

**SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT No. 1**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Frank Wilson Memorial EMS Building, 1079 Spring Street**  
**Wednesday August 5, 2020**  
**Held Remotely under COVID-19 Rules**

**SJCPHD #1 Commissioners Present:**

Commissioner Everett Clary  
Commissioner Anna Lisa Lindstrum  
Commissioner Trish Lehman  
Commissioner Gail Leschine-Seitz  
Commissioner Kyle Loring

**Others Present:**

Pamela Hutchins  
Superintendent, SJCPHD #1  
  
Karl Kuetzing  
Interim Chief Administrator, SJIEMS

**By Phone:** None

**Absent:** None

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chair Anna Lisa Lindstrum called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. in a fully remote MS Teams meeting, with the public participating via phone. Governor Inslee's order, Proclamation 20-28, issued March 24, 2020 and extended multiple times, temporarily prohibits public agencies from conducting any in-person meetings and requires all remote meetings to provide an option for public attendance via remote access. Roll call was made verbally of each commissioner for the benefit of the public. The meeting was still recorded, and audio made available to the public as with all meetings.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION RCW 42.30.110 (f) To receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee.** No executive session was held. Instead, the meeting proceeded directly to Special Meeting business.

**SPECIAL MEETING BUSINESS**

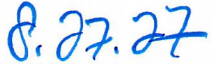
**Discuss and/or Act on Response to Public relations issues:** Board members discussed the incident on July 28, 2020, when during the joint Board meeting, apparently assuming he was off microphone, a Fire District Commissioner referred to a Hospital District Commissioner as a "bitch." The hospital District Board voted to adjourn following the incident and no business was completed.

Board members had conflicting views of how to proceed on integration and how to react to the incident and discussed with staff how and what the response should be. An open letter to the Fire District was released the next day (see Appendix A).

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chair Lindstrum adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signed by Chairperson**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**

**The original document is retained at the San Juan County Public 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: Nathan Butler, Recording Secretary**



## **APPENDIX A**



SAN JUAN COUNTY PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 1  
PO Box 370 – 849 Spring Street  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250  
(360) 378-2857

Honorable Board Members  
San Juan County Fire Protection District No. 3  
1011 Mullis Street  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

August 6, 2020

RE: Incident at the Joint Board Meeting on 7/28/2020

Dear Honorable Chair and Board Members:

We formally object to Frank Cardinale's statement "Roll the eyes you \*\*\*\*\*," which was uttered with such spite that it is hard not to hear the statement over again without flinching. Simply put, such speech should never occur whether behind closed doors or on an open microphone. It is utterly outrageous, and we object in the strongest of terms. For us to move forward, we would need to see real change over how this project has gone thus far, and actions that promote trust as equal partners going forward.

We appreciate the apologies from Commissioner Frank Cardinale and Chair Bob Jarman. We do not mean to be ungracious. Nor indeed do we deny that we have ever done anything wrong whether personally or professionally.

Yet such contempt does not come out of nowhere, nor present itself simply out of a moment's anger during a rough meeting. Nor was it the first incident of disrespect, condescension, and aggressive misogynistic speech directed at our Board members, especially Commissioner Lindstrum, that we have witnessed. We have had credible reports of other incidents of your leadership demeaning our commissioners and staff.

This is surely not the sum of all our interactions, many of which have been fine, but taken together, this constitutes a pattern of behavior that has nevertheless caused us considerable concern. If we were concerned for our personnel under an integrated system before, we are much more concerned now. We are not confident that were our staff employed at San Juan Island Fire and Rescue that they would be treated with the respect and consideration to which they are due.

For us to move forward with the Integration of EMS and Fire it would require mutual respect and trust, which has not been present thus far. Our community deserves nothing less from both organizations.

Sincerely,  
Chair Anna Lisa Lindstrum  
Commissioner Everett Clary  
Commissioner Trish Lehman  
Commissioner Gail Leschine-Seitz  
Superintendent Pamela Hutchins