

The Three Rivers Hospital Board of Commissioners called a regular meeting to order at 11:03 a.m. Tuesday, September 30, 2025. The meeting was held in the McKinley Building Conference Room at 507 Hospital Way, Brewster WA 98812 and virtually via the Microsoft Teams platform. The presiding officer was Mike Pruett, Board Chair.

A quorum was present, including:

Mike Pruett, Board Chair
Cherri Thomas, Vice-Chair
Leslie McNamara, Secretary (Teams)
Tracy Shrable, Member
David Garcia, Member

Others present:

Onsite

Shauna Field, Administrative Assistant
Antone Eek, Interim Chief Financial Officer
Rosie Hartmann, Revenue Cycle Director
Dan Webster, Foundation President
Julie Wehmeyer, Foundation Board

Via Teams

Jamie Boyer, Chief Operating Officer
Jeremy Vandelac, Ancillary Services Director
Tina Smith, Chief Nursing Officer
Dr. Ty Witt, Chief Medical Officer
Brett Mello, Chief Information Officer
Beronica Lopez, Clinic Manager
Zac Allison, Radiology Supervisor
Jennifer Best, PR & Marketing
Mike Oberg, Informatics RN
Michele Graham, Quality Coordinator
DJ Dinjian, EVS Manager
Jennifer Bach, Accounting Controller
Rosie Poole, CS/HIM Manager
Michelle Welton, OR Manager
Veronica Orozco, HR Assistant

Vision, Mission & Values

All took turns reading the vision, mission, and values statements.

Agenda

The resolution regarding banking signatures was struck from new business. A motion was made by C. Thomas to accept the amended agenda as official; seconded by T. Shrable. Motion carried.

Minutes from Previous Meeting

A motion was made by L. McNamara to approve the August 26, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes; seconded by D. Garcia. Motion carried.

Public Comment

L. McNamara recognized the employee spotlight, Ann Anson, who has been a housekeeper with us for over 30 years. Dr. Witt discussed opposition to the renovation bond by Peter Morgan at a recent city council meeting and how to respond to the misinformation presented by Mr. Morgan regarding our days of cash on hand. The group agreed that going forward we will report on our total cash on hand, which includes our reserve funds, and our day-to-day operating cash on hand, which is the cash available in our general fund.

Consent Items

M. Pruett noted the Medical Staff applications, payroll, bad debt, charity care, and vouchers listed on the agenda.

Payroll Total:	Gross: <u>\$ 699,261.79</u>	Net: <u>\$ 491,161.52</u>
<u>8/3/25 to 8/16/25</u>	Gross: <u>\$ 346,455.48</u>	Net: <u>\$ 244,651.12</u>
<u>8/17/25 to 8/30/25</u>	Gross: <u>\$ 352,806.31</u>	Net: <u>\$ 246,510.40</u>
Vouchers Total:		<u>\$ 1,917,591.90</u>
<u>8/28/2025</u>	<u>104570-104647</u>	<u>\$ 374,505.42</u>
<u>9/4/2025</u>	<u>104648-104698</u>	<u>\$ 486,642.59</u>
<u>9/11/2025</u>	<u>104699-104761</u>	<u>\$ 363,140.44</u>
<u>9/18/2025</u>	<u>104762-104789</u>	<u>\$ 420,554.25</u>
<u>9/25/2025</u>	<u>104790-104824</u>	<u>\$ 272,749.20</u>
Bad Debt		<u>\$ 78,945.87</u>
Financial Assistance		<u>\$ 79,676.24</u>

A motion was made by T. Shrable to accept the consent items as presented; seconded by C. Thomas. Motion carried.

Foundation Report

Dan Webster presented the Foundation Report. The requests for reimbursement for the otoscopes and sports physicals have been processed. They are drafting the newspaper and radio campaign materials for the promotion and advertising for the renovation bond. Yard signs have been ordered and are ready to pick up. The first ad will be in next Wednesday's Methow Valley News. The group discussed whether the annual M&O levy would continue if the bond passed; yes, for as long as needed to fund the staffing for the ER. The grant funds from Roots and Wings will be received at the end of the month. The Foundation is willing to help us with capital purchases. A. Eek and J. Boyer will be working on a proposal.

Physician's Report

Dr. Witt presented the Physician's Report. The MedStaff meeting this month was well attended. The peer reviewer was onsite, and the group was able to establish a better list of criteria for chart review. Officer elections will be held at the December meeting. They have started reviewing patient comments from the Press Ganey surveys with the providers. Comments regarding the ER have been mostly positive. They are also working on improved workflows in CPSI. Dr. Huffman and Dr. Kremer are planning to retire at the end of the year.

Administration Report

J. Boyer presented the Administration Report. She attended the Advocacy Days conference in Washington DC for the first time this year which she felt was a great learning opportunity and experience.

In September we've had an average acute census of 2 with a swing bed average of .5 patients per day. We have seen a slight increase in referrals and we will be bringing on an occupational therapist, Jordan Smith, in October to help develop an outpatient program and support the swing bed program. Clinic volumes have been down due to provider time off. Our ancillary services are above target but the ER has had lower volumes. We've performed 21 surgeries. Revenue is at 2M, which is 400k below budget, but the staff is controlling expenses and taking low census when possible.

We had a pipe break last Thursday but there was a quick response from the city and maintenance crew. It did not impact the hospital's water flow, just the irrigation pipes. New metal siding has been installed on the Hillcrest house by the Commons entry.

For outreach on the new bond, she attended the Okanogan City Council meeting and the school board meetings for Mansfield and Pateros. There were a lot of good questions and support. She thanked all of the staff who are attending the events and supporting the bond proposal. She and Antone met with Trane to discuss grant funding opportunities, including an e-commerce grant and a grant supporting electric vehicle charging stations. We will be moving forward with the application process.

The Bridge to Excellence group continues to meet weekly. Current projects are focused on paper reduction and charge capture in the ER and Acute Care. The clinic is working to implement a remote patient monitoring program to help patients with issues related to high blood pressure, diabetes, and oxygen levels. The platform for the program is CCN and currently we are the only facility in the region offering this service. The patient data is collected by a hub and can be monitored in real time by their provider. The clinic is also utilizing the I2I program to communicate with patients on a larger scale regarding their well child and mammo campaigns. Roy Huffstetler will be speaking to students at the Brewster High School. The school has expressed interest in wanting to hear more from the hospital regarding healthcare and voting awareness. Jeremy Vandelac has also been invited to the school districts to discuss healthcare and ancillary services jobs.

She reminded the group about the Senior Center's regular luncheons. They will be holding an event with live music, massage therapy and foot care on October 18th and they have invited us to attend and set up a booth.

L. McNamara recognized the Lab and Radiology for meeting all their standards during their department reviews. We were able to save money this year because we did not end up having to replace the blood culture analyzer. They also received grant funds to help with STI testing in the community.

M. Pruett provided a debrief on the Washington DC Advocacy Days conference. Per WSHA this year was the largest group seen at the conference and the Senators appreciated the size of the group, They were unable to meet with Dan Newhouse due to a medical issue but they spoke with his staff and asked that he continue to support the 50B provision for hospitals going to the right places instead of inappropriate organizations that might request funds. M. Pruett also complimented the new billboard in town.

Finance Report

A. Eek presented the August Finance Report. Going forward, we will be reporting on both the operating cash and overall cash on hand. The DZA audit for 2024 will hopefully be done by end of the week. The Washington State auditors have been onsite since last Wednesday for our 3-year standard audit. The auditors have been very happy with the team and timeliness of process. Our contract with Rehab Visions is being revised so we can hire our own OT. He is working with TimeTrex to review revised language in that contract. Starting next month, he will be providing a separate handout detailing patient revenue deductions and how they impact the income statement.

For patient revenue, we were 176k under budget. Outpatient revenue was also under budget. The clinic was over budget by 48k. Deductions from revenue were 30%. Our net revenue was down from July but positive by \$3,000. Our operating expenses were 39k favorable, but our pro fees were over budget as well as our purchase services. Our net operating income was down from July and the operating loss widened in August. Our bottom line is at 34k net income.

A motion was made by C. Thomas to accept the Finance report as presented; seconded by T. Shrable. Motion carried.

Break

A break was held between 12:02 p.m. – 12:22 p.m.

Quality Report

G. Meza was not in attendance. The Board accepted his written report.

A motion was made by L. McNamara to accept the Quality Report; seconded by D. Garcia. Motion carried.

Old Business

Capital Improvements Update – No report.

IT Update

Brett Mello, our new CIO, introduced himself and presented the IT report. His current priorities are to improve the IT Committee, cybersecurity, system stabilization for CPSI as well as the network and our phones and faxes. Other projects include updating the paging system and automating computer system updates. He is also working on updating IT governance and strategy. L. McNamara asked about grant opportunities for improvements; he is exploring a federal urban telecom grant. He is developing long-term strategy regarding our EHR roadmap and the possibility of switching to the Epic system.

New Business

Resolution 2025-09: Surplus Equipment – A motion was made by C. Thomas to approve surplus items; seconded by T. Shrable. Motion carried.

Strategic Plans and Discussion

C. Thomas discussed her thoughts on the new renovation and the importance of educating the community about all the things we are accomplishing and providing, especially given the opposition from Peter Morgan. She suggested putting together a document outlining our work with other hospitals, all the services we provide, our work with Virginia Mason and how we are the only facility in the region with that program, and how we are leading in a number of areas in healthcare in the region like the remote monitoring program. The group also discussed ways the Foundation can help by buying ad space in the newspapers and suggested S. Graham write a letter to the editor. A. Eek suggested including an insert flyer of our services in patient statements. Voting for the bond will start the week of the 13th. Jennifer Best will work on a full-page ad to submit. The next issue of our community newsletter will be going out at the same time as the ballots.

Upcoming Meetings & Events

M. Pruett noted the upcoming schedule of meetings and events.

Adjournment

A motion was made by C. Thomas to adjourn the meeting at 12:58 p.m.; seconded by L. McNamara. Motion carried.

Mike Pruett, Board Chair

Cherri Thomas, Board Vice Chair

Leslie McNamara, Board Secretary

Tracy Shrable, Board Member

David Garcia, Board Member