

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Pullman Regional Hospital Board of Commissioners

Date: 5/3/2023

Observer Reporting: Lennis Boyer Watts Length of Meeting: 1 3/4 hour

Board Members Present: Jeff Elbracht, President; Tricia Grantham, Vice-President; Sandra O’Keefe, Secretary; Mike Murphy, Joe Pitzer, KarenKarpman, PJSanchez;

Board Members Absent: _____

Others Present (e.g., staff, other agency representatives, media): Matt Forge, CEO; Steve Febus, CFO; Jeannie Eylar, CCO; Bernadette Berney, CHRO; Carrie Coen, CRO; Edwin Tingstad, MD, CMO; Karly Port, CCNO; Brenna Harris, MD, Chief Medical Officer, Jeff Onstad, Attorney

Business Pertaining to League Positions or Topics of Interest: Include in this section:

1) Issues discussed that relate to League priorities or positions. The League Health Care position was essentially addressed under the heading of Critical Questions that Every Board Needs to be Able to Answer: What are the most prominent health needs in your community and what is population health and why is it significant? Population health refers not just to the people who choose to come to PRH, but the health of the entire population. Those issues include the immunization status of the local and state populations. Whitman county – 59%, WA state – 56%, Target – 80%. How many mental health screenings are being done; child care availability. Whitman county suicide deaths are 3x the drug overdose deaths (?effect of availability or narcan). Availability of low cost dental care – Unify Family Dental – the single choice but have lost providers and are in the process of attracting new ones.

2) Issues/topics that you want the League to know about, for community awareness and the business of your agency.

Busy 1st Quarter – rollout of Work Day (new billing system) and Epic (new EMR system). Foundation Update – Many activities in the works. Of interest – takes 28 cents to raise one dollar! Priorities for fundraising this year: the athletic training programs at Pullman, Colton, Colfax and Potlatch high schools, Family Residency program getting off the ground, upgrading surgical capacity.

Three residents were announced on Match Day. All very excited to be in Pullman.

Palouse clinic has been remodeled and is open 3 days/week currently. Hoping to increase to 4-5 days in the fall. Will be staffed by midlevel providers.