

Minutes

Point Roberts Public Hospital District

April 5, 2017

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Dick Williams, Commissioner

Attending:

Commissioners: Dick Williams, Robin Nault, Kandace Harper
Superintendent: Elaine Komusi
Financial Auditor: Jackie Gibilterra
Recording Secretary: Reneé Coe
Absent:

Introduction of Guests:

Shannon Tomsen, Fire District Commissioner, Bill Meursing, Fire District Commissioner, Kristy Steinberger, Barbara Bradstock, Pat Grubb, All Point Bulletin

Approval of Prior Minutes:

Approval of minutes from previous PR PHD Regular Meeting (Mar. 1, 2016)

Motion: To approve all minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Business:

Financial Report

Jackie Gibilterra presented the financial report. Current month payables \$15,983.22. Payroll is \$2,200.

Payments include \$243.75 for clinic dinner and quarterly payroll fees from Whatcom County Finance for \$170.

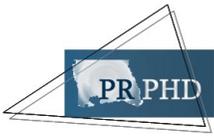
Motion: To approve warrants and payroll for prior months' expenditures as presented. Motion carried.

Superintendent Report:

Sign Project

Shannon Tomsen discussed her new ideas and costs regarding the clinic sign with the group. The proposed ideas include the following:

- Two signs combined with the fire department at each entrance to the parking lot.
- Create a new sign at the front (along the easement) by adding the Clinic name and Unity Care name to Whatcom County Fire District 5.
- Cost of the new signs is unknown. She added that Chief Carleton has a sign company in Ferndale who could make the signs for substantially less than the \$6,690 cost as proposed by Unity Care. (see note*)
- The fire department will not contribute to the cost of the new signs.
- The Chief would like the signs finalized and installed by May.



Shannon wants the sign decision to be voted on by the end of the meeting. She stated that it was important to get it done now before summer. She also said the original sign proposed and designed by Unity Care did not fit the area. She wants the new signs to be simple and not too colorful. She said the Chief has a lot on his plate and that he cannot revisit the sign issue at a later date.

- The HD group is not ready to make a decision without having the specific drawings and actual costs options presented for their review. Elaine needs to discuss the proposal with Shanon Hardie when she returns from sabbatical on April 10th.

*Note – this figure was obtained by Ms. Tomsen through the public records request as a private citizen. Elaine clarified for the group that as previously agreed, this figure was to be paid by Unity Care and charged to the Hospital District over a 5-year period, making the cost more affordable for the District – see related notes below.

Commissioner Nault pointed out that the design/color of the sign was not the reason that the Fire District declined the sign. The Fire District originally declined because the sign was for the Clinic vendor.

Commissioner Nault also pointed out that this meeting was the first opportunity the Hospital District has had to discuss the new sign proposal by Fire Commissioner Tomsen. Ms. Nault referenced a recent email where Ms. Tomsen outlined next steps and deadlines on the project and Ms. Nault stated that these deadlines were unrealistic, unreasonable and demonstrated that Ms. Tomsen was trying to exercise too much control on the project and the outcome.

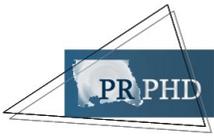
After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the HD needed more time to finalize the new sign ideas. Fire District Commissioner Shannon Tomsen withdrew her proposal from the commissioners and would like the HD to write a letter to the fire department that the issue of the new sign will be tabled indefinitely.

Motion: To table the new sign idea for the clinic. Motion carried.

Public Records Request

During the sign discussion, Elaine stated that while she liked the new sign ideas and appreciated the interest in finding a joint solution, she doesn't like the ongoing issues in communication between the Districts. There is a disconnect between the two groups since Shannon Tomsen became fire district commissioner and responsible as the liaison to the Hospital District.

Elaine explained that the HD received an 11 item public records request and an additional 5 requests (a few days later) from private citizen, Shannon Tomsen. Elaine stated that the public records request felt more like an audit and that



while it was requested as a private citizen, Shannon is the fire district commissioner who had been assigned to liaise with the Hospital District.

Elaine further questioned the ethics of Shannon bringing up and referencing information provided through a public records request (as a private citizen) while speaking at the Hospital District meeting as a fire district commissioner.

Elaine went on to say that since Shannon Tomsen has become the liaison to the Hospital District there have been numerous and persistent emails, requests and demands whereas in previous years the HD may have received two or three communications from the fire district in a full calendar year.

Elaine stated that until those methods of communication improves, she is not interested in working jointly on the sign or any other project.

Open House – August 26th

The group discussed the following points regarding the fire department's open house scheduled for August 26th.

- The open house wasn't as successful for the clinic
- The open house audience is mostly summer time Canadian residents
- Should the Clinic opt out entirely or participate in a different way?
- Scale it back but participate somehow
- Discuss with Natalié and see what she would like from the clinic

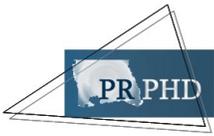
Other:

Commissioner Williams asked about the website and who is responsible for maintaining the content. He would like the minutes and meeting agendas added to it. Elaine said the website is designed using a static information format so it may need to be upgraded to accommodate the request. She will make sure all content is current and look into the cost of upgrading it.

Guest, Bill Meursing (Fire District Commissioner) requested a copy of the Unity Care contract with the Hospital District. Elaine will email a copy to him.

Next Step

- Elaine to write a letter to the fire department tabling the sign request
- Elaine to discuss the open house with clinic provider
- Elaine to look into the cost of upgrading the website



Next meeting:

Regular Meeting: Wednesday May 3, 2017

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Signatures:

Respectfully submitted by: Reneé Coe

Dick Williams

Robin Nault

Kandace Harper

Reneé Coe

Next meeting:

Adjournment:

Signatures: