

## League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman Regional Hospital Date: 8-5-2020

Observer Reporting: Judy Stone Length of Meeting: 1 hour

Members Present: All commissioners present **virtually**

Members Absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Others Present (e.g., media, public) There were some members of the public.

### **Business pertaining to League Positions or topics of interest**

\*The PRH Clinic Network's **Palouse Health Center** opened August 3<sup>rd</sup>. It will be staffed by a nurse practitioner (ARNP) and a physician's assistant (PA-C) three days a week.

\***Financial Report** (PRH, PRHCN, and the joint ventures): "The District experienced a consolidated excess of revenue over expenses for the period ending June 30, 2020 of \$1,467,188 compared to \$325,909 in 2019.

... without funds generated from various grants and donations the District would have seen nearly \$500,000 loss." (Steve Febus, CFO)

Lost revenue: In- and out-patient volumes have been down but are now increasing.

Savings: Furloughs and 25% payroll reductions.

The Foundation's COVID-19 Emergency Fund had overwhelming community philanthropy support.

Deferred Revenue:

CARES Act Funding:

1. Medicare Advance Payments -- \$9.5 mil. for the year. Being considered a loan.

*"An accelerated/advance payment is a payment intended to provide necessary funds when there is a disruption in claims submission and/or claims processing. These expedited payments can also be offered in circumstances such as national emergencies, or natural disasters in order to accelerate cash flow to the impacted health care providers and suppliers." (cms.gov.files)*

What is not used must be returned or start incurring 12% interest beginning 1/1/2021.

2. CARES Act Provider Relief Fund -- \$6 mil. This is a grant for COVID-related services and costs.

\* The rest of the meeting was composed of discussions concerning **COVID** in the community. These are snippets:

People expect ~ 10,000 students to return to WSU. The U is trying to accommodate freshmen before the older grades.

Having had 2 COVID patients, employees feel assured their preparations were effective and they learned they can care for COVID patients.

9 Nurses traveled to New York to help during their crisis time. They brought back valuable experience.

Employees have been coping with pay reductions and furloughs (all finished now) – many voluntary.

Everyone is stressed trying to deal with all the changes COVID has brought to their jobs on top of their regular lives: families, schools, daycare, finances, etc.

All employees are back to their regular job schedules.

**Public Meetings of interest to League:** *Were there any public meetings announced that you think League members may be interested in attending and/or becoming involved with that relate to League positions?*

**Process & Protocol:** (Observations about participants and procedures of the meeting)  
*e.g., Did the members appear to have done their “homework”? Were members courteous to each other and the public? Was access to materials for certain agenda items available to you?*

**Your additional comments/opinions:**

**Reminders** 😊

A LWV Observer is impartial, silent, and respectful. It is, however, acceptable to ask questions **for clarification** following the meeting.

Remember to wear your awesome ID Badge!

*Please attach any materials, or links to such, received at the meeting that you feel are important to your report.*

***Please submit your report to the LWV Observer Chair, Judy Stone, within one week of the meeting.***

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(08/2019)