The Three Rivers Hospital Board of Commissioners called a regular meeting to order at 11:04 a.m. Tuesday, July 28, 2026. 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, Board Secretary
Tracy Shrable, Member
David Garcia, Member

Others present:

Onsite
J. Scott Graham, Chief Executive Officer
Jamie Boyer, Chief Operating Officer
Antone Eek, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Ty Witt, Chief Medical Officer
Anita Fisk, Chief Human Resources Officer
M.C. Monroe, Director of Public Relations
Shauna Field, Administrative Assistant

Via Teams
Tina Smith, Chief Nursing Officer
Jeremy Vandelac, Ancillary Services Director
Trace Kateley, Chief Information Officer
German Meza, Quality Director
Beronica Lopez, Clinic Manager
Sandra Zamudio, Accounting Tech
Daniel Dinjian, Environmental Services Manager
Veronica Martinez, HR Assistant
Jennifer Best, PR/Marketing
Sam Zamudio, Credentialing
Michele Graham, Quality Coordinator
Neala McGuire, Revenue Cycle Management
Brenda Escobar, Patient Registration
Rosie Poole, Billing and Health Information Manager
Jeanette Pyper, Central Supply Manager
Juanita Reyes, Clinic Referral Coordinator
Jennifer Bach, Accounting Controller
Mike Oberg, Informatics RN
Isaura Ochoa, Patient Registration Representative
Victoria Sheridan, Coding Manager
Dave Franklin, Architect
Joe Kunkel, Consultant

Vision, Mission & Values
All took turns reading the vision, mission, and values statements.

Agenda
A discussion regarding provider recruitment for the mobile clinic was added as an action item to new business. A motion was made by L. McNamara to accept the amended agenda as official; seconded by T. Shrable. Motion carried. A further amendment was added for discussion regarding the renovation bond proposal after the consent items. A motion was made by L. McNamara to approve the amendment; seconded by C. Thomas. Motion carried.

Minutes from Previous Meeting
A motion was made by C. Thomas to approve the June 23, 2026 Regular Board Meeting; seconded by D. Garcia. Motion carried.

Public Comment
Introductions were made for our two new employees; Trace Kateley, Chief Information Office and M.C. Monroe, Director of Public Relations. L. McNamara's husband had questions about our district boundaries, and it was suggested to make this information available on our website. German Meza, Quality Director, was recognized as the Employee of the Month.

Consent Items
M. Pruett noted the Medical Staff applications, and payroll and vouchers listed on the agenda. Bad debt and charity care reports were not available. M. Pruett and L. McNamara recused themselves from approving vouchers containing personal reimbursements and invoices to Grover's Building Supply.

Payroll Total:	Gross:	$ 1,162,514.62	Net:	$ 830,683.08
6/7/26 to 6/20/26	Gross:	$ 380,030.55	Net:	$ 270,906.72
6/21/26 to 7/4/26	Gross:	$ 402,498.92	Net:	$ 286,251.62
7/5/26 to 7/18/26	Gross:	$ 379,985.15	Net:	$ 273,524.74

Vouchers Total:		$ 2,232,634.86
6/25/2026	106671-106720	$ 544,792.14
6/29/2026	106721-106721	$ 60.00
7/2/2026*(LM)	106722-106792	$ 318,149.80
7/9/2026	106793-106840	$ 531,352.69
7/10/2026	106843-106843	$ 2,307.22
7/16/2026* (MP)	106844-106899	$ 344,344.67
7/23/2026* (LM)	106900-106927	$ 491,628.34

Charity Care	na
Bad Debt	na

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

Renovation Bond Proposal Discussion
The steering committee is meeting weekly to discuss the project, focusing currently on the budget and costs.

Discussion regarding the annual M&O levy on the August 4, 2026 ballot. M. Pruett and C. Thomas wrote a My Turn op ed for the Methow Valley News. The Okanogan Health Care Planning Group also wrote a letter to the editor in support of the levy.

Foundation Report
No report.

Physician's Report
S. Graham presented the Physician's Report. We are still recruiting for Dr. Ellingson's position but there is a provider shortage, and we've had some issues with the recruiting firm's contract. ERx is helping provide coverage. Dr. Ellingson is staying on as a consultant through August. There is a provider from Mazama interested in joining the staff. Additional providers will be needed for the mobile clinic.

Administration Report
S. Graham presented the Administration Report.

Renovation Bond – The meetings to develop the project with Joe Kunkel and Dave Franklund are being held weekly. They are focusing on project costs. The roof repair may be deferred to the RHTP fund application in order to keep costs under 50M. The cost of the project was agreed at 48M to modernize, update, and repair the facility. If the bond passes, we anticipate starting the process in 2027 with construction starting in 2028. Displacement of staff and interrupted operations during construction will be issues to address. The group discussed funding for the upgrade to Epic from CPSI. RHTP funds cannot be used for that purpose. The upgrade would improve continuity of care, align us with the systems in other facilities, and help with recruitment and retention of providers. The feasibility study for the Rural Emergency Hospital model was completed and due to our volumes, it was determined that we would be operating at a loss and require more financial assistance. Keeping the Critical Access Hospital designation would be more beneficial in terms of revenue. No matter our designation or model, we would need a new building to operate successfully. The public relations team is ready to begin community outreach.

IT Updates – Our new CIO, Trace Kateley has joined the team, and we are working through the transition with Scaled Health. Scaled has proposed an earlier end date for the contract but with the new server implementation we want to keep the original schedule. C. Thomas asked about the timeline; backup servers need to be prepared. Trace will draft a roadmap for budget and requirements. His focus is on rapid process improvement after necessary resources, costs, and budget are identified. Further discussion will happen at the strategic planning meeting that will be scheduled for September.

Service Line Updates – The mobile clinic unit has been purchased and is with the wrap company to apply our logo and design. They are willing to give us a discount to update all our vehicles with the same design. We are hoping it will be ready for when PBS is onsite for filming on August 13th. We are planning

on hosting an unveiling event with WSHA. C. Thomas has been attending the weekly steering committee meetings. The group is determining locations and services to provide.

The Harmony House rounding is going well. We have seen a decrease in our swing bed volumes and will increase our marketing efforts. There is a potential opportunity to add a geriatric psych outpatient treatment program that we are exploring. L. McNamara asked about the startup costs; Antone is preparing a presentation for the board. It would be 100% under Medicare. C. Thomas discussed the need for a community needs assessment to guide our services and mobile clinic program. We are working with Jody Corona, who is helping us with that for the renovation bond. Chelan provided us with an additional van to utilize. The group discussed the loss of our echo tech.

Wages and Benefits – We are working on an analysis of industry standards and best practices for public hospitals so we can be in the best position to recruit and retain staff.

Operations – We've seen a downturn in volumes for inpatient, swing bed, and clinic. We'll have 22 surgeries by month's end. We are monitoring volumes, controlling expenses, and utilizing low census as much as possible. We are identifying priorities for the RHTP fund applications so they can be ready to submit by September 1, 2026. We are developing a carpet removal project and plan to remove all carpet in the facility. We are exploring options for office space with the addition of new staff and considering remote work. Our efforts to go paperless have resulted in less shredding and less paper being ordered. The Bride to Excellence program has reached its second year and is still going well.

Finance Report
The financial report was not available. There was a significant entry error related to the charity care audit that the staff are working with DZA to resolve. The financials will be presented as soon as possible. There has been progress with revenue cycle. In June we collected 1.7M compared to 1.1M last year. We billed 4.7M compared to 2.1M last year. C. Thomas asked what the key performance indicators are for revenue cycle; what is unbilled and why, what aging accounts are growing, denial rates and what was unavoidable, accepted claims and payers, and AR days.

A motion to accept the Finance Report was made by L. McNamara; seconded by C. Thomas. Motion carried.

Break
A break was held between 12:27 p.m. – 12:47 p.m.

Quality Report
G. Meza presented the Quality Report. Quality Council met on June 24th to discuss the upcoming survey which is expected in August.

<u>June Quality Metrics</u>

- Falls with injury: 1 fall with injury.
- Medication events: 4 events, but no patient harm or concerns.
- Stroke: 8 cases.
- Trauma: 14 cases.
- Chest pain: 27 cases.
- ER surgery transfers: There were none in June but 4 in Q2.

- Antimicrobial stewardship is up to date.

Patient Satisfaction

Q2

- ER – 89% with 48 returned surveys. We saw a decrease in the ER rating due to one survey where everything was marked as a negative.
- Inpatient – 87% with 2 returned surveys.
- Clinic – 94% with 52 returned surveys.

Security Team – The second training was completed in June.

Survey Preparedness – The survey is anticipated to happen in August. German has examined the fire extinguishers, checked the crash carts and preventative maintenance completion. Some necessary replacements are on back order. Policy and contract reviews are a current focus. The next meeting is scheduled for tomorrow.

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

Old Business

Capital Improvements Update – None to report.

New Business

MedStaff Bylaws – A full revision of the bylaws was done three years ago, so there were no substantive changes, just corrections of typos and redundant language. A motion to approve the bylaws was made by L. McNamara; seconded by C. Thomas. Motion carried.

Resolution 2026-09: Surplus Equipment – A motion to approve the resolution was made by L. McNamara; seconded by T. Shrable. Motion carried.

Resolution 2026-10: Renovation Bond (November ballot) – A resolution to put the renovation bond proposal on the November ballot. A motion to approve the resolution was made by T. Shrable; seconded by D. Garcia. Motion carried.

Provider Recruitment – Administration requested the addition of two physician FTEs to the budget to staff the mobile clinic and provide support in family practice. A proposal with specific salary information will be drafted and presented at a future meeting. A motion to approve the request was made by L. McNamara; seconded by T. Shrable. Motion carried.

Strategic Plans and Discussion
A strategic planning meeting will be scheduled in September to prepare for the 2027 budget.

Upcoming Meetings & Events
M. Pruett noted the upcoming schedule of meetings and events. The board requested access to the minutes from the weekly Mobile Clinic Steering Committee meetings.

Executive Session (RCW 42.30.110(g) – To evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment or to review the performance of a public employee.
A 30-minute executive session was held from 1:02 p.m. – 1:32 p.m. with two 5-minute extensions requested. The public meeting reconvened at 1:45 p.m. No action was taken.

M. Pruett reminded the board members to review the Board of Commissioners bylaws so they can be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

Adjournment
A motion was made by L. McNamara to adjourn the meeting at 1:46 p.m.; seconded by C. Thomas. Motion carried.

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Mike Pruett, Board Chair

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Cherri Thomas, Board Vice Chair

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Leslie McNamara, Board Secretary

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Tracy Shrable, Board Member

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David Garcia, Board Member