

**Public Hospital District #2
Board Special Meeting Agenda**

**MARCH 18, 2020
8:00 to 10:00 a.m.**

**Verdant Community Wellness Center
Cedar Room**

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|----|--|---------------|-------|
| 1. | Call to Order | Bob Knowles | 8:00 |
| 2. | Discuss district support for COVID-19 response | Commissioners | 8:05 |
| 3. | Adjourn | Bob Knowles | 10:00 |

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

**SPECIAL MEETING
March 18, 2020
8:00 a.m.**

Verdant Community Wellness Center

**Commissioners
Via Zoom Meeting**

Bob Knowles, President
Karianna Wilson, Commissioner
Fred Langer, Commissioner
Deana Knutsen, Commissioner
Dr. Jim Distelhorst, Commissioner

Staff Present

Jennifer Piplic, Interim Superintendent
Sue Waldin, Community Wellness Program Manager
Nancy Budd, Community Social Worker (via Zoom)
Karen Goto, Executive Assistant

Guests

Brad Berg, Foster Garvey
Erica Ash, Ash Consulting

Call to Order

The Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Knowles at 8:10 a.m.

**Discuss district support for
COVID-19 response**

Ms. Piplic presented the Purchasing and Expenditure Policy from 2012 which states that "the Superintendent will be designated five percent of the annual program expenditure budget during the annual budget process" and asked commissioners for feedback on the current level which equates to approximately \$536,000 (5% of 10.7 million; the 2020 program budget amount). Mr. Berg noted that the full board approval is needed to revise the policy, and there is no specific criteria and the monies can be spent on any program. Approval authority for the Superintendent is up to \$120,000 within board approved budget for an individual expenditure.

All board members agreed to the increase from five to ten percent and policy will be revised accordingly by Ms. Ash and Mr. Berg. Action will need to be taken at the next regular board meeting on March 25, 2020 to approve the revised Purchasing & Expenditure Policy.

The board entered into a discussion on the emerging needs during the COVID-19 situation; some needs which have already been articulated to Ms. Piplic.

The need already requested is for food assistance for Foundation for Edmonds School District to support meal sites for youth. Other ideas could include senior food needs through Homage and local foodbanks. Also the need for mental health supports for senior citizens has been identified by partners, and rent & utility assistance is another known need. All commissioners agree that food assistance is crucial and needs to be addressed immediately. Ms. Piplic will reach out to the local foodbanks to discuss their needs and work with Mr. Berg on revisions to current agreements.

For behavioral health, all commissioners agree that Verdant should fund increased access to depression and anxiety support, possibly offered by Homage and/or other partners.

Commissioner Langer inquired if Verdant can provide motel vouchers for COVID-19 patients. Commissioner Knutsen asked if Verdant can assist Swedish Edmonds with housing for patients after hospital release. Ms. Piplic will discuss this with partners.

All board members agreed that the outcomes for any funded programs should be kept as low barrier as possible during this time and Mr. Berg agrees.

Commissioners further discussed helping the homeless in the hospital district by getting them off the streets. Ms. Piplic will inquire with the cities of Lynnwood, Edmonds and South County Fire on what they are seeing with the homeless. Any program will need to include case management.

Board agrees that for all current grants, the outcomes will not be typical but that is okay during this time. Next payout date is April 15, 2020. Mr. Berg recommends that the program contracts be amended on a case-by-case basis for revised outcome measures. Commissioners and Ms. Ash offered their assistance with the contract amendments.

Commissioners asked that Ms. Piplic reach out to them anytime via email with questions or concerns.

Commissioners agree that the Verdant Community Wellness Center should remain closed through April 30, 2020 and various services offered in the building can still be provided via telephone.

Commissioners will still participate in a Zoom interview with potential Superintendent candidates on March 19, 2020 but will discuss next steps in the hiring process at the next regular board meeting on March 25, 2020.

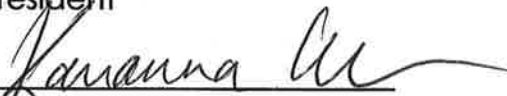
Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

ATTEST BY:



President



Secretary