

**Johnson County Rural Health Care District**  
**Minutes**  
**September 11, 2023**

The regular monthly meeting of the Johnson County Rural Health Care District was held at the Johnson County Planning Office, on September 11, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. by President Britni Camino. Board members present were Britni Camino, Adam Michelena and Marie Miller. Dr. Schueler was present via telephone call. A quorum was present. Others in attendance were Bill Novotny, Dave Harness, Kate Harness, Karri White, Michelle Chapman, Peder Schaefer, Frank Bilek, and Teresa Fieldgrove.

**AGENDA:** Some items of discussion will be moved around. The discussion on new rates will be tabled to the next meeting. The F32 and cash flow report are in process and can be tabled to the next meeting. Signing of vouchers will be done at the end of the meeting. Marie Miller made a motion to accept the agenda with the changes. Dr. Mark Schueler seconded. The agenda was approved.

**VOUCHERS:** Vouchers were submitted. There was some discussion on the bill from Stryker for a new power load. Michelle Chapman said the power load was received and installed in MS 264. The power load is the device that loads and unloads the cot from the ambulance. Marie Miller made a motion to approve the vouchers as submitted. Dr. Schueler seconded. Vouchers were approved.

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

Marie Miller made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Dr. Schueler seconded. Minutes were approved.

**SPECIAL GUEST TUCKER RUBY- TITLE 25 TRANSFERS**

County attorney, Tucker Ruby, discussed the process of title 25 patients. A title 25 is the involuntary hospitalization of an individual who is suicidal. The process involves a court hearing that usually takes place in Casper. Currently, Johnson County sends most title 25 patients to WBI in Casper. Because the facility space is limited in Casper, individuals may be released and become repeat patients. This will change once the facility in Sheridan is complete. In the future, Buffalo will be able to send title 25 patients to Sheridan. This will be closer, and the new facility may be able to transport individuals. The costs associated with title 25 patients are placed on county governments as per state statutes. Because the County is responsible for the cost, and the Rural Health Care is funded by the County, the cost associated with a title 25 is not billed. The local hospital does bill out costs to the County and are paid at the Medicare rate. Title 25 cases are billed to insurance, however, many title 25 patients do not have insurance. He

stated it is an unpleasant situation. The cases are a cost to everyone involved. The County does budget for title 25 cases, however, it becomes difficult to know what to expect. Tucker was thanked for attending the meeting.

## **II. VIEW AND APPROVE TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Dr. Schueler gave the treasurer's report. Ambulance revenue is at 20.6% of budget. Tax revenue is under budget. Actual revenue is 12.6% of budget. A few line items are over budget for this point in the year.

Marie Miller made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Adam Michelena seconded. Treasurer's report was approved.

Transfer of funds is needed. Dr. Schueler made a motion to transfer \$60,000 from the money market account to the checking account. Adam Michelena seconded. Motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **1. RFP New Building:**

Britni discussed the work session held. Three firms submitted bids. All were looked at and discussed. Nelson Engineering comes in \$66,000 cheaper than the other two firms. A Geotech survey may need to be done. Nelson Engineering is local, and they built the Johnson County Fire building. Dr. Schueler made a motion to award the RFP new building contract to Nelson Engineering. Marie Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed.

### **2. New Ambulance Purchase**

Tabled to next meeting, nothing to report.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **1. New Rates**

Tabled to next meeting.

### **2. Quick Med Billing**

Patients are receiving bills for service that happened almost two years ago. Britni will contact QuickMed and see what can be done.

## **III. BUFFALO REPORT:**

### **1. Ambulance Calls**

Dave Harness reported there were 81 total calls for August consisting of the following: 66 medical, 15 trauma, and 23 transfers; 1 with nurse transfer, 2 cancelled, 14 patient refusals, 0 assisted, 5 standbys, 0 code, 0 DOA, 0 extrication, and 0 trauma team activation. 30 in-town calls and 51 out-of-town calls. 64 were Johnson County residents and 17 non-residents. There was 1 out-of-county transfer with a total mileage of 336.

EMT class is starting today. There are 10 students starting the class. The hope is to retain at least 5 of the students as EMTs.

#### **IV. KAYCEE REPORT:**

##### **1. Ambulance Calls**

Michelle Chapman reported the following for Kaycee: 7 total calls for August: 2 trauma, 2 medical, 1 standby, 1 transfer, 1 refusal, 0 cancelled, 0 life flight, 0 DOA, 6 total patients.

Power load is installed. There are four people ready for licensing.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

##### **CALL FOR NEW BUSINESS:**

Michelle Chapman asked if there has been any communication with the hospital about activating the radios. Britni Camino will look into it.

There was a discussion about the communication from dispatch with surrounding EMT services. During several recent incidents there were multiple ambulances dispatched to the scene and not needed. Karri White said it would be beneficial to meet with dispatch and have a discussion relating to communication with the EMS services and how it can be done more efficiently.

##### **F32 and Cash Flow Report**

Currently being worked on. All board of directors are being asked to attend a training. Tabled to next meeting.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Frank Bilek said he has 47 years of experience in building and construction. He is currently working on a building similar in size to the one that the Rural Health Care is planning. He has experienced a much larger cost than budgeted. He is offering a word of caution on expense and the need for allowing for increased costs during the building



process. Karri White invited Frank to attend the meeting and said that with his experience, he would be a good person to have on the building committee. He could offer some helpful advice. He was thanked for attending the meeting.

Dave Harness made a request that in reporting future revenue, it would be good to report on the billable trips being completed. The public perception may be that the Rural Health Care District is entirely taxpayer funded. The collection of ambulance fees is a part of that revenue as well. He stated \$115,000 is currently being billed for recent trips. The amount actually received will be less. Continued communication with QuickMed is needed in order to receive reports on amounts being billed versus received amounts.

**ADJOURN:** Adam Michelenia made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Schueler seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Teresa Fieldgrove

**The next regular meeting will be held on October 9, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. at the Kaycee Ambulance Barn, Kaycee, WY**

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President

*Marc Schueler*

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Secretary

*[Signature]*

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Treasurer

*Mandy Comely*  
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Member

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Member