

Redwoods Rural Health Center Board of Directors  
Meeting July 20, 2008 at the Redway clinic  
Meeting slated to start at 6:00PM

Board Members Present: Kathy Epling, Troy Harrington-Dean, Thad Horner, Carol Lee, Pamela Moore, Shelby, Rick Silva, Shon Wellborn

Board Members Absent: Dee Way

Staff Present: Jeanie Eldridge, CFO; Eric Fimbres, Executive Director

President Thad Horner brought the meeting to order at 6:15PM

Rick Silva agreed to be timekeeper

Eric Fimbres wanted to add approval of the 2008 to 2009 Budget to the Agenda under New Business.

Carol Lee said she wished to add some comments in the line of constructive criticism under new business, and that she wanted to be first on the agenda under that heading.

Motion: That the Agenda be approved with the above additions.

Motion was made by Rick Silva and seconded by Shelby.

Motion passed unanimously.

Thad invited the board to review the Consent Agenda and see if anything should be pulled from it.

Motion: That the Consent Agenda be approved as submitted.

The motion was made by Shelby and seconded by Pamela Moore.

Motion Passed unanimously

(The consent agenda contained 5 items: approval of minutes or notes for meeting on June 24, 2008, July 9, 2008 (budget and executive committees), and June 2008 Finance report, and the Division Reports)

Questions and Comments on the Division Reports.

Carol Lee noted she had just received her board packet and had not had time to review the reports. She requested that the board packets be delivered at least a week before the board meetings.

Others on the board concurred that it would be good to have the board packets reach them in a more timely matter.

There was discussion as to whether the board packets should go out without the financials, if the financials are not ready the week before the board meeting.

The board would like to receive the packet and the financial reports in a timely manner. On the rare occasion when the financials are not ready, the board packet should still be sent out.

However, it is the expectation of the board that they will receive the information they need to be effective board members in as timely a manner as possible.

Shelby wished to know what “integrated behavioral health” is (the term was used in Marilyn Foote’s Behavioral health report). Eric explained that this involves the Behavioral Health practitioner/s interacting with the medical and dental providers, sharing understanding and facilitating a holistic and individualized model of patient care.

#### Public Comment

Eric shared a letter from a patient who was very complimentary of the excellent work done by Linda Piehl, and his response to that letter.

The board wished to express their own appreciation of Linda’s hard work.

#### Executive Director Report

Eric noted that the 330 grant application is moving along. We may need a special meeting of the Executive Committee next week to review the application.

He reported on the proposed new Practice management system; Jeanie is speaking with a vendor from Oregon.

He reported briefly on Patti Berg’s visit.

He noted that the collaborative executive committee meetings, involving the Executive Committees of the Hospital District and Redwoods Rural as well as the District CEO and RRHC’s Executive Director, are happening. Next one is slated for tomorrow at 12:30 PM at Redwoods Rural.

The Shelter Cove clinic project is still under discussion. Jim Gergits will be taking the lead in this effort. Eric passed out photos of the proposed clinic location, a room in a larger building which will need to be adapted to clinic requirements. At this point the estimated monthly cost estimate includes 660 for utilities and rent, and around 1100 dollars per month in labor costs. This does not include the start up costs of renovation and so on.

In order to cover the monthly costs (excluding start up and renovation costs) 14 patients must be seen.

The concept would be to follow the Alderpoint model and be open one day a month. As more concrete information arises Jim will inform the board. As of yet this is still in the stage of information gathering and discussion, no decision has yet been made.

Eric informed the board of several grant possibilities he is investigating.

The discussions with the Southern Humboldt Unified School District about how and whether RRHC might provide more services at the high school is still pending. Dennis O'Sullivan contacted Eric. Eric is waiting to hear more.

Southern Humboldt Working Together continues to meet. SHWT was recently granted 12,500 from the McLean foundation.

Eric spoke of his work with the Mental Health Board, and referenced the report on Suicide in our county that was in the board packet. As further reports of this nature come to the Mental Health Board, Eric will see that the RRHC board of directors receives them as well.

There was brief discussion of the Labyrinth Project. Humboldt Area Foundation granted this project one thousand dollars; the grant submitted to the McLean foundation was denied.

Eric passed out reports from the CCRP prepared under the leadership of Jessica Van Arsdale, who recently addressed the Community Health Alliance. The report "investigating Very Low Food Security in the Redwood Coast Region also includes excellent information on population density (or lack thereof).

There was no Old Business.

Under New Business

Carol Lee presented her patient complaint, asking how such things were handled. Her complaint hinges on issues of triage (what is the methodology and reasoning), of access to care, and of proper channels for dealing with client concerns, both at the time of the visit and later.

Eric said he would look into Carol's concerns.

There was some discussion.

The 2008-2009 Budget was discussed. Jeanie Eldridge summarized the 3 possible budget scenarios. The Finance Committee recommended the 4 day work/5 day clinic opening version.

Troy Harrington-Dean wished to know if staff could elect to work an 8 day work day rather than a 9 day workday. Eric said no, he wanted the system to be applied consistently.

MOTION that the 2008-2009 Budget for a 4 work day, 5 day clinic be accepted as presented.

Motion was made by Shon Wellborn and seconded by Kathy Epling.  
MOTION PASSED, unanimously

Carol Lee would like to make a brief presentation on Death Penalty Opposition at the next board meeting.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be August 26, 2008 starting at 5PM at the Redway Clinic.

The Board Meeting will follow the Finance Committee Meeting, also August 26, 2008, at 6PM.

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned.

The motion was made by Pamela Moore and seconded by Troy Harrington-Dean  
MOTION PASSED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Epling, Board Secretary, RRHC