



**Chelan County Public Hospital District No. 2  
Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes August 25, 2026 at 1:30 pm**

**Commission Attendance:**

(☐ not present ☒ present)

|                                                         |                                                             |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jordana LaPorte     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Murphy, Secretary  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Len England |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lori Withrow, Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Doug Gibson, Vice Chair |                                                 |

**Staff Participants:** A. Edwards, J. Barich, Jim Cussins, M. Miller, R. Montgomery, L. Sahlinger, S. Ottley, T. Lautiki, A. Benegas, D. Ehlert

**Community Members:** No community members in attendance

**Recorder:** Wendy Kenck

| Agenda Item                   | Topic/Action                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Call to Order<br>Chair Report | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>L. Withrow called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and recited the Mission statement.</li> <li><b>Agenda Change:</b> Under Old Business, the Board will review committee assignments and add a sub-bullet regarding the MA Apprenticeship Program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>J. LaPorte motioned to approve the revised agenda, seconded, motion approved</i></li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Chair Report: L. Withrow</b> expressed appreciation for the team's work and coordination during these challenging times. She noted that significant effort has been invested over the past several years to support organizational growth and that it is rewarding to see the results of that work as the organization continues to stabilize. She also encouraged ongoing leadership development and professional growth.</li> </ul> |
| Public Comment                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Public Comment</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Consent Agenda                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Consent Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>D. Gibson motioned to approve the Consent Agenda seconded, and motion approved.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Quarterly Report              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Resident Quality Improvement Report:</b> Dr. Piper presented the resident quarterly report on OB, including progress on a rural obstetric emergency preparedness initiative designed to strengthen clinical readiness, team coordination, and patient safety through simulation-based training.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Executive Session             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>L. Withrow, Chair announced an Executive Session at 1:55 pm for 35 minutes, scheduled to end at 2:30 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. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 20 minutes</li> <li>L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 20 minutes</li> <li>L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 10 minutes</li> <li>L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 5 minutes</li> <li>L. Withrow announced Executive Session ended at 3:25 pm. The Board returned to the open meeting.</li> <li>Action Following Executive Session:</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                       |

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|              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>D. Gibson, after reviewing the medical recommendations from the Medical Executive Committee (MEC), motioned to approve the Initial appointment of Patricia Papadopoulos, MD, Ross Brown, PA-C, Rami-James Assadi, MD, Syed Jafri, MD, Joshua McDonald, MD, Aaron Peterson, MD, Jack Shakarshy, MD; provisional status to full membership of Alexander Franke, MD, Emily Reynolds, DO, Anne Sobba-Higley, MD; reappointment of Eric Davis, PA-C, James Dahl, MD, Alexander Franke, MD, Tyler Goesser, MD, Brian McGinnes, DPM, Emily Reynolds, DO, Vance Rothmeyer, MD, Jennifer Snyder, MD, Anne Sobba-Higley, MD, Amin Rabiei, MD, Meghan Romba, MD, Derek Dyess, MD, Alan Horn, MD; seconded, motion approved.</i></li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Reports      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Medical Staff Report:</b> Dr. Freed reported that the organization has experienced significant growth over the past year and expressed appreciation for the leadership team and staff whose efforts have supported that growth. He noted that the hospital is successfully caring for more acute care patients locally, allowing patients to receive care closer to home while enhancing the professional experience for staff. He stated that these accomplishments support recruitment and retention efforts and reflect positively on the services provided to the community. Dr. Freed also shared a patient letter recognizing the surgical team's professionalism and patient-centered care.</li> <li>• <b>Finance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Finance Report:</b> S. Ottley reviewed highlights from the July financial packet, including the finalization of a \$662,000 cost report settlement. He reported that the state has verified that SNAP payments will continue as expected and noted that the organization has drawn the remaining funds from the loan.</li> <li>○ <b>Revenue Cycle:</b> S. Ottley provided a review of July revenue cycle performance and key metrics.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>CEO Report:</b> A. Edwards noted additions to his report noting Human Resources is actively updating the employee exit interview process, including revising interview questions and transitioning to an electronic format to improve efficiency and participation. Dr. Harberd also reported an increase in funding for the University of Washington residency program through a higher reimbursement rate per resident.</li> <li>• <b>OB Report YTD:</b> R. Montgomery presented the year-to-date obstetrics report, including current volumes, trends, and key performance indicators.</li> <li>• <b>Community Connection Opportunities:</b> M. Murphy reported outreach efforts with Stacy Willoughby to discuss healthcare needs within the community, including challenges and opportunities related to maternity care access and obstetric care deserts.</li> </ul> |
| Old Business | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Strat Planning:</b> Discussion regarding Board feedback from the strategic plan</li> <li>• <b>RHTP:</b> An update was provided on Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) activities. Three requests for assistance have been submitted, with one additional request planned.</li> <li>• <b>Philanthropy:</b> L. Withrow and M. Murphy reported on the Guild meetings, provided organizational updates, and discussed consultant recommendations regarding foundation structure, including consideration of a separate 501(c)(3). The Board discussed future foundation planning and fundraising opportunities.</li> <li>• <b>EPIC/ERP:</b> A. Edwards provided an update on EPIC and ERP planning efforts, including discussion of the potential engagement of an external consultant to support</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|                   | <p>implementation activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EMS Building Update:</b> S. Ottley reported that the EMS building project remains on schedule, with transition activities planned to begin in September and a ribbon-cutting event anticipated in October.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| New Business      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Downtown Clinic &amp; Mobile Clinic:</b> M. Miller provided an update on improvements to the Downtown Clinic focused on enhancing patient access, workflow efficiency, and ADA accessibility. The Mobile Clinic completed its first community event at the Manson Back-to-School Fair, where approximately two dozen sports physicals were provided. Efforts are underway to expand Mobile Clinic services, and planning continues for the development of a Medical Assistant training program.</li> </ul> |
| Public            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Public Comment</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Executive Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• L. Withrow announced an Executive Session at 6:20 PM for 15 minutes to end at 6:35 PM citing RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) to evaluate the performance of a public employee. An Action could be anticipated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ L. Withrow extended the Executive Session 5 minutes</li> <li>○ Executive Session ended at 6:40 pm and the Board resumed in open meeting.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>                                                                                                   |
| Adjournment       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roundtable discussion</li> <li>• L. Withrow adjourned the meeting at 7:01 pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

Attest:

Mary C Murphy

Mary C Murphy (Oct 2, 2026 15:20:42 PDT)

Mary Murphy, Secretary

Wendy Kenck

Wendy Kenck, Executive Assistant

Aaron Edwards

Aaron Edwards (Oct 2, 2026 15:21:18 PDT)

Aaron Edwards, CEO

# Board Minutes 8.25.26

Final Audit Report

2026-10-02

|                 |                                              |
|-----------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Created:        | 2026-10-02                                   |
| By:             | Ashley Thompson (athompson@lcch.net)         |
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