

The purpose of Redwoods Rural Health Center is to provide responsive, preventive, high quality primary health care services, through a variety of healing disciplines, to all people without regard to social or economic status. We emphasize the client's right and responsibility to participate in his or her own health care decisions. It is our hope that the clinic be a place where the needs of the whole person are met--body, mind, and spirit.

**Redwoods Rural Health Center
Board of Directors Meeting
November 25, 2008
6PM in the meeting room at the Redway clinic**

Board members present: Thad Horner, Shelby, Shon Wellborn, Kathy Epling, Rick Silva, Pamela Moore, Carol Lee

Board members absent: Troy Harrington-Dean; Dee Way

Staff Present: Eric Fimbres, ED; Jeanie Eldridge, CFO; Jim Gergits, Operations Manager; Mark Mowrey, Clinic Nurse Manager; Marilyn Foote, Behavioral Health Department Head; Linda Piehl, Eligibility Worker

Others Present: Consuelo Hernandez; Cal Mortgage Project Officer; Kathy Walker, TCA Partners auditor; Janet Fitzgerald, community member

President Thad Horner called the meeting to order at 6:03PM

Rick Silva agreed to be timekeeper.

The Agenda was adjusted as follows: the Audit Presentation was moved to the start of the agenda. Questions and Clarifications on notes, minutes, departmental reports and such was moved up before the Consent Agenda, a position it should stay in in future agendas.

MOTION: That the Agenda be approved, with the above changes.

The motion was made by Rick Silva and seconded by Pamela Moore.

MOTION PASSED unanimously

Kathy Walker gave a shortened version of the detail audit report she had presented to the finance committee. Written draft audit reports were in each board packet, which the board had received previous to this meeting.

MOTION: That the Redwoods Rural Board approve the TCA audit report for fiscal year 2007-2008.

This motion was made by Shon Wellborn and seconded by Pamela Moore.

MOTION PASSED unanimously

Janet Fitzgerald, community member, and Consuelo Hernandez, Cal-Mortgage project officer, were introduced to the group. Janet said she was simply here to observe.

Consuelo said much the same thing, explaining that as our project officer she was on hand to observe the functioning of the board.

Thad Horner invited staff who were present to make statements to the board if they so desired; they too were here to observe.

Comments/Questions on Division reports.

Kathy Epling greatly appreciated that the names of those who wrote the reports had been noted by Eric in his cover sheet; it is very helpful.

Carol Lee appreciated it that the board packets had been delivered in a timely manner, allowing her to come to the meeting well prepared.

Thad Horner wished to know a bit more about the “systems changes” referenced in the Primary Care Division report. Mark Mowrey explained that these are coming out of a series of meetings from the IPA and are basically about how to approach problems, set goals, take small steps towards those goals, evaluate progress, etc. It is a generic approach, a tool, more so that specific clinic wide changes.

However, Mark also noted that one goal that is being set is that by Dec of 2009 60% of the chronically ill clients of RRHC should have been assessed for Depression with the PHQ 9 scale. Kathy Epling, who recalls the early days of the Depression Collaborative that RRHC participated in at a national level, was very much delighted to hear this.

Kathy asked about the designation of Wendi Joiner, MD as the Medical Director. Eric said he'd speak to this in the closed session portion of the meeting.

MOTION: That the Consent Agenda be approved.

The motion was made by Rick Silva and seconded by Shon Wellborn.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

The consent agenda for this meeting included approval/acceptance of the following items: Board and Finance Committee Meeting minutes for Oct 2008; Oct 2008 Financial report; November 5, 2008 CQI report; November 2008 Behavioral Health Division Report; November 2008 Dental Division report; November 2008 Medical Division Report; October and November 2008 Administration Department Reports; Southern Humboldt Working Together Coordinator's report for November 2008.

Executive Director Report

For this, his last board meeting at RRHC, Eric Fimbres presented an overview of the accomplishments of the last 4 and a half years.

Thad Horner, on behalf of the board, thanked Eric for his dedication and excellent work for our health center.

Death Penalty Information

Carol Lee spoke briefly about the petition enclosed in board packets directing medical personnel not to take part in lethal injection situations. She has been involved in anti-death penalty advocacy for a long while. There were many questions from the board about the appropriateness of the board signing this petition on behalf of the whole clinic; Jim Gergits, operations manager, wondered if this petition might not involve the staff as well, since it is talking of procedures, not policies, something that Kathy Epling felt was true.

The board took no action on this matter at this time; Shelby felt individuals could, if they wished, sign the petition as individuals.

Board Election

Kathy Epling briefly updated the board on the election situation; approximately 8 members have requested additional info on becoming board members, but insofar as she is aware no intent to run forms have yet been returned. Members have until Dec 15 to return these forms to the health center or to the board secretary. If there is a contested election, ballots will go out in mid January. The new board will be seated at the February meeting.

At 6:52PM the board adjourned into executive (closed) session, inviting Eric Fimbres and Consuelo Hernandez to be present. The board also had a brief period of closed session without Eric Fimbres present.

The Board returned to open session at 7:15PM to set the date for the next board meeting.

The next board meeting will be Tuesday December 23, 2008 at 6PM at the health center.

The finance committee will be the same day and place, starting at 5PM

The board adjourned by mutual consent at 7:17PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Epling, RRHC board secretary