

## League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman Regional Hospital

Date: 4-6-2022

Observer Reporting: Judy Stone

Length of Meeting: 1 hour; Hybrid

Board Members Present: Elbracht, Grantham, O'Keefe, Murphy, Pitzer, Werre, Karpman

Board Members Absent: None Others Present: many department heads and unnamed others

### Administrative Update:

- The Pullman, Moscow and WSU Police Depts. Have received a federal grant to start a **“Peer Support, Mental Health” Program**. The funds will be used to train officers in group, individual and advanced CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management). PRH is unofficially collaborating by having one of its CISM facilitators attend their meetings and offer suggestions based on their team’s experiences. This person is being considered to be available for an officer who would prefer to meet with an external person, and assist with doing a debrief if needed.
- The **CEO selection committee** has a short list of four candidates that spent two days in Pullman meeting with a variety of employees and physicians, the Hospital Foundation Board, Pullman City Government, Pullman School District, Pullman Chamber of Commerce, and representatives from WSU and SEL. They were interviewed extensively by the CEO Selection Committee and spent time with Hospital’s Board of Commissioners. Now the Board is gathering feedback from the involved individuals. At their April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting they will review all of the information and begin discussing the next CEO of PRH.
- **Finance Committee:** YTD February 2022, the District realized a net gain of \$527,332. Surgical volume has increased effectively, 26%, from the pandemic influence in 2020/21. Several areas have seen a return of volume, including most of the imaging modalities and admissions have increased resulting in an 18% jump in patient days. The federal HRSA COVID-19 Uninsured Program, for testing, treatment, and vaccine administration, has stopped accepting claims as funds are running out. PRH has filed all outstanding claims.
- **Clinic Network** leadership has begun to identify the key priorities to accomplish in the near future. A part-time physician recruiter has been hired to help focus and align recruitment for PRH’s priority specialties outlined in its strategic plan, and other identified specialties, and has expanded its reach to physicians looking for rural opportunities in particular.
- **Hospital Foundation:** Received a \$50,000 gift through direct mail during the first quarter – the largest gift that has been received through this program. The Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine Foundation and PRH Foundation are currently raising funds to upgrade simulation lab technology that will be used by Family medicine residents, current physicians, nurses, nursing students, EMT staff and the police department. Their goal is \$500,000.

There was a long discussion, with most commissioners actively involved, concerning a proposed updated Anesthesia Agreement. It was approved.

A Clinic Network Legal Restructure proposal was approved.

**Public Meetings of interest to League:** The annual Hospital Foundation Gala will be held May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Process & Protocol:** I am always impressed by how alert and involved these commissioners are in discussing the issues brought before it. They have read the materials sent to them in their “Board Pack” and are prepared to ask questions, comment and give suggestions. I have never seen anyone disrespected. It is extremely rare for anyone to be absent.

Recently the Board decreased the amount of materials made available to me (and others). Materials regarding items requiring Action are no longer shared. I now receive the agenda and the Administrative Update – which really is the best source of information for issues of interest to the League.

**Your additional comments/opinions:** Members always share some laughter.