

## **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Date: September 30, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: ZOOM Meeting, <https://zoom.us/j/375320938>

Present: Tom Langland, President  
Don Wolczko, Secretary  
Eric Pryne, Position 2  
LeeAnn Brown, Position 3  
Wendy Noble, Position 4  
Eric Jensen, Superintendent  
Jojo Weller, Administrative Director

1. Call to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Approve/Amend September 30 Agenda  
Commissioner Pryne motions to approve agenda and Commissioner Noble seconds the motion:

“I move to approve the agenda.”

**AGENDA APPROVED 5-0**

3. Board Progress Report Presentation
  - See attached Power Point
4. Questions and Answers from the community

Allan Kaplan asks for clarification of the 1.5M and 3M subsidies. Commissioner Wolczko responds the 1.5M subsidy is the amount Sea Mar is requesting due to anticipated operating loss from startup costs which will come from the levy collected. The 3M is an allocation through the state for capital improvements that Neighborcare had not used and they had agreed that VHCD could ask the legislatures to roll it over for the district's use.

Nodie Sullivan asks if there are enough veteran residents on the island to be considered a community-based clinic for the VA. Commissioner Noble does not know the answer to this and adds that this can be considered in the future.

Evan Stults thanks the board for their incredible work and asks what the odds are for an interruption of available service at the clinic as of November 01. Superintendent Jensen replies that there's a potential interruption for a few days or a week gap due to changing out computers.

Ms. Kathleen is wondering if Granny's Attic is still donating to the clinic or will potentially donate in the future. Commissioner Pryne answers that last year Granny's had donated over 100K to Neighborcare. However, this year, like many other businesses, Granny's had been closed for a very long time and per Tim Johnson, business manager at Granny's, there has been lots of questions about how much revenue they will have to provide grants with in 2021. It is a big unknown right now.

Ellen Kritzman understands that Sea Mar will assume initial operations as is but she is wondering how to interpret this with respect to the community's desire for extended hours and scheduling done on the island. Superintendent Jensen replies that Sea Mar does not have centralized scheduling as each of their clinics does their own scheduling. Most of their clinics look at extended hours and in some cases Saturday hours. Sea Mar wants the opportunity to come in, look at the operation as it is running and make some decisions on how to make adjustments to meet the community's needs. This can include additional slots for walk-in patients which Sea Mar knows is a need and an interest of the board.

Susan Reimer asks if the district is going to use property tax revenue for a new building and wondered what the levy rate will be. Commissioner Pryne replies that the district does not know how much money can be set aside for this after funding operations and other things. He cannot say that the district will be able to pay for a significant share of a capital project from the operating levy monies. In regards to the levy rate he says that the district does not have the information they need from the county to determine what the levy rate for 2021 will be. He notes that the district asked the county assessor to provide him with information on all the other district's levies as part of the \$5.90 levy rates.

John Van Amerongen would like clarification and a reasonable estimate on the levy rate. He mentions that it sounds like the levy rate is likely to be higher than was discussed during last year's campaign. Commissioner Pryne responds that despite all of these uncertainties he thinks the levy rate can still be significantly below the statutory maximum which is \$0.75/1,000. However, the district does not have the information they need from the county to calculate the levy rate. He says that the levy rate will be finalized in the next two months.

Susan McCabe asks if the current staff or a portion of the staff at Neighborcare will remain employed by Sea Mar and what the district has done to compare the cost of running their own clinic to the million-dollar annual cost of sustaining Sea Mar. Superintendent Jensen answers that Sea Mar's intent is to offer employment to the current staff and providers. He says that if the district ran their own clinic they would get significantly less in reimbursement from Medicare and Medicaid. He doesn't know what the reimbursement would be from commercial payors. Commissioner Noble adds that to setup a clinic would be at least a two-year process.

##### 5. Next Steps – Where do we go from here?

President Langland notes that the district is encouraged to work with Sea Mar, partnering with them at least in a quarterly basis to help with quality control and to listen to the consumers/patients for their feedback on their experiences. The district will continue to negotiate a contract with Sea Mar and the public will be made aware once it is finalized. He thanks Jojo Weller, Marcie Rubardt, Debby Jackson, Wendy Aman, Karina Deutsch and Shelby Gale for helping construct the community outreach plan, for making tonight's meeting happen and for the collaboration from Commissioners Noble and Brown. He

also thanks Superintendent Jensen for his experience and leadership. He adds that a big thank you goes to the members of the Vashon Maury Health Collaborative for their vision, incredible energy and ongoing support. On behalf of all the commissioners he thanks the many island neighbors both current and past for their generous offers of time, support and ideas to help make primary healthcare sustainable on Vashon and for the great questions tonight.

Commissioner Brown motions adjournment and Commissioner Pryne seconds the motion:

“I move we adjourn.”

**ADJOURNMENT APPROVED 5-0**

Adjourned at 20:43