



ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2007

REGIONAL DISTRICT BOARD ROOM

Present: Chairperson: Glenn Wong, Directors: Tony Bennett, Hira Chopra, Penny Cote, Patty Edwards, John Fraser, Ken McRae, Stefan Ochman, Alternate Directors: Dario Corlazzoli, Wayne Crowley.

Staff: Robert A. Harper, Administrator, Wendy Thomson, Administrative Assistant, Rick Stuckenberg, Manager of Planning and Development, Drew Hadfield, Manager of Environmental Services.

Other: Dr. Curt Smecher, Chief of Staff, West Coast General Hospital.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

PETITIONS, DELEGATIONS, PRESENTATIONS

2. Moved by P. Edwards, seconded by P. Cote, "That Mr. Grant Hollet and Ms. Nicole Tremblay, Vancouver Island Health Authority be invited to address the Regional Hospital District Board of Directors."

"Carried"

3. Mr. Hollet provided an overview of an upcoming review of health services in health area 70, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District. Mr. Hollet said there are many burning issues that need to be addressed in this region. Three of the key components of this review are: healthy communities/healthy people, rural/remote populations and First Nations population. Mr. Hollet said VIHA's strategic goal is healthy communities/healthy people and they will be taking a good look at the health services in the Alberni-Clayoquot Region. Mr. Hollet said VIHA is looking for partnerships and feedback from the Alberni-Clayoquot Regional Hospital District. He said this is not just a service review, it's a services re-design. Mr. Hollet outlined Mount Waddington Regional District's review which started three months ago. They anticipate the process in Mount Waddington will take approximately two years. Ms. Tremblay said VIHA is looking at a similar approach for the Alberni-Clayoquot Region's review as both areas have a poorer health status compared to other areas. She noted that VIHA does recognize that each area has different issues. The delegation answered questions from Directors.



4. Director Fraser outlined the health issues on the West Coast. The biggest issue is the shortage of nurses and physicians at Tofino General Hospital. Director Fraser advised that the West Coast Health Care Committee has raised money to conduct a review of health services on the West Coast. Mr. Hollet said that VIHA will participate with their Committee's process.
5. Director Ochman outlined health issues in the Bamfield area. He advised that Bamfield also has a Health Care Committee.
6. Director McRae said VIHA promised CT scan equipment for West Coast General Hospital in 2007. He said he spoke to Howard Waldner, CEO of VIHA yesterday and was advised that West Coast General Hospital will receive CT scan equipment in 2008. Director McRae said the Regional Hospital District was promised this equipment and that a lot of money has been donated by non-profit organizations in the area for the equipment. Mr. Hollet said he will find out the details on the CT scan equipment. He said he will also look into developing a better process for the Regional Hospital District to communicate with VIHA and possibly he could be the resource person between the two organizations. Mr. Hollet said he is willing to work with the Regional Hospital District.
7. Director Cote said she represents the West Coast Native Health Care Society. The Society is trying to identify the needs of the First Nations community. Some of the issues they have identified are: high poverty levels and lack of affordable housing. Director Cote said there are many people at risk in this region and several agencies are working on addressing these issues.
8. Director Chopra suggested VIHA look into doing some surgeries at West Coast General Hospital. The Chairperson said that ophthalmology could be one of the specialized services taken on by West Coast General Hospital. Mr. Hollet said part of their strategic plan is a Services Network review of the Hospital, but this process won't start until after the Community Process.
9. Mr. Hollet said that Dr. Smecher will be key to the health services review in this region. Dr. Smecher said he hopes this process will be a good one. Dr. Smecher noted that this process was supposed to start a year ago. He stressed the importance of not moving too fast through the review and that community involvement is vital.
10. Mr. Hollet said the Vancouver Island Health Authority will be moving forward with the health services review and they are targeting the beginning of May 2007 for the first meeting.



11. The Chairperson thanked the delegation for coming today and said the Regional Hospital District Directors look forward to the first meeting.
12. Dr. Smecher advised Directors that it is his understanding that the CT scan equipment would go in over two years. The first year would be to renovate the building and the next year the equipment.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

13. Moved by H. Chopra, seconded by P. Cote, "That the minutes from the regular Board of Directors meeting held on February 14, 2007 be adopted as circulated."

"Carried"

COMMUNICATION/CORRESPONDENCE - FOR INFORMATION

14. Moved by J. Fraser, seconded by P. Cote, "That the following correspondence be received for information: Vancouver Island Health Authority re: VIHA Signs \$11 Million Agreement with GE Healthcare, re: VIHA Enhances Youth Addiction Services and Ministry of Health re: Regional Hospital Districts Capital Funding Sharing Formula."

"Carried"

REPORTS

15. Director Edwards provided an update on the Alberni-Clayoquot Continuing Care Society meeting held on February 6th. The Society has a current deficit of \$63,245.00 for this fiscal year. Plans are ongoing to re-furbish Fir Park Village which is a 25 year old building.
16. Director Cote reported that Rainbow Gardens work will be starting shortly on the addition of 10 full-care and 10 assisted living facilities with the possibility of further expansion in the future.
17. Moved by P. Edwards, seconded by P. Cote, "That these verbal reports be received for information."

"Carried"



18. Moved by S. Ochman, seconded by H. Chopra, "That this meeting now stand adjourned."

"Carried"

19. The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Glenn Wong,
Chairperson

Robert A. Harper,
Administrator