

**HUMBOLDT GENERAL HOSPITAL  
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
NOVEMBER 16, 2021 SPECIAL MEETING  
MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE—VIDEOCONFERENCE—IN-PERSON**

**BOARD PRESENT:**

Alicia Cramer, Chair  
JoAnn Casalez, Member  
Gene Hunt, Member  
Ken Tipton, County Comm. Member  
Lewis Trout, Member  
Michelle Miller, Secretary

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Robyn Dunckhorst, Interim CEO  
Kim Plummer, CFO (via phone)  
Bertha Higbee, Interim CNO  
Alicia Wogan, Executive Assistant  
Angela Giese, Chief Human Resources Officer  
Jackie Wilson, CIO  
Andrew Loveless, EMS Director  
Theresa Bell, Project Manager  
Laura Shea, Marketing Director  
Cody Bright, Pharmacy Director

**ABSENT:**

Kent Maher, Legal Counsel

**MEDICAL STAFF PRESENT:**

None

**GUESTS:**

Deborah Gay, Lindsey Jimenez, Jacey Jackson, Jill Stepper, Shelly Klidle, and Joan Hall (President and CEO of NRHP/LiCON).

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Board chair Cramer called the November 16, 2021, board meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Deborah Gay said she feels the vaccine mandate is unconstitutional and employees should not be forced to take a vaccine.

Lindsey Jimenez questioned why the vaccine is being mandated and believes there are other options available.

Jacey Jackson said individuals have the right to determine what happens with their bodies and believes it is not okay for the government to tell people what they have to do.

Shelly Klidle questioned when it will be a requirement to be vaccinated before receiving services at the hospital. Klidle questioned if persons on Medicare and Medicaid will have to be vaccinated before receiving services.

Lewis Trout, American Legion Post #5, thanked the CEO for exploring the exemptions for the requirement for employees to have the vaccinations.

Interim CEO Dunckhorst advised they are working on a regeneron option, so patients do not have to go to the emergency room. They are also considering other treatment options; however, they will have to be vetted through the medical and legal professionals.

Jill Stepper questioned who makes decisions on the religious exemptions and said every person needs to fight for their rights.

**BUSINESS ITEMS-OTHER REPORTS:****1. Trustee Education / presentation on “Hospital Governing Board responsibilities per CMS and NRS, to include risk management and ethical issues” / NRHP-LiCON**

NRHP-LiCON President-CEO Hall provided background and history of NRHP-LiCON. Hall presented information on: risk management issues; LiCON insurance program; incident reporting; loss prevention activities; D&O coverage, E&O coverage, and EPL coverage; duties and responsibilities of governing boards, including: commitment to both the hospital and community, establishing a mission statement, providing financial oversight, and supporting hospital policies; Nevada open meeting law; ethics; conflicts of interest; fiduciary duty; confidentiality; corporate compliance issues; and, fraud and abuse. There were questions and discussion on: insurance for the board; masks and mandates; surveys and complaints; travel expenses and alcohol; conflict disclosure statements; gratuities and gifts; and, litigation.

No action was taken.

**2. Trustee Education / presentation on findings and “Roadmap to Superior Board Performance” / Ron Price-Price Associates**

There was no presentation; Price was not available.

**Trustee Comments:**

Board member Trout thanked the kitchen staff and the Employees Committee for putting together the Veterans Day lunch and said it was well received, although some members did not attend due to not being able to socialize.

Board member Miller said Interim CEO Dunckhorst has been working on a couple of things to provide additional education on other treatment options for Covid. It is hoped that the concerns of community members can be addressed.

Board member Casalez thanked Dunckhorst for the work on the vaccine situation and said she understands staff should have a vaccination choice, but the hospital has to be mindful of the funding sources and the requirements of the sources. There needs to be a balance.

Board member Tipton thanked Dunckhorst for keeping the board updated and Joan Hall for her presentation. Tipton thanked the community for voicing their opinions.

Board chair Cramer thanked Joan Hall and everyone for attending. Cramer reminded that when Medicare and Medicaid are involved, it involves the elderly and low-income people. Their needs must be addressed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There was no public comment.

Board chair Cramer adjourned the November 16, 2021 meeting of the Humboldt County Hospital District Board of Trustees at 7:05 p.m.

**APPROVED:****ATTEST:**

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Alicia Cramer, Board Chair

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Alicia Wogan, Executive Assistant