



~Approved 1/4/2021~

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Board Room & Microsoft Teams Conference Call

Board Members Present:

Clint Cook – Bigfork Township
Greg Cook – Koochiching County Unorganized
Teresa Kittridge – Marcell Township
Tom LaMont – City of Effie
Marie Lovdahl – Itasca County Unorganized
Meredith Morneau – Itasca County At-Large
Joanie Olson – City of Bigfork
Gordon Rahier – Pomroy Township
George Rounds – Stokes Township
Larry Salmela – Carpenter Township
Dean Sedgwick – Wirt Township
Heidi Watson – Koochiching County At-Large

Board Members Absent:

Dan Sursely – City of Big Falls

Others: Darla Anderson, Dr. Ed Anderson, Carol Gilbertson, Dan Heinecke, Dawn Kern, Angela Kleffman, Aaron Saude, Sally Sedgwick, Renee Tower, Laura Vaneps

Chairman Dr. George Rounds called the regular monthly board meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting opened with prayer.

The mission of Bigfork Valley is to provide a continuum of quality health care and community services rooted in excellence and delivered with skill and compassion.

I. Community Comments

There were no community comments.

II. Approval of Agenda

A **motion** to approve the agenda as presented was made by Marie Lovdahl, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes 11/2/2021

A **motion** to approve the November 2, 2021, Regular Board meeting minutes, as presented, was made by Greg Cook, seconded by Marie Lovdahl. The motion passed unanimously.

Dean Sedgwick, Gordon Rahier and Teresa Kittridge joined the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

IV. Approval of Special Board Meeting Minutes 11/30/2021

A **motion** to approve the November 30, 2021, Special Board meeting minutes as presented was made by Greg Cook, seconded by Marie Lovdahl. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Information, Discussion and/or Action

A. Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, November 30.

Darla Anderson presented the October 2021 financial dashboard report.

B. Financials

A **motion** to accept the financial report for the month of October was provided by the Finance Committee, seconded by Meredith Morneau. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Accounts Payable

A **motion** to ratify the accounts payable for the month of October was made by the Finance Committee, seconded by Marie Lovdahl. The motion passed unanimously.

Clinton Cook exited the meeting at 9:29

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There was discussion concerning Minnesota Power's plan to increase energy rates and how it will financially impact the facility.

Dean Sedgwick made a **motion** to direct Aaron Saude to explore alternative energy resources, seconded by Gordon Rahier. The motion passed unanimously.

D. Tax Levy Update

Aaron Saude reported that Jeffery Walker, Itasca County Auditor, informed him that the Hospital District submitted a proposed levy of \$770,000. Then increased the levy to \$1,000,000. According to statute, hospital districts cannot change their initial levy and the September 15 levy serves as the final levy. The 2022 budget reflects a tax levy of \$770,000.

E. GRACF Endowment Distribution

Aaron Saude reported that the amount available for 2022 is \$22,085.

Larry Salmela made a **motion** to withdraw \$22,085, the full amount available for distribution, seconded by Marie Lovdahl. The motion passed unanimously. The funds will be used for capital projects.

F. 2022 Final Budget

Dan Heinecke presented the 2022 final budget.

A **motion** to approve the 2022 final budget was made by the Finance Committee, seconded by Teresa Kittridge. The motion passed unanimously.

G. Bond Refinance

Aaron Saude presented a proposal from Northland Securities to refund the Hospital District's Series 2013A and 2013C Bonds.

A **motion** to accept the proposal from Northland Securities was made by the Finance Committee, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

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H. Medical Staff Reappointments

Dr. Ed Anderson presented the 2022-2023 medical staff reappointments for consideration. The reappointments have been reviewed and approved by medical staff.

A **motion** to approve the 2022-2023 medical staff reappointments was made by Marie Lovdahl, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

I. MHA Winter Trustee Conference

MHA Winter Trustee Conference will be held virtually January 6-7, 2022.

Teresa Kittridge made a **motion** to authorize registration fees for any board members that want to attend, seconded by Meredith Morneau. The motion passed unanimously.

J. CEO Report

Aaron Saude reported that the governor allocated \$50 million in American Rescue Plan funding to nursing homes to provide retention and recruitment bonuses for employees. Each facility will receive \$11 times their number of Medicaid resident days on the 2020 cost report. The funds need to be used within 60 days.

Bigfork Valley received \$437,959 from the Phase 4 Funds American Rescue Plan Rural Payment. Part of this funding can be used for staff retention bonuses.

Aaron's tentative plan is to distribute funds to employees based on full time, part time and casual status. Employees who choose to get the COVID vaccine will receive an incentive payment.

A federal judge granted a nationwide preliminary injunction against the CMS Omnibus COVID-19 Health Care Staff Vaccination Rules. The COVID-19 vaccine mandate has been paused.

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K. Strategic Planning/Mission, Vision and Values

The strategic planning session is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, January 12, 2022. The meeting will be held in the Board Room with the option to attend remotely.

The executive team (Darla Anderson, Laura Vaneps and Angela Kleffman) and Dr. Ed Anderson are invited to attend.

L. Employee Appreciation

Deb Morell, Cydney Neuenschwander, Carol David, Nikki Warrick, Tiffanie Lillo, Michael Martin-Rahier, Shawnae Feltus, Alice Rosin, Gloria Madsen, and Toni Cleath were nominated to receive employee appreciation gift certificates for outstanding job performance. A **motion** to approve the nominations was made by Meredith Morneau, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

At 10:57 a.m., a **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Dean Sedgwick, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Renee Tower, Executive Administrative Assistant.

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