

Sublette County Rural Health Care District
Board of Trustees
Special Meeting
July 23, 2018

Venue: Pinedale EMS Classroom, Pinedale, WY

Trustees Present:

Scott Scherbel, Chairman
Laura Clark, Vice-Chairman
John Godfrey, Secretary/Treasurer (via telephone)
Wendy Boman, Trustee
Chuck Bacheller, Trustee

Call to Order:

Mr. Scherbel called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

Agenda Item

Discussion and decide the selection of the site on which to build the Critical Access Hospital in light of new information regarding the remodel requirements on the existing Pinedale Clinic:

Mr. Scherbel told the board and members of the public, the day after the regular board meeting on July 18, 2018, he had a phone conversation with Pat Davis, Chief of Life Safety at the Wyoming Department of Health, and was told that a provider-based rural health clinic does not have any state construction codes. It only needs to follow State Fire Marshall regulations and local building codes. After his conversation, he and Lorraine Gatzke contacted Laura Hudspeth, Administrator and State Survey Director of the Wyoming Department of Health, Laura Treheo from the Center of Medicare & Medicaid Services in Denver, and an accreditation company called Compliance Team to verify this information. The result of these conversations is there would be no need for a shutdown of clinical services during construction as originally thought. The possibility of a shutdown of services may have influenced board members votes at the July 18, 2018 regular board meeting.

Mr. Scherbel states that this was the main reason for his vote against using the existing site for construction. Another factor in his decision is the overall project cost. He presented an updated comparison spreadsheet for the board and public to review. To build at the current site, \$6 million would have to be taken out of the construction cost. This means losing surgery, food service, patient rooms, etc. These are items that produce revenues.

Ms. Boman stated that Mayor Murdock is working diligently to make large cuts in the overall costs. She has confirmed that Garrison Road will have to go in at the time of construction on the Bloomfield site. Mr. Scherbel said until the Pinedale Town Council has been provided with the plans and voted on the District's proposal, he cannot include the construction cost of Garrison

Road in the project cost. Ms. Boman said this misinformation reaffirms her issues with the design/construction company chosen.

Ms. Clark stated that she is happy to hear the clinic will not have to be closed. However, \$6 million additional project costs is something that cannot be ignored. There is no logic to taking away revenue sources. If the Town of Pinedale and/or the Board of County Commissioners would give the properties to the District, she could change her vote to the existing site.

Mr. Bacheller stated that even with the hypotheticals of up to \$1.5 million to build Garrison Road and \$1.2 million to build a new ambulance facility, the project costs are still higher at the existing clinic site. He agrees with Ms. Clark regarding the donation of the properties but feels Bloomfield is the better site.

Mr. Godfrey stated that the Critical Access Hospital is a service to all county residents. It must be the best practice in design and maximize efficiencies of operations and utilization to the community.

Ms. Boman said that possible donations from the County and Towns may depend on the location of the Critical Access Hospital.

Mr. Scherbel asked the board if they were willing to give more time to the Town of Pinedale and the Board of County Commissioners to look at reducing costs. Amendments to the PAR that are required by the USDA would take 2-3 weeks to be ready for submittal once the site is determined. Ms. King of BKD said she could have amendments to the financial analysis completed two weeks. Once the USDA loan is approved, there would be 2-3 months of construction document design. Board discussion followed.

Mr. Bill Johnson asked to address the board. He stated having two surgical suites was a stretch. Food service, breakrooms, and storage should be located in the existing clinic. The District board is never comparing apples to apples because they never have all of the information. He volunteered to speak with the BCC and the Town of Pinedale to try to work out the differences.

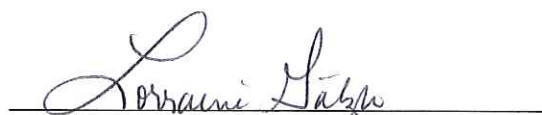
Mr. Bacheller made a motion to delay the final site decision to no later than August 29, 2018. Mr. Godfrey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Boman and Mr. Johnson will work with the BCC and Town of Pinedale on project cost solutions.

Mr. Bacheller made a motion to adjourn at 7:08 pm. Ms. Clark seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes taken by Lorraine Gatzke, Finance Director



Scott Scherbel, Board Chairman



Lorraine Gatzke, Finance Director