

League of Women Voters of Pullman Observer Report

Name of Agency: Special Meeting of the Pulman Regional Hospital Board

Date: 7/19/2023

Observer Reporting: Lennis Boyer Watts Length of Meeting: 2 hours

Board Members Present: Jeff Elbracht,, Patricia Grantham, Sandra O'Keefe, Joe Pitzer, Karen Karpman, PJ Sanchez

Board Members Absent:
none

Others Present (e.g., staff, other agency representatives, media, public) : Matt Forge, CEO; Steve Febus, CFO; Jeannie Eylar, CCO; Bernadette Berney, CHRO; Carrie Coen, CRO; Dr. Ed Tingstad, CMO; Karly Port CCNO; Dr. Brenna Harris, Medical Staff President, Rob Rembert, Attorney, Erin Sedam, PRH, Alison Weigley, PRH,

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

- 1) Main purpose of this special meeting was to appoint a replacement for longtime Commissioner Dr. Mike Murphy, who has retired. Four applicants were interviewed at the meeting. Cheryl Oliver, Associate Dean of Professional Programs for WSU's Carson College of Business, was selected to fill this vacancy through December 2023. To pursue a full six year term, Commissioner Oliver can run for the position in the Nov. 2023 general election.
- 2) Administrative update given by Matt Forge. Recent visit by the national accreditation committee. The committee was very complementary and noted minimal nonconforming items for which action plans will be turned in this week. This is the first time the clinic network has been included and evaluated.
- 3) Financial update given by Steve Febus. The EMR switchover has led to significant increase in accounts receivables. The billing department has been restructured, more training is ongoing, and some glitches have been addressed. As a result of these changes, the AR has seen a significant turnaround in the last 5 months.
- 4) Announcements – High School Athletic Training Program. The 5th Quarter Rally will take place at the Red Barn on August 4. This is a fundraiser for the high school athletic trainer program (several HS in the area) which is sponsored by PRH. Dr. Tingstad noted that this program is receiving lots of attention and is hoping this can become a statewide effort.