

PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 2 OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
**VERDANT HEALTH COMMISSION**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Regular Meeting  
via Zoom**

**March 23, 2022  
8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.**

**Commissioners  
Present**

Jim Distelhorst, MD, President  
Karianna Wilson, Secretary  
Deana Knutsen, Commissioner  
Carolyn Brennan, Commissioner

Bob Knowles, Commissioner - Excused Absence

**Staff**

Dr. Lisa Edwards, Superintendent  
Nancy Budd, MSW, Community Social Worker  
Riene Simpson, Director of Finance  
Zoe Reese, MPW, Director of Community Impact & Grantmaking  
Kaysi Kelly, Executive Assistant/Office Manager  
Thea Walker, Community Impact and Grantmaking Intern  
Monika Star, Wellness Center Assistant

**Guests**

Mayor Christine Frizzell, City of Lynnwood  
Charles Thompson, Associate Dean for Workforce  
Funding, Edmonds College  
Christina Castorena, Vice President for Student  
Services, Edmonds College  
Dr. Amit Singh, President, Edmonds College  
Leonor Bejarano, Community Resource Advocate, 2-1-1  
Carl Zapora, Zapora Consulting  
Carrie Johnson, Snohomish County Legal Services  
Sue Waldin  
Shannon Smith, SSP

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Hospital District No. 2, Snohomish County, was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by President Distelhorst.

**Approval of  
Minutes**

***Motion was made by Commissioner Brennan, seconded by Commissioner Knutsen and passed unanimously to approve*** the minutes of the regular Board Meeting on, February 23, 2022. (E:26:22)

***Motion was made by Commissioner Knutsen, seconded by Commissioner Brennan and passed unanimously to approve*** the minutes of the special Board Meeting on, March 10, 2022. (E:27:22)

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**Superintendent Report:**

Dr. Edwards provided an update on Verdant operations and outreach. (E:28:22)

**Community Outreach Update**

- Verdant continues to raise awareness about the opioid crisis happening in South Snohomish County.

**Verdant Operations Update**

- The Verdant team is excited to have Riene Simpson join us as our new Director of Finance.
- The Verdant Community Wellness Center will re-open to the public on April 1st. It is looking like May is going to be a busy month for facility usage.

**Executive Committee Report**

President Distelhorst reported that the Executive Committee met on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 to review the agenda for the March 23, 2022 board meeting. No action was taken at this time.

**Community Presentation(s):**

**Mayor Christine Frizzell, City of Lynnwood**

Mayor Christine Frizzell spoke about her background as an accountant and councilmember. President Distelhorst asked Mayor Frizzell how Verdant can help the City of Lynnwood with its future priorities. She appreciates what Verdant does to promote healthy communities. Commissioner Knutsen mentioned the Community Recovery Center facility which was recently announced to be built for the City of Lynnwood and felt this would be a good place for Verdant to work closely with the City of Lynnwood. Mayor Frizzell discussed the need to find a new location for the Lynnwood Hygiene Center as the developer who owns that land is looking to use the space for something else, sometime soon.

**Edmonds College & Volunteers of America 2-1-1 CRA Program**

Dr. Amit Singh thanked Verdant for its support to Edmonds College and introduced his colleague Christina Castorena who provided information about services of the Triton Student Resource Hub at Edmonds College. The Resource Hub provides food assistance, homelessness prevention, connecting them to resources, and help with schooling, to name a few. Counseling & Wellness services are coming soon to the Resource Hub. Funding that Edmonds College received from Verdant has allowed the college to pay for two mental health counselors who provide mental health-related workshops and introducing students to behavioral counseling. (E:29:22)

Leo Bejarano, Community Resource Advocate for 2-1-1 spoke about the needs she is seeing from students. She said there is a high need for housing as some student's parents are moving and they need to find a place to live. She has been helping them with utility assistance and pointing them to community

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food banks. Some students and community members have asked her with help on their medical bills and sometimes she is able to call on their behalf to reduce the bill or setup a payment plan. She can help fill out the applications for people to get a free cell phone. Commissioner Knutsen asked Ms. Bejarano if she had any data on how many of her clients are students versus people from the community. Commissioner Knutsen inquired with Edmonds College and Leo Bejarano about the outreach they do for veteran's services.

**Finance  
Committee  
Report:**

The Finance Committee met on March 14, 2022 to review warrants and resolutions for the March 23<sup>rd</sup> board meeting.

**Review of  
Financial  
Statements**

Ms. Simpson reviewed the financial statement and cash activity for February 2022 and noted any transactions over \$5,000 in payment from the warrants. (E:30.22)

**Authorization for  
payment of  
vouchers and  
payroll**

Authorization for payment of vouchers and payroll: Warrant numbers 15342 through 15380 for February 2022 for payment in the amount of \$121,207.11 were presented for approval by Commissioner Wilson. (E:31.22)

A revised warrant sheet showing the correct warrant total will be provided to Commissioners for signature.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Knutsen and passed unanimously to approve the February warrants as amended.***

**Resolution  
2022:05 -  
Disposition of  
surplus assets  
from Swedish  
hospital**

(R:2022:05) ***Motion was made by Commissioner Wilson, seconded by Commissioner Knutsen and passed unanimously to approve Resolution 2022:05.***

**Program  
Committee Report**

Ms. Reese, MPA, provided an overview of program activity and grantmaking for February 2022. (E:32.22)

**Conflict of  
Interest**

Commissioner Brennan volunteers at the Edmonds Food Bank and has abstained from voting on the grant recommendation.

**Superintendent's  
Discretionary**

The District is waiting for an update from the Edmonds School District about the SMART program for Parent Trust.

***Motion was made by Commissioner Knutsen, seconded by Commissioner Wilson and passed to approve all Superintendent's discretionary funding.***

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Agency	Program	Contract Duration	Amount	Status
Parent Trust	SMART	1/1-3/31	\$10,000	In process
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,000</b>	

**COVID-19 Grant Requests**

***Motion was made by Commissioner Knutsen, seconded by Commissioner Distelhorst and passed unanimously to approve all COVID grant requests.***

**Expiring Contracts**

The Board reviewed expiring contracts and motioned to approve all, except for Edmonds School District. The Board has requested they provide a revised budget for their Move60! Program so there is no action to be taken on this grant request until the April meeting. Commissioner Wilson opposed to support the increase in funding for Kindering.

Agency	Program	Current Award	Amount Requested	Recommendation
Childstrive	Early Intervention	\$328,484.00	\$346,255.00	\$ 346,225
Compass Health	Emergency Motel Voucher Program	\$27,000.00	\$29,700.00	\$29,700
Edmonds School District	Move60!	\$838,605.00	\$755,413.00	Request budget resubmission to review at April Board meeting
Interfaith Family Shelter	Homelessness Prevention	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$ 10,000
Kindering	Early Intervention	\$150,000.00	\$175,000.00	\$ 175,000
Millennia Ministries	Mobile Manna/ MFSTT	\$149,425.00	\$191,785.00	\$191,785
Pacific Treatment Alternatives	Mobile Syringe Service Exchange	\$141,606.00	\$161,522.00	\$161,522
Snohomish County Legal Services	Housing Justice Project	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$50,000
YWCA *	Emergency Shelter	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000
YWCA *	Access to Healthcare	\$62,645.00	\$62,645.00	\$62,645
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,056,877</b>

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\* Let the minutes reflect the corrected agency of YWCA, which was misreported as YMCA at the board meeting.

**Q1 Grant  
Recommendations**

The Board reviewed grant recommendations for Q1 2022. The Board motioned to approve all Q1 grant requests, as recommended. Commissioner Wilson opposed to support the American Heart Association "Stop the Silent Killer" program.

Agency	Program	Amount Requested	Recommendation
Boys and Girls Club of Snohomish County	Behavioral Health Uplift Initiative	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
Refugee Immigrant Services NW	Refugee and Immigrant Navigators	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00
American Heart Association	Stop the Silent Killer: Hypertension in the South Snohomish County	\$68,215.84	\$68,215.84
Foundation for Edmonds School District	Expanded Summer Meal Program	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Edmonds Food Bank	It Tastes Like Home-Culturally Appropriate Food (Previously funded as Making Healthy Choices)	\$39,900.00	\$39,900.00
Korean Women's Association	Everyday Prevention and Senior Nutrition	\$146,212.00	\$146,212.00
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$479,327.84</b>

**Public Comments**

Carl Zapora, Edmonds resident, had a suggestion to put public comments at the beginning of the meeting agenda. Mr. Zapora thanked Edmonds College and 2-1-1 for their informative presentation.

Sue Waldin, Mill Creek resident, wanted to thank Verdant's support of the cold weather shelter. The funding has helped pay for professional COVID cleaning of the church where the cold weather shelter is housed so everyone could feel safe in the shelter during the pandemic. There were 30 days the cold

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shelter was open during the cold season, 312 beds were made available, and the length of stay ranged from 1 day to 13 days.

**Commissioner  
Comments**

Commissioner Knutsen thanked the Verdant staff for preparing the Q1 grant recommendations.

Commissioner Wilson suggested Verdant reaches out to Sue Waldin for a synopsis of her public comment in showing the connection of Verdant funding and the impact we make for these vulnerable community members.

Commissioner Brennan thanked Verdant staff for all of their work with reviewing the grant applications and is excited to see another staff member is beginning in April.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m. by Commissioner Distelhorst.

**ATTEST BY:**

DocuSigned by:  
*JSDistelhorst*  
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President

DocuSigned by:  
*Karianna Wilson*  
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Secretary