

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 Meeting February 23, 2010
6PM at the health center in Redway**

Redwoods Rural Staff Present:

Anne Staunton, RRHC Executive Director; Jeanie Eldridge, RRHC CFO; Blake Olson, RRHC dental director; Marilyn Foote, RRHC behavioral health department head (arriving later in the evening having come from another meeting).

Redwoods Rural Board Members Present:

Thad Horner, Shon Wellborn, Sydney King, Janet Fitzgerald, Rick Silva, Pamela Moore, Kathy Epling

Redwoods Rural Board Members Absent:

Carol Lee, Shelby (both out of the country)

President Thad Horner brought the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Rick Silva agreed to be timekeeper for the evening.

MOTION: That the Agenda be approved as submitted.

Sydney King made the motion which was seconded by Janet Fitzgerald.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

Dental Director Blake Olson addressed the board concerning his proposal to temporarily not accept new adult dental clients. Patients with emergency needs will still be seen, and new pediatric clients will still be seen, but in order that current client treatment plans be completed well and promptly. Currently appointments are close to 3 months out.

Rick Silva wondered if we might want to recruit a new dentist. Anne Staunton said that definitely this was being examined; there is a need to run figures and decide what would be the best option both for patient care and for economic stability for the health center.

The board asked for how long the closure to new adult dental clients was expected to last. The situation will be examined after 6 months.

MOTION: The Redwoods Rural Board approves the recommendation by Dr. Olson, the Dental Director, that no new adult dental clients be accepted, understanding that dental emergency situations will continue to be treated and that pediatric clients will continue to be accepted. The temporary limitation will be reviewed within six months.

MOTION was made by Rick Silva and seconded by Pamela Moore

The MOTION PASSED unanimously

Dr. Olson was told how much his work for RRHC and the community we serve is appreciated.

Marilyn Foote, Behavioral Health Department Head, spoke to the board about the new integrated primary care/behavioral health care process. Both departments will be housed in the building in which the board was meeting; currently the Primary Care building. Marilyn explained that this will help foster better care for all clients, and better coordination of care. She and Dr. Wendi Joiner will be working together far more and more effectively. Letters have gone out to the approximately 80 ongoing behavioral health clients explaining the change.

There was discussion (and excitement: Kathy Epling has been waiting for this moment for many years, since the days of the Depression Collaborative). Marilyn noted that the video explaining the “warm hand off” concept, made by the Sierra Family Medical Center, is available for viewing on Youtube.

The Redwoods Rural Board is very happy that the staff, board, and administration are all now committed to an integrated healthcare system.

Marilyn also updated the board on the Suboxone program. It will start Friday, with the first client; the team is in place and ready to go.

The board thanked Marilyn for her ongoing excellent work for RRHC and the community. (Marilyn’s umbrella from the Humane Society also received due admiration).

The Board Secretary had no correspondence to share. No member of the public was present to address the board.

The Board reviewed the division reports.

Thad Horner wished to know more about the difficulties or concerns about the T one line now in use. There was considerable technical discussion (yes, the board secretary was in over her head at this point; the discussion concerned routers, t one lines, and other methods of transmitting and receiving telemedicine information.) Anne Staunton noted that there is a possible grant from the University of California that might improve or augment our telemedicine program.

Thad Horner wished for more information on the malware that had been discovered on certain of the RRHC computers. Anne Staunton noted that the problems had been discovered on the oldest computers and the problems have been resolved.

MOTION: That the Consent Agenda be approved as submitted.

The Motion was made by Janet Fitzgerald and seconded by Pamela Moore.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

The consent agenda included the board minutes and finance committee notes from January 2010, the behavioral health, dental, medical, finance and operations and health information management systems reports, and the January 2010 financial statement.

Anne Staunton, in the place of Wendi Joiner, gave a quick update on the prenatal situation. Anne said she had had an excellent meeting with Wendi, Bill Hunter, Cheyenne Spetzler and Hermann Spetzler of Open Door, talking about the possibility of Carolyn Eldridge having a space at RRHC. The hospital district had also been interested in offering Carolyn a space. While Open Door expressed interest and delight in helping foster this connection, the final choice rested with Carolyn Eldridge herself. She has chosen to work from a private office on Redwood Drive, at the north end of Garberville.

The board was pleased to think that at least these services will be available within our community.

Anne Staunton circulated a Health Care Policy update from the California Primary Care Association.

There was discussion of calendar updates for strategic planning and for the Rural Roundtable (which is happening in Eureka on the 5th of March).

There was considerable discussion on progress with the Electronic Medical Records.

A revised Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement policy and procedure was circulated. There was long and detailed semantic discussion of the virtues of calling reports incident reports or variance reports.

The new policy uses the term incident reports.

MOTION: that the revised Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement policy and procedure be accepted as presented.

The motion was made by Kathy Epling and seconded by Janet Fitzgerald

MOTION PASSED unanimously

MOTION: That the 990 report for fiscal year 2008-2009 presented to the finance committee earlier this evening and reviewed there receive board approval.

This motion was made by Kathy Epling and seconded by Sydney King.

MOTION PASSED unanimously

This being the February Board meeting the terms of Kathy Epling, Janet Fitzgerald, and Shelby ended.

There had been no candidates for the board seats other than Kathy Epling, Janet Fitzgerald, and Shelby.

MOTION: That Kathy Epling be appointed to the Redwoods Rural Board of Directors.

Motion was made by Rick Silva and seconded by Sydney King.

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

MOTION: That Janet Fitzgerald be appointed to the Redwoods Rural Board of Directors.

Motion was made by Pamela Moore and seconded by Sydney King

MOTION PASSED unanimously

MOTION: That Shelby be appointed to the Redwoods Rural Board of Directors

Motion was made by Pamela Moore and seconded by Shon Wellborn

MOTION PASSED unanimously.

These terms are for three years, ending in February 2013.

March 23, 2010 is the date of the next finance committee meeting (starting at 5pm) and the next meeting of the Board of Directors (starting at 6pm).

At 7:51PM the board went into executive session, returning to open session at 8:00PM.

MOTION: That the meeting be adjourned

Motion made by Rick Silva and seconded by Pamela Moore.

MOTION PASSED absolutely and completely and unanimously and the group dispersed at 8:02PM

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Epling Redwoods Rural Health Board Secretary