported on a staff member stating what excellent care their father received in the Emergency room and the quick decision to transfer him out to a higher level of care for a stroke. The daughter stated that the accepting provider commented on the excellent care and quickness of decision making to get her father transferred. This probably saved his life. Patient recovered and was discharged 3 days later to home and is doing very well.

**CEO Report:** Connie Agenbroad gave a brief update on COVID-19 totals for Adams County.

- 1) New case numbers greater than 100 cases over 14 day for 9/29/21- 206 compared to 8/25/21- 144
- 2) Incidence rate greater than 25 cases/100,000 over 14 days for 9/29/21-1007.3 compared to 8/25/21-689.5
- 3) Positivity percent rate; positive number of cases divided by number the of tests in the past week for 9/29/21 – 20.90% compared to 8/25/21-26.10%
- 4) Hospitalized greater than 3 over seven days/target is 3 for 9/29/21-3 compared to 8/25/21-4
- 5) Probable cases for 9/29/21-0 compared to 8/25/21-0
- 6) Total Deaths for 9/29/21-28 compared to 8/25/21-24
- 7) Current active cases for 9/29/21-170 compared to 8/25/21-103
- 8) Pending Test results for 9/29/21-536 compared to 8/25/21-240

Connie Agenbroad gave an update on the COVID-19 vaccine mandate as of 9/29/21. 161 employees on the payroll register, 126 employees are fully vaccinated, 15 employees have received their first doses with 13 out of 15 should be fully vaccinated by 10/18/21, 2 out 15 will not be fully vaccinated by 10/18/21, 1 out 2 should be fully vaccinated by 10/19/21 and will be off without pay until verification is received, and 1 should be fully vaccinated by 10/29/21 and will be off without pay until verification is received. Out of the 161, 10 exemptions have been approved, 2 are pending approval, and 5 have stated they are filing an exemption but the hospital has not received any exemption request from them to date. 1 out of the 5 may get the JJ vaccine on 10/4/21 instead of applying for an exemption. President McCullough asked who is approving the exemptions. Connie Agenbroad stated that Mindy Gonzalez, HR and Connie Agenbroad, CEO are reviewing the exemptions and approving the exemptions then discusses with the employee. There is still 1 that the hospital still needs verification of vaccine. There has been 2 terminations, 1 Per Diem RN who resigned and a Per Diem CRNA who is still on the payroll register and has not been coming and will be taking off the payroll register.

Connie Agenbroad reported that Medical Staff meet on September 22, 2021 along with Dr. Burrup. Again, there were very positive comments about the emergency room providers. The Medical Staff discussed COVID-19 testing of visitors for inpatients. It was the consensus of the group to test for COVID-19 on all visitors for inpatients doing both rapid and PCR testing. The Medical staff also asked about starting monoclonal antibody infusions. Brandy Kissler and Tina Bernsen worked on getting this set up and felt that the hospital could start on October 4, 2021. The hospital received the medication on 9/28/2021 and actually gave their first infusion of monoclonal antibody on 9/30/2021 to a patient that met the criteria to receive it. Brandy Kissler, Ermila Saucedo and/or April Williamsons will schedule the patients for infusions Monday through Friday. Once the process is worked through this may be available for emergency room patients.

Connie Agenbroad reported that elective surgeries were postponed on September 6, 2021 due to high rate of positive COVID-19 patients, staffing issues and staff out. Elective surgeries will resume on Monday October 4, 2021.

Connie Agenbroad reported that Washington State's minimum wage is expected to go up to \$14.49 effective January 1, 2022. This has not been officially posted to the state's website.

Connie Agenbroad reported that Inland Imaging/Integra would not be able to fulfil their contract with the hospital for coding services due to their coder resigning. The hospital has reached out to a few companies for coding services for quotes. Connie Agenbroad has been working the Grand Columbia Health Alliance (GCHA) through the benefit of the home office to possibly contract with Samaritan Hospital to provide coding services. Odessa, Ritzville and Ephrata already are doing these services through the GCHA home office with Samaritan Hospital providing the coding service. Samaritan's rate is approximately \$27.00 per hour verses other quotes received of approximately \$65.00 per hour.

Connie Agenbroad reported that on September 29, 2021, the patient elevator broke down during the evening. It appeared to be an electronic issue and parts needed to be ordered before it could be available for use. The elevator was down for approximately 15 to 18 hours. The hospital staff was able to use the main elevator for transporting of patients when needed. Roger Roylance had just presented to the Finance Committee regarding the need for an elevator update for capital equipment.

Debbie Edwards from Docs Who Care will be here on October 21, 2021 for our first quarterly review of emergency room providers. They believe they have a solid group of providers that will be consistently coming. At this point, the providers are working 24 hours shifts.

Connie Agenbroad went over the information in the Commissioners folders regarding monthly schedules, Flu vaccines, and yearly lab work.

**Articles:** The Board reviewed articles regarding. "Letter to Jerry Zients, COVID-19 Response Coordinator", from Governor Jay Inslee, September 17, 2021; "In the 1950s, Americans rallied behind Dr. Jonas Salk's shot to eradicate polio; COVID-19 has been a very different story" from the San Diego Union Tribune, September 19, 2021; "Slammed by COVID, statewide system helps transfer rural Washington patients to available hospital beds" from The Seattle Times, September 30, 2021

**Process Feedback:** President McCullough asked for a roll call if any of the Commissioners had any feedback. All stated no.

**Executive Session:** President McCullough announced that the Board will meet in Executive Session per: RCW 42.30.110(g) to review and discuss and discuss the performance of a public employee. Any final action of the Board of Commissioners shall be taken in open session. A complete legal citation of the above may be found in the agenda to this meeting and is available upon request. Executive Session is expected to last 30 minutes.

**The Executive Session** convened at 6:10 p.m.

**Resumption of Open Session:** The open session resumed at 6:40 p.m.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bob Carlson, Secretary