



# CASCADE MEDICAL

PARTNERS IN YOUR HEALTH

Minutes of the Board of Commissioners Meeting  
Chelan County Public Hospital District No. 1  
Arleen Blackburn Conference Room & Video Conference Connection  
May 24, 2023

**Present:** Tom Baranouskas, President; Bruce Williams, Vice President; Mall Boyd; Commissioner; Gustavo Montoya, Commissioner; Diane Blake, Chief Executive Officer; Pat Songer, Chief Operating Officer; Marianne Vincent, Chief Financial Officer; Melissa Grimm, Chief Human Resources Officer; Clint Strand, Director of Public Relations; Megan Baker, Executive Assistant

**Excused:** Jessica Kendall, Commissioner

**Guests:** Deborah Williams, DW Consulting; Natasha Piestrup, Director of Nursing; Anne MacPherson, CM Foundation; Jackie Jaszczyszyn, RN; Karl Kranz, Upper Valley Mend

**Via Zoom:** Stephanie Butcher, RN; Krista Camburn, RN; Taci Ellingson, RN; Katrina Rostedt, RN; Jessica Frost, RN; Mary Morse, Patient Services Representative; Duane Goehner, Community Member

Topics	Actions/Discussions
<b>Call to Order</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>President Tom Baranouskas called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. He then led the pledge of allegiance.</li> </ul>
<b>Consent Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tom moved to approve consent the agenda.</li> <li>Bruce seconded the motion and the commissioners unanimously approved.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Input</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>
<b>CM Values</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diane Blake provided the CM Values report.</li> <li>Tracy Stoddard, RN stopped and helped a police officer at the scene of an accident. She demonstrated excellent service and commitment to our community.</li> <li>Robyn Wimmer, a rehab services PSR described Sarah Peery's dedication and commitment to her patients when she came in on an unscheduled day to see a patient.</li> <li>Tracy and Sarah's actions reinforce the relationships our caregivers forge with our community.</li> </ul>
<b>Foundation Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anne MacPherson provided the Foundation Report.</li> <li>The CMF Golf Tournament will be hosted at Kahler Mountain Club on June 19, 2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All sponsorships were quickly filled, and they had more sponsors than sponsorships.</li> <li>CMF anticipates they will fill all 120 player spots this year.</li> <li>The golf tournament raised \$43,000 last year. CMF hopes to raise more in support of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Upcoming opportunities to support the foundation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ambassadorship with Rotary: July 15-16 &amp; August 12-13</li> <li>Jive Time in the Cascades: September 16, 6:30-9:30 PM</li> <li>Benevolent Night @ Munchen Haus, June 8</li> <li>Benevolent Night @ Plain Cellars, July 2</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Benevolent Night @ Squirrel Tree, July 11</li> <li>○ Benevolent Night @ Wok About, August 16</li> <li>● CMF plans to honor long-time member and past CM CEO, Mark Judy.</li> <li>● CMF is actively recruiting board members.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Relations Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Clint Strand provided the Public Relations Report.</li> <li>● Thanks to Bruce and Tom for attending Community Engagement Night. The event brought in around 200 community members.</li> <li>● Annual Report to our community should be in your inbox by the next board meeting.</li> <li>● Annual sports physical night: May 30<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm. Clint is working with school district to get the word out.</li> <li>● June is PRIDE month. Employees enjoyed a tie-dye shirt event hosted by the DEI committee. CM will host a table at Wenatchee Pride on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.</li> <li>● CM wrapped up healthcare week with social media highlights and full page adds in the Wenatchee world and Leavenworth echo.</li> <li>● The website refresh launch will occur in the next couple of weeks.</li> <li>● The Patient and Family Advisory Council has 7 members.</li> <li>● Cascade Medical Health and Safety Fair: Saturday, June 24 @ Alpine Lakes Elementary</li> </ul>
<p><b>Discussion/Report: Old Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IT Update</li> <li>● Chad Schmidt provided the IT update.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CM had whaling attempt directed toward executive team members. WSHA reported several hospitals have experienced similar threats. The team is practicing good hygiene and awareness campaigns to reduce cyber threats.</li> <li>○ CM continues to work with Meditech and Cloud Wave to optimize connectivity.</li> <li>○ Molly Bloss reported significant items that have clicked into place and noted that there are no barriers to patient care.                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Notable wins:                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Improved patient portal capability with self-enrollment</li> <li>● Designated email for enrollment assistance</li> <li>● The build for new demographic data WA reporting requirement is complete.</li> <li>● EMS interface went live today which allows providers to review care that was provided to patients within Meditech.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Christiane is focusing on clinic case management program. Robin Wolf reported overall lab testing improved with Meditech and great efficiencies occurred.</li> <li>▪ WebPT interface is scheduled to go live on June 1. Billing statements are going out and the process needs to be optimized. The bad debt report is compiled.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Providers have access to weekly Meditech lunch and learn opportunities with the informatics team. Molly expressed a huge win for CM to have an informatics team that also includes Selma, Courtney, and Nicole.</li> <li>○ HClgroup contract is ending this month.</li> <li>○ Molly is networking and connecting with other hospitals through MUSE membership.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<p><b>Discussion/Report: New Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kitchen Update and Repair</li> <li>• Diane Blake and Pat Songer provided the update. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CM would like to move forward with this project to replace the kitchen flooring.</li> <li>○ Management will be working on a plan to adjust remaining capital purchase plans for the year to remain as close to planned budget as possible. \$150K we budgeted for will be saved for next year.</li> <li>○ Bruce moved to approve the capital purchase.</li> <li>○ Mall seconded the motion and the commissioners unanimously approved.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Committee Reports</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Quality Oversight Committee</b></li> <li>• Mall Boyd provided the QOC update. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CM has a new vendor for patient satisfaction surveys. The group is pleased to see both substantial increases in the quality and quantity of results.</li> <li>○ QOC is a new format that makes it easier to process data in a glance and they look forward to presenting to the entire board.</li> <li>○ Board rounding discussions occurred and that work is anticipated to begin in September.</li> <li>○ There have been many changes within the committee this year but on all track forward progress.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Part Time Resident Advisory Council</b></li> <li>• Mall Boyd provided the Part Time Resident Advisory Council report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The group meets twice a year to host a space for part-time residents to connect with CM and discuss hospital objectives, projects, and updates.</li> <li>○ A notable challenge within healthcare is the number of nurses leaving education for bedside jobs. Jim Elliott, a PTRAC member in the construction sector, recognized a similar issue. Construction leaders connected with educators to share and present construction career opportunities to children. There may be an opportunity for healthcare to mimic this effort.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>WSHA Board Meeting</b></li> <li>• Bruce Williams provided the WSHA board meeting update. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Legislators are expecting a tough session and polling data shows that respect for hospital systems is declining.</li> <li>○ New quality metrics required of all hospitals are coming.</li> <li>○ Rigid hospital nurse staffing rules were defeated this year, but WSHA anticipates the topic may come around next year. WSHA is working to emphasize the value of staffing committees within hospital systems.</li> <li>○ Rural hospitals may face challenges with higher-level care transfers.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Action Items: New Business</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Credentialing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mall moved to approve the motion and Gustavo seconded.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Appoint Part Time Resident Advisory Council Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tom moved to approve the motion and Bruce seconded.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CHNA Work Plan</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>What gaps or areas of need remain unaddressed in the current plan, that we need to prepare for?</i></li> <li>○ The supplemental data was helpful to identify additional Latinx voices in the community.</li> <li>○ <i>What should we be thinking about in the next 2-3 years?</i></li> <li>○ The commissioners asked if there is a specific focus area within the priorities identified. CM values all strategic objectives and plans to move forward all work in each area.</li> <li>○ <i>What else would we like to know about the community?</i></li> <li>○ The commissioners discussed using the data we gathered to guide strategic objective work.</li> <li>○ Bruce moved to approve, and Tom seconded the motion.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> <li>● Resolution 2023-04: Surplus Work Truck             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mall moved to approve, and Tom seconded the motion.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Resolution 2023-05: Surplus Snowman Drag Plow             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tom moved to approve, and Gustavo seconded the motion.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Resolution 2023-06: Surplus Snowmobile Trailer             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tom moved to approve, and Mall seconded the motion.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Approve Chiller Purchase             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our chiller continues to be problematic with both heating and cooling issues. Currently there is a 42–44-week lead time on new chillers. Any delay would force us to go through 2 summers trying to keep our current chiller operating, and potentially costing an additional \$71,000 due to price increases.</li> <li>○ Bruce moved to approve, and Tom seconded the motion.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Medical Staff Rules and Regulations             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The update of the Medical Staff Rules and Regulations work was initiated by the addition of the hospitalists and has been approved by Med Staff.</li> <li>○ Mall moved to approve the motion and Gustavo seconded.</li> <li>○ The board unanimously approved the motion.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>April Finance Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marianne provided the finance report.             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clinic volumes are higher for second month in a row.</li> <li>○ For the year 2023 our cash receipts on patient accounts are \$1,452,000 greater than budgeted cash receipts.</li> <li>○ Our balance sheet shows an increase in cash balances in April of \$509,000. This increase in cash balances is largely due to April tax collections totaling \$1,164,000.</li> <li>○ The significant increases in cash balances seen in April will be partially offset in June when we make interest payments on our two bonds.</li> <li>○ Chargemaster work will be implemented soon.</li> <li>○ We are processing billing statements within Meditech which is connected to our higher than typical bad debt volume.</li> <li>○ The first draft of the cost report was generated this week. CM will participate in an annual audit presentation next month.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Administrator Report</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Diane provided the administrator report.</li> <li>● WSHA</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ WSHA Rural Advocacy Days will occur Sept 18-20<sup>th</sup> in Washington DC. Diane plans to attend and invited any commissioners who may be interested.</li><li>● Demographic Data Collection<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Washington Legislature passed HB1272 that requires hospitals to report patient discharge information related to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, preferred language, any disability, and zip code of primary residence beginning January 1, 2023.</li><li>○ CM will begin collecting data on July 1, 2023. The team is preparing staff to answer questions about data collection posed by patients and community members. Participation is elective and will be noted at the time of inquiry.</li></ul></li><li>● Physician Update<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Dr. Wefel is arriving June 1<sup>st</sup>.</li><li>○ Kudos to Melissa for preparing a robust onboarding program.</li><li>○ CM will be welcoming two hospitalists in late June and early July. We look forward to their arrival.</li></ul></li><li>● Team-based Care<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Thanks to Deb for her work to prepare and support our team.</li><li>○ There was a hold on clinic scheduling until new provider templates were set. We will open schedules at the end of this week.</li><li>○ There is work around standardizing scheduling and creating parameters and continuity of appointment slots. There will be a couple of team member office moves to best fill and maximize pods and support staff ratios.</li><li>○ We anticipate this work will continue for some time.</li></ul></li><li>● Emergency Department/ Nursing<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ CM is adding a patient care tech 10-1030 M-Sat to accommodate busier ED volumes.</li><li>○ CRN's will again begin fulfilling the duties of their existing job description.</li><li>○ The department is eliminating the nurse manger role. That staff member will be transitioning to the Operational Safety Manager. This role will lead disaster and safety planning efforts.</li><li>○ Kudos to Natasha for her work within the nursing department to implement these changes.</li></ul></li><li>● Thriving Together (North Central Accountable Communities of Health)<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The original purpose of the organization was to connect Medicaid patients to resources. The group recently received funding to implement telemedicine kiosks in local libraries, including the Leavenworth library. They hope to connect folks to substance use disorder and mental health services via telemedicine.</li><li>○ Their goal is not to replicate any services we have at CM.</li><li>○ CM administration is working closely with Thriving Together to understand the scope of their project and there is more to come.</li></ul></li><li>● Cost Based Reimbursement for Ambulances</li></ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There was recently a change in federal regulation to get cost-based reimbursement for ambulance services. Because we are the sole provider for our area, we may be eligible and are likely to apply for cost-based reimbursement.</li> <li>○ Receiving cost-based reimbursement for ambulance costs would help us continue to sustain quality services.</li> <li>• DOH Approval: Peds/OT Space             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CM received DOH approval and now is moving forward with efforts to convert a specific space for rehab services' pediatric and occupational therapy.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Board Action Items</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check your email and Verge queue.</li> </ul>
<b>Strategic Question/Meeting Evaluation/ Commissioner Comments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The commissioners are looking forward to Deb's next practice-share presentation.</li> <li>• Bruce will chair the June meeting in Tom's planned absence.</li> <li>• The group plans to discuss long-term strategic planning goals at the retreat.</li> </ul>
<b>Adjournment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35. Mall seconded the motion and the commissioners unanimously agreed.</li> </ul>

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*Tom Baranouskas*

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Tom Baranouskas, President

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*Mall Boyd*

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Mall Boyd, Secretary