

**SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT No. 1**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 8, 2018**

**Commissioners Present:**

Commissioner Warren Appleton (added)  
Commissioner Michael Edwards, Chair  
Commissioner Anna Lisa Lindstrum  
Commissioner Mark Schwinge  
Commissioner Rebecca Smith (added)

**Others Present:**

Pamela Hutchins  
SJCPHD #1: Superintendent  
  
Jerry Martin  
SJIEMS: Chief

**By Phone:** None

**Absent:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Edwards called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm At the start of the meeting only Chair Michael Edwards, Commissioner Anna Lisa Lindstrum, and Commissioner Mark Schwinge were sitting commissioners. Dr. Warren Appleton and Rebecca Smith were appointed by vote of the board during this meeting.

**OPENING REMARKS:** Pamela Hutchins, Superintendent.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION:**

The floor was opened to public comment, but no members of the public chose to do so.

**CANDIDATE STATEMENTS/COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS:**

Warren Appleton: Appleton noted that he practiced medicine for 47 years, was the former Paramedic Director at Evergreen Hospital in Kirkland, served on the Redmond city council, and has a law degree. Chair Edwards asked about his time at Evergreen hospital. Commissioner Lindstrum asked about his legal background and noted that it would be an asset.

David Balmer (by phone): Practiced primary care, then worked in business side of medical care. Commissioner Schwinge asked how long he had been a resident, Balmer replied 6 years. Commissioner Lindstrum asked about his position on the proposed merger with FD #3, replied that he would have to "acquaint myself with the particulars." She further asked his position Planned Parenthood contract renewal in 2019, replied "I would renew that." Lindstrum then asked if he supported death with dignity, he said he wasn't sure. Chair Edwards asked about his dual MD degrees, Balmer replied that the multiple qualifications were due to practicing in different countries.

John Manning: "I have experience within SJC with experience in the public sector, more than 20 years in public health here in SJC, and in addition I served with the State of Alaska EMS as a planner," and worked with many different EMS systems large and small. Chair Edwards asked about his service in Alaska, as well as his membership in the SJC Prevention coalition and thanked him for serving in that organization. No other commissioners had questions.

David Meiland (by phone): "Full time resident of SJC since 2003 and am a general contractor." Commissioner Schwinge asked about his service in the fire district, while Chair Edwards and Commissioner Lindstrum declined to ask questions.

Barbara Sharp (by phone): "I won't go through my record since you are familiar with my record and what I accomplished as a commissioner over the last two years... the possible merger between EMS and the Fire District is paramount... another issue the board is facing is an alternative medical center to replace the services provided by the now defunct Life Care Center." None of the commissioners had any questions.

Mitchel Sclosser: "I come without many of the extensive credentials of many of my other candidates, but I do have a wide spectrum experience starting with the US Navy SEALs and learning how to be a lifesaver as a SEAL... [I] have a water lifesaving background which I share and continue to share with Seattle's paramedic training where I worked... if you like my experience... I am more than happy to volunteer." Chair Edwards noted that his CV was very impressive and invited the other commissioners to ask questions or comment but they both declined.

Commissioner Lindstrum noted that she had previously sent out questions to the candidates.

Rebecca Smith: "I've been attending these board meetings for about three years, and another couple years when you were in the old EMS building... my two plus decades as a volunteer firefighter and EMT, six years as a fire commissioner, co-chair and treasurer on the Levy committee, and am involved in the Committee for Paramedicine, combined with many years of corporate experience... I don't think we're trying to fix something that is broken but we are trying to create something that is even better." Commissioner Lindstrum asked about Smith's husband who is an EMT and potential conflicts of interest. "Do you feel that you would have to recuse yourself on decisions that would directly affect your household." Smith replied, "It's not like he makes a ton of money here, but if I thought it was an issue or if anyone on the board thought it was an issue I could recuse myself... I don't think there have been." Schwinge stated that her Ms. Smith's husband was an EMT, not a paramedic, and is basically a volunteer.

Keri Talbott had previously withdrawn.

**FINAL COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:** Commissioner Schwinge thanked each of the applicants and noted the high quality of the applicants. Chair Edwards expressed his appreciation that the board had so many qualified applicants to choose from and noted that the applications had "started off very slow and I had a lot of sleepless nights."

**ACTION: Motion to appoint a commissioner to vacant position 5. Plurality vote was held: Appleton – 0 votes. Balmer – 0 votes. Manning – 0 votes. Meiland – 0. Sharp – 1. Shlosser – 0. Smith – 2. MAJORITY GOES TO REBECCA SMITH.**

The Oath of office was administered to Rebecca Smith and signed. She was then seated with the commissioners at the front of the room.

**COMMISSIONER QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:** Commissioner Lindstrum noted that "Moving forward I really am hoping that the fire and EMS meetings are public and that there is a public advisory group present for those meetings... We need to be very careful about any conflict of interest or any perceived conflict of interest... it's important that we remember that we are representing the community, that this is usually an elected position; Barbara Sharp was elected with the majority she's done a wonderful job of representing our community... and I hope that the values of this community are reflected in the appointments that the board makes." Chair Edwards stated that all commissioners on the advisory board for the proposed merger with FD #3 are withdrawing, and that there will be 8 members of the public on the advisory board.

**ACTION: Motion to appoint a commissioner to vacant position 3. Plurality vote was held for position 3: Appleton: 3. This represented a majority, so no further vote was held. MAJORITY GOES TO DR. WARREN APPLETON.**

The Oath of office was administered to Warren Appleton and signed. He was then seated with the commissioners at the front of the room.

Chair Edwards again thanked the applicants for their willingness to serve.

**NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR SJCPHD#1: HRSA Rural Health Network Development Planning Program issued an opportunity to get some funding that would support the next steps for the Community Long-Term Care Options Task Force.** Introduced by Superintendent Hutchins and Chair Edwards. The district has been asked to be the applicant agency on a grant, along with two partners: Peace Island Medical Center and the Village at the Harbor. More partners can be added later. Deadline is February 23<sup>rd</sup>, and the grant amount is up to \$100,000. The Long-term Care Taskforce has been working for five months and has identified as the next step the creation of a strategic business plan. This grant would help provide the

funding to create the business plan. Superintendent Hutchins would be the Network Coordinator and Financial Coordinator for the grant, a role she has filled twice before for grants. AWPHD has agreed to help with the grant. There are no financial obligations present or future required to undertake this grant. At the Feb 28<sup>th</sup> meeting there will be a comprehensive report by Evan Perrollaz, chair of the Long-Term Care Taskforce.

**ACTION: Moved by Mark Schwinge, and seconded by Warren Appleton, "that we participate as the applicant agency on behalf of this grant." No discussion. ALL AYES; MOTION PASSES 5-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Edwards adjourned the meeting at 5:55 pm.

**ALL EXHIBITS AND SUPPORTING MATERIAL AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.**

  
Signed by Chairperson

  
Date

The original document is retained at the San Juan County Pubic Hospital District #1 Office at 849 Spring Street, Unit B-5, Friday Harbor, WA 98250 in San Juan County Public Hospital District #1 permanent proceedings file.

**Attest: Pamela Hutchins, Recording Secretary**