



~Approved 8/1/2023~

**Regular Board Meeting**

**Tuesday, July 11, 2023**

**9:00 a.m.**

**Board Room & Microsoft Teams Conference Call**

**Board Members Present:**

Clint Cook – Bigfork Township  
Greg Cook – Koochiching County Unorganized  
Gary Erickson – City of Bigfork  
Carol Gilbertson – Itasca County At-Large  
Tom LaMont – City of Effie  
Gordon Rahier – Pomroy Township  
George Rounds – Stokes Township  
Larry Salmela – Carpenter Township  
Dan Sursely – City of Big Falls

**Board Members Remote:**

Teresa Kittridge – Marcell Township  
Marie Lovdahl – Itasca County Unorganized

**Board Members Absent:**

Heidi Watson – Koochiching County At-Large

**Others:** Darla Anderson, Ed Anderson, Kyle Buckingham, Sam Caron, Alex Cleath, Dan Heinecke, Vance Koppelman, Heidi Powell, Aaron Saude, Renee Tower

*Chairman 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**

George Rounds reported that Dean Sedgwick, board member, passed away on Saturday, July 8, 2023. Flowers will be sent to the funeral on behalf of Bigfork Valley.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

After discussion, a **motion** to approve the agenda as presented was made by Tom LaMont, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed with one opposed.

**III. Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes 6/6/2023**

A **motion** to delete the last sentence from item “Q” was made by Gary Erickson. The motion failed due to a lack of a second.

A **motion** to approve the June 6, 2023, Regular Board meeting minutes was made by Dan Sursely, seconded by Carol Gilbertson. The motion passed with one opposed.

**IV. Acceptance of Medical Staff Meeting Minutes 3/27/2023**

A **motion** to accept the March 27, 2023, Medical Staff meeting minutes, as presented, was made by Greg Cook, seconded by Larry Salmela. The motion passed unanimously.

Bigfork Valley did not reapply for the level 4 trauma designation due to it being administratively burdensome.

**V. Information, Discussion and/or Action**

**A. Finance Committee Report**

The Finance Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, June 27.

Darla Anderson presented the financials and accounts payable for May 2023.

**B. Financials**

A **motion** to accept the financial report for the month of May was provided by the Finance Committee, seconded by Dan Sursely. The motion passed unanimously.

The basement waterproofing project has been completed.

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**C. Accounts Payable**

A **motion** to ratify the accounts payable for the month of May was made by the Finance Committee, seconded by Dan Sursely. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. Credentialing**

Dr. Ed Anderson presented the following credentialing applications for consideration:

Privileges with a 6-month provisional status:

- Steven Vanderwerf, MD (MN Pathologists Chartered)

Privileges without a provisional status:

- Joyce Arends, MSW (Senior Life Solutions)
- Christopher Garcia, MD (vRad)
- Laura Huggins, MD (Locum)
- Gabriela Santos Nunez, MD (vRad)

Gordon Rahier made a **motion** to accept the applications as presented, seconded by Greg Cook. The motion passed unanimously.

**E. Medical Staff Bylaws**

The amended Medical Staff Bylaws were reviewed and approved by medical staff on June 28.

A **motion** to approve the Medical Staff Bylaws as amended was made by Larry Salmela, seconded by Gary Erickson. The motion passed unanimously.

**F. Legislative Education Committee Report**

Teresa Kittridge provided a summary of the Legislative Education Committee meeting that was held on Tuesday, June 27.

Representative Roger Skraba visited Bigfork Valley on June 8.

Senator Grant Hauschild plans to visit Bigfork Valley on Friday, July 14.

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### **G. CEO Report**

Aaron provided a brief overview of the following events that he attended in the month of June:

- Hwy 38 Construction Meeting – June 7
- LeadingAge District B Meeting – June 8
- MN Rural Health Conference – June 12-13
- Rainy Lake Medical Center visited Bigfork Valley – June 20
- Toured the new Essentia Health Duluth building – June 22

There is an ENT in the area that is interested in practicing at Bigfork Valley.

CMS will end the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for health care staff on August 4, 2023.

### **H. Education**

A general overview of the Rural Emergency Hospital (REH) model was provided.

*Clinton Cook exited the meeting at 10:25 a.m.*

### **I. Employee Appreciation**

Jennifer Peterson-Haubrich was nominated to receive an employee appreciation gift certificate for outstanding job performance. A **motion** to approve the nomination was made by Dan Sursely, seconded by Gordon Rahier. The motion passed unanimously.

### **J. Monitoring CEO Performance – Financial Condition and Activities (Internal)**

Aaron provided his monitoring report “Financial Condition and Activities”.

A **motion** to accept Aaron’s monitoring report was made by Carol Gilbertson, seconded by Dan Sursely. The motion passed unanimously.

### **K. Strategic Discussion**

There was discussion about the lack of housing options in the community.

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**L. Board Meeting Agenda Topics for Next Month**

“Annual Report” and “Wirt Township Vacancy” will be added to the August agenda.

**M. Board Self-Evaluation Questionnaire**

Board members were asked to complete and return the Board Self-Evaluation Questionnaire. The results will be reviewed at the August board meeting.

At 10:57 a.m., a **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Gary Erickson, seconded by Dan Sursely. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Renee Tower, Executive Administrative Assistant.

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