

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman Regional Hospital Commissioners Date: 11-06-19
Observer Reporting: Judy Stone Length of Meeting: 2.5 hours
Members Present/Absent: All present
Others Present (i.e., media, public): some hospital dept. heads; MPDN reporter

Meeting Content:

Tonight's agenda listed a **public hearing on the Proposed Budget** for 2020. No public attended. The budget was explained expeditiously and then approved. "The tax levy needed to cover the debt service of bonds issued by Public Hospital District No. 1-A of Whitman County... for 2020 will consist of \$1,239,883 (Special-UTGO levy \$608,213 and Regular-M&O Levy \$631,670)." Total expenditures for 2010: \$77,100,000.

Outpatient Cardiopulmonary Services have grown dramatically in the past year, with the largest increases being sleep studies and cardio/pulmonary rehab services. The report states these two services are maxed out unless additional space becomes available.

The employee agreement is quite stern concerning **influenza immunization:** "As of November 1st, any employee who has chosen not to participate in the influenza campaign will be off their departmental work schedules and will not be allowed to work until they have either received the vaccination or completed a HealthStream module and declination form." If the employee chooses not to follow this protocol by 11/30/19, their employment will be terminated. This year there was 100% participation (90% immunized; 10% declination)

Births have slightly increased in 2019, following a three-year decline.

Foundation Update: Fundraising goal is \$6.5 million and it is "going well" according to Rueben Mayes, CDO.

President Tricia Grantham stated that they are anxiously awaiting the next elections count one the **Prop 1 Bond** at 8pm. No other comments were made about the bond.

3rd Quarter Financial Update: During this report Steve Febus, CFO did quite a bit of education on how he does his reports and what they mean and how they interrelate.

Just a few highlights:

Expect \$1.6 mil exceeding budget income at end of 2019.

\$10 mil has been spent over the past 5 years on improvements.

Hospital receives \$7,000/day/patient from Medicare and this is 73% of actual costs.

Mr. Febus stated that under "Medicare for All" it will be a daunting challenge for the hospital to be able to continue to provide the current services.

Public Meetings of interest to League:

Annual Foundation Gala will be February 1, 2020 at SEL.

Process & Protocol: Hospital Chief Officers prepare detailed reports and explain them in detail to the Commissioners. They are never rushed and discussions often follow the reports.

