



**Chelan County Public Hospital District No. 2
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes February 25, 2025 at 1:30 pm
in person and via Microsoft TEAMS**

Commission Attendance:

(not present present)

Jordana LaPorte, Chair
 Lori Withrow, Vice Chair

Mary Murphy, Secretary (virtual)
 Doug Gibson

Len England

Staff Participants: A. Edwards, B. Truman, S. Ottley, R. Montgomery, L. Sahlinger, M. Miller, A. Benegas, J Phetteplace

Guests:

Community Members: Marianne Patton, Manual Navarro, Jerry Bragg, Sherry Bragg,

Recorder: Wendy Kenck

Agenda Item	Topic/Action
1. Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Withrow called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and recited the mission statement.
2. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. Bragg commented that multiple providers in the area have stated they no longer will have medical privileges at the hospital due to the hospitalist program and noted the providers concerns that the use of hospitalists could negatively impact community health by limiting patients' ability to be seen by their primary care providers while hospitalized. Additionally, he expressed a preference for having the option to see his primary care provider rather than a hospitalist while in-house. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Board and the Administration responded stating the hospitalist program was implemented to provide 24/7 inpatient care, ensuring continuous, specialized treatment. This approach keeps acuity levels in-house while allowing higher-acuity cases to be transferred when necessary. ○ Local providers still retain OB, pediatric, and colonoscopy privileges at the hospital. ○ Data showed that many patients were transferred due to a lack of available providers, leading to lost revenue for LCH. ○ Prior to the hospitalist program, 4% of hospitalized patients were being seen by their family practice provider. ○ Hospitalists, specializing in inpatient care, are always on-site and maintain continuous communication with local providers. ○ Similar to cardiologists, hospitalists are specialists in inpatient care, and they receive ongoing education and training to enhance patient outcomes. ○ February financial reports show a significant year-over-year increase. ○ Having a provider on staff 24/7 has improved collaboration among nursing, imaging, and pharmacy teams, enhancing overall patient care. ○ Patients have responded positively, appreciating the dedicated inpatient care and the presence of hospitalists has raised the overall quality of care. ○ The decision and the implementation of hospitalists followed over a year of discussions and evaluations. • Jerry and Sherry Bragg expressed concerns about the management of the Bragg trust, emphasizing that its original purpose was to ensure fund recipients return to the valley for at least two years. The Braggs have not received updates in the past 10 years and want to know

	<p>who has benefited from the funds. Additionally, they noted that the foundation board operates separately from the LCH Board, which was not Edna (Bragg)'s original intent, as the hospital was initially meant to be directly involved in fund distribution.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Board and staff in attendance expressed a heartfelt thank you for the many opportunities that the trust has provided staff over the years and noted that the trust is currently managed by the Lake Chelan Health & Wellness Foundation and would like to discuss the trust moving forward in more detail.
3. Chair's Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is no Chair's report for the month of February.
4. Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>L. Withrow motioned to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded, motion passed</i>
5. Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● L. Withrow announced Executive Session at 2:10 pm for 15 minutes to consider information regarding staff privileges or quality improvement committees under RCW 70.41.205 and RCW 42.30.110(1)(o) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 10 minutes ○ Executive session ended at 2:35 pm
6. Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>L. Withrow verified all credential files are complete for the proposed list of providers and motioned to approve the appointments and removals as presented, seconded, motion passed.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Credentialing Committee will reach out to the Medical Staff to review the processes. ● Finance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ B. Truman reported that USDA applications for EMS/Admin project funding have been submitted and are awaiting approval. Private funding efforts are underway, with potential funds expected in approximately three months if approved. ○ B. Truman presented the unaudited January 2025 finance report, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>D. Gibson motioned to accept the unaudited January 2025 Finance Report, motion passed.</i> ○ <i>L. England motioned to sell the 2004 Ford E-450 Bus (EMS vehicle), sell the 2012 Dodge Caravan (EMS Vehicle), and scrap the 2013 Dodge Ambulance (EMS Vehicle) seconded, motion approved.</i> ○ <i>L. Withrow motioned to approve Resolution 2025-1 Capital Expenditures, seconded, motion approved.</i> ● A. Edwards shared the CEO Report with additional notes of interest: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WSHA Hospital Advocacy Day: Attended legislative meetings focused on preventing Medicaid funding cuts. ○ Medicaid Concerns: LCH receives \$1.3 million to offset Medicaid losses, but ongoing funding remains a concern. ○ Prior Authorization Issues: Current system lacks a direct way to appeal or discuss case denials with decision-makers. ○ Sub-PEBB Bill: Proposes capping charges and requiring acceptance of the offered plan. ● Community Connection Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City Town Hall: Many attended. ○ Upcoming Events: Ruby U, Brad Hawkins: Meeting with the community at the Chelan Firehall on 3/5 (PM). ● M. Murphy presented the "Open Public Meeting Act- Executive Session" from MRSC as a tool for board members ● S. Ottley presented the Strat Plan Board Dashboard ● <i>L. Withrow motioned to accept D. Gibson and L. England to represent the Board at the Compliance Privacy & Risk committee for 2025. Motion passed.</i>

7. Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specialty Care Clinic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Electrical, plumbing, and mechanical work is nearly complete, with minor adjustments needed for DOH compliance at a lower cost. Additionally, a room is being modified to include MOH's lab, with a finalized plan and a change order expected soon. • EMS/Admin Building project received positive support from the city, with permitting targeted for May and groundbreaking expected in June or July.
8. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new business
9. Roundtable/Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Credentialing Committee will contact MEC. • The Board was impressed with the Dermatology program and appreciated the support from all staff involved.
10. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public Comment
11. Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. LaPorte announced Executive Session at 4:15 pm for 30 minutes for <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RCW 42.30.110(1)(o) to consider information regarding staff privileges or quality improvement committees under RCW 70.41.205 ○ RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) Evaluate the performance of a public employee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 15 minutes ▪ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 15 minutes ▪ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 10 minutes ▪ Executive Session ended at 5:25 pm
12. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session • L. Withrow adjourned the meeting at 5:26 pm

Attest:

Mary C Murphy

Mary C Murphy (Mar 27, 2025 16:09 PDT)

M. Murphy, Secretary

Aaron Edwards

Aaron Edwards (Mar 27, 2025 09:24 PDT)

Aaron Edwards, CEO

wendy kenck

W. Kenck, Executive Assistant










Board Meeting Minutes 02.25.25

Final Audit Report

2025-03-27

Created:	2025-03-27
By:	wendy kenck (wkenck@lcch.net)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA9My9tB4m1wZPVrgoHRahMw1QxK58D3NT

"Board Meeting Minutes 02.25.25" History

-  Document created by wendy kenck (wkenck@lcch.net)
2025-03-27 - 4:17:08 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to Aaron Edwards (aedwards@lcch.net) for signature
2025-03-27 - 4:17:12 PM GMT
-  Document emailed to mmurphy@lcch.net for signature
2025-03-27 - 4:17:13 PM GMT
-  Email viewed by Aaron Edwards (aedwards@lcch.net)
2025-03-27 - 4:24:13 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Aaron Edwards (aedwards@lcch.net)
Signature Date: 2025-03-27 - 4:24:37 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Email viewed by mmurphy@lcch.net
2025-03-27 - 11:09:05 PM GMT
-  Signer mmurphy@lcch.net entered name at signing as Mary C Murphy
2025-03-27 - 11:09:48 PM GMT
-  Document e-signed by Mary C Murphy (mmurphy@lcch.net)
Signature Date: 2025-03-27 - 11:09:50 PM GMT - Time Source: server
-  Agreement completed.
2025-03-27 - 11:09:50 PM GMT