



**Chelan County Public Hospital District No. 2
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Meeting Minutes October 28, 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 (virtual), R. Montgomery, J. Barich, S. Ottley, S. Freed (virtual), M. Miller, A. Benegas (virtual), B. Mello, D. Ehlert (virtual), B. Fields (virtual), L. Sahlinger

Community Members: Nate Mote, Anna Moroz

Recorder: Wendy Kenck

Agenda Item	Topic/Action
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.
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public Comment
Consent Agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda Changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Added Board Year-End Letter under <i>New Business</i>. ○ Removed Executive Session A RCW: 42.30.110(1)(b) ○ <i>L. Withrow moved to approve the agenda changes, seconded, motion carried.</i> • Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ M. Murphy requested an edit to the 9/30/2025 Board Meeting minutes to remove the wording “and the Board transparency regarding the OB department” from the public comment made by Anna Moroz. ○ J. LaPorte requested to add the Board Year-End Letter under New Business. ○ A. Edwards requested removing Executive Session RCW 42.30.110(1)(b). ○ <i>L. England motioned to approve the Consent Agenda with edits, seconded, and motion approved.</i>
Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J. LaPorte announced an Executive Session at 1:35 PM for 15 minutes, scheduled to end at 1:50 PM, citing RCW 70.44.062 and RCW 42.30.110(1)(o) to consider information regarding staff privileges and matters discussed by quality improvement committees. • Chair announced Executive session ended 1:50 PM. Board returned to open meeting. • Action Following Executive Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>L. Withrow after reviewing the medical recommendations from the Medical Executive Committee (MEC), motioned to approve the appointments of Daneil Baram MD, James Driscoll MD, Banshi Rathi MD, Talal Mahmood MD, Belaal Sheikh MD, Mohammed Nasarrudin MD, Craig Burns, Jocelyn Rich OT, the motion was seconded and carried.</i> ○ <i>D. Gibson motioned that the Credentialing Committee recommended and the Medical Staff Coordinator and Dr. Freed, CMO should survey other facilities to review and bring forward potential recommendations for changes to the Medical Staff Bylaws regarding categories of active participation. The motion was seconded and approved.</i>

<p>Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ B. Truman presented the unaudited September 2025 finance report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>L. Withrow motioned to accept the unaudited September 2025 Finance Report; seconded motion approved.</i> ○ B. Truman presented an overview of the 2026 budget changes, reflecting discussions from the Board Special Budget Meeting and the Finance Committee. ○ D. Gibson <i>motioned to approve Resolution 2025-14, 2026 Budget, seconded, motion approved.</i> ○ B. Truman presented the Medicare Open Enrollment letter for the community. ○ B. Fields proposed implementing a 10% discount for self-pay uninsured patients, with an additional discount for cash payments, to be applied in conjunction with the prompt pay discount. No decision was made at this time. ● CEO Report: A. Edwards presented the CEO Report, noting that a new Physician Assistant has joined Lake Chelan Health (LCH) in the Primary Care Clinic. He reported meeting with Representative Schrier to discuss the OB and prior authorization bill she is sponsoring and had a productive conversation regarding the challenges facing rural healthcare, including payment issues and difficulties with Medicare Advantage plans. ● Strat Plan KPI Report: S. Ottley reviewed the KPI dashboard. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2026 Strat Planning proposing facilitators for a 2-day session. ● Community Connection Opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Met with Representative Schrier. ○ Give NCW will include LCH in holiday fundraising efforts. ○ Manson 8th graders are scheduled to visit on November 17 to explore healthcare careers. ○ EMS and clinic staff will participate in the Halloween Trick-or-Treating activities in downtown Manson and Chelan. ● Public Relations: A. Benegas presented an overview of advertising optimization efforts and LCH’s digital presence, including performance metrics from the past month. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The discussion also addressed the ongoing challenge of managing misinformation on social media, noting that privacy regulations often limit the ability to publicly clarify certain situations. ○ J. LaPorte emphasized that there are always two sides to every story and highlighted the importance of understanding context before drawing conclusions. ● Board Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L. England reviewed the use of acronyms in healthcare and emphasized the importance of ensuring patients and the public clearly understand information without the use of abbreviations. LCH has made positive progress in eliminating acronyms in patient care and community communication.
<p>Old Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EMS Capital Project Update: S. Ottley provided an update on the EMS Capital Project, reviewing the project timeline and the current change order tracking log, including recent changes and updates. ● EMS Build Project Total Project Budget: B. Truman reviewed the EMS Build Project budget and expense tracking, proposing continued use of this tracking approach as the project progresses. ● Contingency/Change Order: The board discussed the workflow for contingency fund use and proposed changes to the Change Order approval process for the EMS/Admin project build. These suggestions will be reviewed at the next board meeting. ● CHNA top priorities- the Board would like to focus on facts pulled from the CHNA survey and community data. ● Board Self Improvement: J. LaPorte reviewed the board members’ self-evaluations, which

	<p>reflected a team average score of A-, and expressed gratitude for the Board’s progress and development over time, the strong working relationships with the Executive Team, and the extra time board members dedicate to committee work. Key observations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Courtesy observed in all Board meetings. ○ Productive working relationships with the CEO and Executive Team. ○ Clear distinction between operations versus role management (“need to know” vs. “nice to know”). ○ Appreciates the educational information provided to support informed Board decision-making. While HR and Quality of Care items are considered in these decisions, they are not part of the Open Public Meetings Act and are not discussed in public meetings, and they are not part of the public record. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Board Job Description: Edits to the Board Job Description were discussed, and suggestions were submitted to the Governance Committee for further review and refinement.
New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● IT Update: B. Mello, new LCH Chief Information Officer with Scaled Health, provided the Board with an update on the IT infrastructure and outlined ongoing plans to update the system. ● LCH Community Forum is scheduled for February 19th at the Ruby Theatre during ‘Ruby U’. ● <i>D. Gibson motioned to approve Resolution 2025-15 Disposal of Cardboard Baler, seconded, motion approved.</i>
Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nate Mote (joining virtually) commented on the use of acronyms and the importance of clear communication. He commented and asked a question about joining the meeting virtually.
Roundtable/Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A. Edwards will connect with Matt Elsworth regarding availability for Strategic Planning scheduling. ● A. Edwards will reach out to a moderator for the Community Forum. ● IT will research the MS Teams virtual sign-in process for board meetings to ensure it is not required.
Executive Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● J. LaPorte announced an Executive Session at 5:35 PM for 20 minutes for RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the performance of a public employee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 5 minutes ○ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 5 minutes ○ Executive Session ended at 6:05 pm and the Board resumed in open meeting.
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No action was taken following the Executive Session. ● J. LaPorte adjourned the meeting at 6:25pm

Attest:

Mary C Murphy

Mary C Murphy (Dec 24, 2025 16:07:11 EST)

M. Murphy, Secretary

wendy kenck

Wendy Kenck, Executive Assistant

Aaron Edwards

Aaron Edwards (Dec 24, 2025 12:42:24 PST)

Aaron Edwards, CEO










Board Minutes 10.28.25

Final Audit Report

2025-12-24

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