



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

Commission Attendance:

(not present present)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jordana LaPorte, Chair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Withrow, Vice Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Murphy, Secretary <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Gibson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Len England
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Staff Participants: A. Edwards, B. Truman, R. Montgomery, J. Barich, M. Miller, A. Benegas, J. Sweeney, S. Ottley, Dr. Kalliath, Dr. Freed

Guests: Martin Yanushev (EdieBailey), Dr. Scott Hippe (LCH Chief of Staff)

Community Members: Nate Mote, Anna Moroz

Recorder: Mary Murphy

Agenda Item	Topic/Action
1. Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. LaPorte called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and recited the mission statement.
2. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public Comment
3. Chair’s Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • L. Porte appreciated the Board, CEO and COO attending the WA Rural Hospital Leadership conference last week in Chelan. Governor Ferguson issued a proclamation that last week was Public Hospital District Week.
4. Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>D. Gibson motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded and motion carried.</i>
5. Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief of Staff Report: Dr. Hippe provided his written and oral quarterly report of Med Staff activities. • A. Edwards introduced Dr. Stu Freed as new Chief Medical Officer. • DOP Review: Discussed progress on Family Medicine DOP document. Dr. Hippe added three introductory sentences about methodology to the document, and D. Gibson suggested minor edits. D. Gibson moved, "to approve delineation of privileges for Family Medicine as discussed and amended. Second, the motion carried.
6. Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. LaPorte announced Executive Session at 2:08 pm for 15 minutes to end at 2:24 pm for: RCW 70.44.062 and RCW to consider information regarding staff privileges or 42.30.110(1)(o) quality improvement committees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Executive session ended at 2:24 pm. ○ L. Withrow stated the Credentialing Committee has reviewed all applicants that met the core criteria, and we recommend that "Juergen Lang be recommended for medical staff membership and CRNA Mark Bennett has declined to renew his privileges with LCH". Second, the motion carried.
7. Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Martin Yanushev, CPA, Eide Bailly, presented the 2024 Audit Report. GASB 101, in effect since Dec 15, 2023, affects how sick leave benefit is accounted for in 2024. Will continue to finalize the report to bring to Board in the future.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Medicare/Medicaid cost report- B. Truman will run a zero-balance report to send a true LCH payer mix to the Board. LCH has about 25-30% commercial mix. ○ B. Truman reported that due to supply chain issues, LCH must order a new ambulance now with 3-year lead time. \$470,000 cost to be paid now to deliver it by 2028. We must also order a long-haul ambulance in 2027. ○ B. Truman presented conservative Pro-Formas for ENT and Urology services. Dr. Freed mentioned the possible need for another CRNA. Cardiac service feasibility is underway. ○ Board discussed the Compass program (RPG)-Tele ED/Hospitalist Support. Will improve patient and Hospitalist access to consultations with nephrologist, pulmonologist, intensive care and infectious disease specialist. No cost in Year One, and \$3000 per month after the first year. ○ D. Gibson motioned to "move forward with efforts to establish a service line for Urology and a separate service line for ENT". Seconded and motion carried. ○ New billing software to be initiated in the next 90 to 120 days will improve billing accuracy and two-way texts with financial counselors with potential to enable text payments. The new phone tree will improve patient direct access to billers and more efficient communication with financial counselors. Discussed use of new AI tool to improve billing efficiencies. LCH will inform patients that the new Specialty Clinic is a provider-based clinic, resulting in higher costs. Patients will be able to more easily get estimates of procedural costs, that will involve both facility and professional fees. ○ B. Truman presented the unaudited May 2025 finance report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ L. Withrow motioned to accept the unaudited May 2025 Finance Report; second motion approved. . ● CEO Report: A. Edwards presented the CEO Report and shared the following key updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It will take some time to know the details of federal legislation OBBBA and local impact (more burdensome to get paid, less reimbursement?). We must learn what we can absorb. Concerns about possible 10% federal penalty due to WA Medicaid expansion for immigrants. Could mean \$740 million cut to WA hospitals. Concerns about cuts to large tertiary centers as well. Chelan Indivisible Health Care Committee seeks facts about the impact of federal and state funding decisions on local health care systems to share with our community. ○ A. Edwards, J. LaPorte and D. Gibson met today with representatives of UW Residency Program and CVCH to encourage flexibility in the MOU. One year contract in place now. UW plans to arrange an audit of the Residency Program services to ensure these continue to meet ACGME criteria and residency program requirements. ● Strat Plan KPI Report: S. Ottley reviewed the KPI dashboard. ● Dr. Kalliath, Hospitalist, was invited to join the meeting and responded to Board questions about DOP and the benefits of the new Compass program. He is meeting with staff and arranging educational sessions with UW Residents. ● Community Connection Opportunities: Board, CEO and COO attended the WA Rural Health Leadership conference last week. EMS 50th anniversary event 4-6 pm July 28. Specialty Clinic opening noon July 29. Guild B Cruise coming up. ● Board Education: J. LaPorte facilitated board comments about the state rural hospital conference. She presented handouts and information on the board Duties of Care, Loyalty and Obedience and what the board is, and is not responsible for.
8. Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Specialty Clinic & EMS Capital Project Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ S. Ottley reported Specialty Clinic received City of Chelan Certificate of Occupancy today. Staff can now place furnishings, equipment and supplies and train staff in the new location, to provide services starting Aug 1.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ EMS project bidding is underway. ● Strategic Planning: S Ottley sent draft July 22 agenda today.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New Business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resolution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Board agreed to postpone the vote on these Resolutions until the next meeting. Edits and corrections were suggested. ● Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The board provided feedback on draft Board Orientation policy items. The board agreed that adding specific positions in lead roles to cover specific topics and adding a Board member mentor role might help new Board members with onboarding. The Governance Committee will bring an updated draft to the next meeting.
9. Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No Public Comment
10. Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● J. LaPorte announced executive session at 5:30 pm for 30 min to end at 6:00pm for RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the performance of a public employee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Executive Session ended at 6:00 pm
11. Roundtable/Action Items	
12. Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● J. LaPorte adjourned the meeting at 6:16 pm

Attest:

Mary C Murphy

Mary C Murphy (Aug 8, 2025 14:16:19 PDT)

M. Murphy, Secretary

Aaron Edwards

Aaron Edwards (Aug 11, 2025 08:06:42 PDT)

Aaron Edwards, CEO










Board Minutes 06.30.25

Final Audit Report

2025-08-11

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