

Sierra Vista Hospital
Governing Board and Joint Powers Commission Joint Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2024 @ 12:00pm

November 12, 2024

12:00pm

**Elephant Butte Lake RV Resort
Event Center**

1. The Governing Board and Joint Powers Commission of Sierra Vista Hospital met November 12, 2024, at 12:00 pm at Elephant Butte Lake RV Resort Event Center for a regular joint meeting. Kathi Pape, GB Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 12:09. Jim Paxon, JPC Chair called the meeting to order at 12:09.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

ATTENDEES:

JOINT POWERS COMMISSION

CITY OF ELEPHANT BUTTE

Phillip Mortensen, Mayor, **Vice Chair, P**
Kim Skinner, Member, **P by phone**
Cathy Harmon, Member, **P**
Janet Porter-Carrejo, Ex-O, **A**

CITY OF T O R C

Rolf Hechler, Member, **P**
Amanda Forister, Member, **A**
Ingo Hoepfner, Member, **P**
Angie Gonzales, City Manager, Ex,**A**

SIERRA COUNTY

Jim Paxon, **Chairperson, P**
Travis Day, Member, **P by phone**
Hank Hopkins, Member, **A**
Amber Vaughn, County Manager, Ex-O, **A**

VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSBURG

Cathy Lueningborg, Member, **A**
Magorie Powey, Member, **P**
Deb Stubblefield, Member, **P by phone**
Amanda Cardona, VCW, Ex-O, **P**

4. Roll Call

ATTENDEES:

GOVERNING BOARD

COUNTY

Kathi Pape, **Chair, P**
Serina Bartoo, **Vice Chair, P**
Shawnee R. Williams, Member, **P**

ELEPHANT BUTTE

Katharine Elverum, Member, **P**
Richard Holcomb, Member, **P**

CITY OF T O R C

Bruce Swingle, Member, **P**
Jesus Baray, Member, **P**
Greg D'Amour, Member, **P**

EX-OFFICIO

Frank Corcoran, CEO, **P**

VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSBURG

Cookie Johnson, **Secretary, P**

SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES

SVH STAFF AND GUESTS: Sheila Adams, CNO. Ming Huang, CFO. Zach Heard, Operations. LJ Baker, HR Director. Heather Johnson, HIM Manager. Lisa Boston, Interim Consultant, Erika Sundrud, Ovation. Dingus.

There is a quorum of JPC Members and a quorum of Governing Board Members.

5. Approval of Agenda

Frank Corcoran stated that agenda item 10-15-1(H) 2 C. Provider contract revision should be removed. The contracts are not ready for presentation.

Greg D'Amour motioned to approve the amended agenda for the Governing Board. Jesus Baray seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Philip Mortensen motioned to approve the amended agenda for the JPC. Majie Powey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

“Are there any items on this agenda that could cause a potential conflict of interest by any Governing Board Member or JPC Member?”

None for the Governing Board

None for the JPC

6. Approval of minutes

A. October 8, 2024 Governing Board Special Meeting

Richard Holcomb motioned to approve the October 8, 2024 minutes. Katharine Elverum seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

B. September 24, 2024 Governing Board Regular Meeting

Katharine Elverum motioned to approve the September 24, 2024 minutes. Cookie Johnson and Sabrina Bartoo abstained as they were not present. Bruce Swingle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

C. August 8, 2024 JPC Regular Meeting

Majie Powey motioned to approve the August 8, 2024 JPC regular meeting minutes. Philip Mortensen seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Public Input –

Ted K. addressed the boards asking that information about the hospital be shared on more than just Facebook. A piece in the newspaper would help those who don't use Facebook. In addition, many people leaving the ER department are reporting that their personal belongings are being lost. Billing issues continue. People are being charged copayments when they shouldn't be.

Dr. Walker addressed the boards stating that in October, we did more cases than any month previously. This is his last report as his contract has been terminated effective Thursday, November 7th. Dr. Walker asked the board for a letter that states his privileges are active and in good standing.

8. Old Business-

GB None

JPC None

9. New Business-

Governing Board- Kathi Pape, Chair

SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES

1. Recognition of EMS staff- Ashlee West and Brian Hamilton attended the meeting to represent the EMS department. Ashlee was recently awarded EMT of the year by the state of New Mexico and the EMS department received the EMS department of the year award by the state of New Mexico.

Kathi Pape also presented Bruce Swingle with a plaque acknowledging his leadership of the Governing Board from July 2022 to June 2024.

JPC- Jim Paxon, Chair, reiterated the accolades stated by the Governing Board and expressed his appreciation of their services to our County on behalf of the JPC.

10. Finance Committee- Bruce Swingle, Chairperson

A. September Financial report- Ming Huang, CFO, directed both boards to page FC6 of the packet. Days cash on hand at the end of September were 52 days which equals \$5,498,045. Accounts receivable net days were 60 and accounts payable days were 24. Net income in September was \$311,660 versus a budgeted loss of (\$323,507). Gross revenue was \$6,407,535 or \$1,087,960 more than the budget.

Patient days were 80, 33 less than August. Outpatient visits were 1,185, 107 more than August. RHC visits were 764, 108 less than August and ER visits were 728, 52 more than August.

Revenue deductions for September were \$3,386,374. Other operating revenue was \$290,006. Non-operating revenue was \$628,466 including \$375,000 from Senate Bill 161. Total expenses were \$3,232,358. Compared to budget, benefits were over budget by \$67,888 due to employee physicals (flu vaccines) and unemployment expenses. Other operating expenses include \$33,500 for Physician recruitment expenses.

EBITDA for September was \$714,912 versus a budget of \$89,416. Year to date EBITDA is \$676,731 versus a budget of \$274,208. The bond coverage ratio is 6% versus an expected ratio of 130%.

Bruce Swingle motioned based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, approval of the September financial report. Cookie Johnson seconded. Greg D'Amour asked about AR. Frank stated that we currently have \$17,117,897 in gross accounts receivable. We usually collect about 45% of gross. The problems with Cerner and the billing system are being solved so that we can collect these funds. In the last three to four weeks, the claims that we sent out were received but we could not transfer the file to Cerner. This was just another kink in the system. Amplify is going after the other monies in AR.

Motion carried unanimously.

Rolf Hechler motioned to approve the September financial report as presented for the JPC. Ingo Hoepfner seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Board Quality- Shawnee Williams, Chairperson

A. Policy Review-

1. Antimicrobial Stewardship Charter- Sheila Adams, CNO, this charter is our commitment to improving antibiotic use in our facility. There are seven core elements for antimicrobial stewardship, and they are explained in detail in this charter.

B. Appointment of Bettina Fitzgerald- Sheila Adams, CNO, stated that it has been over 24 months since the appointment of our Infection Control Authority. In September, Medical Staff approved Bettina Fitzgerald to run the infection prevention program, and we are asking the Board to approve this appointment as well.

Shawnee Williams motioned based on the recommendation of the Board Quality Committee approval of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Charter and the appointment of Bettina Fitzgerald. Cookie Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

12. Administrative Reports

SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES

A. Human Resources- LJ Baker, HR Director, reported that critical recruitment includes registered nurses and patient access representatives. We had seven new hires and eight terminations in September. The majority of the terminations were voluntary. Our priority of effort is staff retention. Our turnover rate for the first quarter was 3.2% and our goal is to stay below 4%.

Recent hires will expand capabilities and should result in positive flow of income from additional sources. We will begin training our own medical assistants and CNAs to support our medical staff.

Key initiatives include behavioral health program recruitment. We continue to work closely with representatives of the NM Department of finance and administration regarding funding for planned future capital improvements. We are working with the New Mexico Grant Administration to obtain funding for SVH strategic initiatives. We have seven students in the paid internship program with Hot Springs High School.

We currently have 10 contract staff and 26 travel staff.

B. Nursing Services- Sheila Adams, CNO. International staff are coming in slowly and working out well. We are trying to lower the contract nursing cost by converting to local contract or direct hire.

The SVH certified nursing assistant program has been approved and classes will open soon. The sleep laboratory just completed a successful survey and accreditation. Volume continues to grow. We are ready for our trauma survey. Our EMS program was awarded EMS service of the year from the state. Ashlee West was awarded EMT-1 of the year.

C. CEO Report- Frank Corcoran, CEO, reported that a behavioral health provider has given notice and is moving on which will leave us with two BHNPs and we continue to recruit LCSWs. For the RHC, we have been talking with Dr. Tahir from El Paso about part time work in the clinic and as hospitalist in MedSurg. The Cardiology department at MMC is looking at leasing office space in our clinic.

Sandy Garcia from Ovation and her team were on site to do the mock survey for TJC. We are waiting for the final findings. We always have room for improvement.

We experienced a power outage and lost generator power due to a circuit breaker. This closed the clinics, lab, CT, MRI and EMS were put on divert. Managers met for a post event debrief and future actions were discussed.

Issues with the IT system replacement are slowly being worked through. We have reached out to Presbyterian and Loveless to discuss partnering with EPIC.

We received a BCBS quality payment in the amount of \$152,000. The HDAA program has been reviewed by CMS who asked only one question about the quality side of the program. We expect CMS to make a final decision within the next five weeks.

A group of CEOs and CNOs met with the Lt. Governor last week to discuss nurse patient ratios. We are trying to kill this bill in the next session.

Congratulations again to our EMS. They are the pride of our county, now they are the pride of the state.

Telemedicine is set to expire December 31, 2024. We expect to hear from CMS soon regarding new rules and requirements if telemedicine is to continue.

D. Governing Board- Kathi Pape, Chairperson, reported that most of her report will be given in closed session.

E. JPC Report-

SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES

1. JPC selection of CEO Ad Hoc Members- Jim Paxon, Chairperson, explained the need for three members of the JPC to participate in the interview process on the CEO Ad Hoc committee. The members will meet with the Governing Board members and the CEO candidates in person over the next three to four weeks. Discussion was held regarding the agenda for the candidates and availability of JPC mayors and members. Ultimately, Jim Paxon, Philip Mortensen and Rolf Hechler were selected to represent the JPC.

Note: Jim Paxon motioned for the JPC to approve Jim Paxon, Philip Mortensen and Rolf Hechler to be appointed as the JPC CEO Ad Hoc Committee representatives. Kathy Harmon seconded. Motion carried unanimously. However, the agenda item did not call for action.

Motion to Close Meeting:

Governing Board-

Cookie Johnson motioned to close the meeting. Bruce Swingle seconded.

JPC-

Philip Mortensen motioned to close the meeting. Kathy Harmon seconded.

13. Executive Session – In accordance with Open Meetings Act, NMSA 1978, Chapter 10, Article 15, Section 10-15-1 (H) 2,7,9 including credentialing under NM Review Organization Immunity Act, NMSA Section 41-2E (8) and 41-9-5 the Governing Board will vote to close the meeting to discuss the following items:

Order of business to be determined by GB Chairperson:

Dingus/ FY24 Audit will be the first item of business to accommodate their schedule.

10-15-1(H) 2 – Limited Personnel Matters

A. Privileges

Frank Corcoran, CEO

Initials:

Roi Altit, MD (Cardiology)

60-Day Temporary to Provisional:

Andres Diocares, MD

Provisional to 2-Year Appointment:

Nichelle A. Vigil, CNP

Matthew M. Peters, FNP (ESS)

2-Year Reappointments:

Karen L. Fiato, NP

Michael S. Stephens, MD (ESS)

Chandran Vedamanikam, MD

Omkar U. Vaidya, MD Arena Health

RP Delegated Reappointments:

Michael M. Hovsepian MD

Juan C. Mena, MD

Sarvenaz Pourjabbar, MD

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES**

Terms:

RP-Steve Nelson, MD term notice 09/12/2024
RP-Jay Tank, MD term notice 09/10/2024
RP-Phoebe Dann MD term notice 09/18/2024

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| B. CEO GB Ad Hoc Committee Update | Kathi Pape, Chair |
| C. Provider contract revisions (tentative)
<i>Removed from agenda</i> | Frank Corcoran, CEO |
| D. Provider Personnel Issue | Frank Corcoran, CEO |

10-15-1 (H) 7 – Attorney Client Privilege/ Pending Litigation

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| A. Risk Report | Heather Johnson |
|----------------|-----------------|

10-15-1 (H) 9 – Public Hospital Board Meetings- Strategic and long-range business plans

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| A. FY24 Audit | Dingus |
| B. Quarterly Compliance Report | Zach Heard |
| C. Quarterly Quality Report | Lisa Boston |
| D. Ovation Management Contract/ 2 nd Amendment | Erika Sundrud |
| E. Ovation Report to Board | Erika Sundrud |

Roll Call to Close Meeting:

Governing Board-

Kathi Pape- Y	Katharine Elverum- Y	Jesus Baray- Y
Serina Bartoo- Y	Richard Holcomb- Y	Greg D’Amour- Y
Shawnee Williams- Y	Bruce Swingle- Y	Cookie Johnson- Y

JPC-

Philip Mortensen- Y	Rolf Hechler- Y	Travis Day- Y
Kim Skinner- Y	Ingo Hoepfner- Y	Majie Powey- Y
Kathy Harmon- Y	Jim Paxon- Y	Deb Stubblefield- Y

14. Re-Open Meeting – As required by Section 10-15-1(J), NMSA 1978 matters discussed in executive session were limited only to those specified in the motion to close the meeting.

10-15-1(H) 2 – Limited Personnel Matters

A. Privileges

Initials:

Roi Altit, MD (Cardiology)

60-Day Temporary to provisional:

Andres Diocares, MD

Provisional to 2-Year Apointment:

Nichelle A. Vigil, CNP

Matthew M. Peters, FNP (ESS)

SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES

2-Year Reappointments:

Karen L. Fiato, NP
Michael S. Stephens, MD (ESS)
Chandran Vedamanikam, MD
Omkar U. Vaidya, MD Arena Health

RP Delegated Reappointments:

Michael M. Hovsepian MD
Juan C. Mena, MD
Sarvenaz Pourjabbar, MD

Terms:

RP-Steve Nelson, MD term notice 09/12/2024
RP-Jay Tank, MD term notice 09/10/2024
RP-Phoebe Dann MD term notice 09/18/2024

Greg D'Amour motioned based on the recommendation of the Board Quality Committee, approval of all privileges as presented with the exception of Sarvenaz Pourjabbar. Pourjabbar is approved pending approval letter from RadPartners. Serina Bartoo seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. CEO GB Ad Hoc Committee Update
No action required
- C. Provider contract revisions
Removed from agenda
- D. Provider Personnel Issue
No action required

10-15-1 (H) 7 – Attorney Client Privilege/ Pending Litigation

- A. Risk Report
No action required

10-15-1 (H) 9 - Public Hospital Board Meetings- Strategic and long-range business plans

- A. FY24 Audit
No action
- B. Quarterly Compliance Report
No action required
- C. Quarterly Quality Report
No action required
- D. Ovation Management Contract/ 2nd Amendment
Cookie Johnson motioned approval of the Ovation Management Contract. Greg D'Amour seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. Ovation Report to Board
No action required

**SIERRA VISTA HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BOARD AND JOINT POWERS COMMISSION JOINT MEETING MINUTES**

15. Other

Next Regular GB Meeting- January 28, 2025 @ 12:00

Next Regular Quarterly JPC meeting- TBD

16. Adjournment Governing Board

Serina Bartoo motioned to adjourn. Cookie Johnson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (3:45)

17. Adjournment JPC

Kathy Harmon motioned to adjourn. Rolf Hechler seconded. Motion carried unanimously. (2:30)

Jennifer Burns, Recording Secretary

Date

Kathi Pape, GB Chairperson

Date

Jim Paxon, JPC Chairperson

Date

DRAFT