



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
APRIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 30, 2025 4:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Mischke, Jenifer Shassetz, Gene Davis, Tobie Alsup, Kevin Kessner, Shirley Coulter, and Richard Garber

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike McCafferty, Dr. Megan Ratterman, Dr. Sierra Gross, Nathan Stutte, Joe Wright, Cody Sinclair, Nyle Morgan, Cathy Bealer, Brendon Kerns, Tom Klepperich, Amy Ligocki, Sean Bonnet, Brittany Goodvin, Brent Maurhoff, Tommi Ritterbusch, Payton Gambill, Bryan Opitz, Wancee Hughes, Ashley Phipps, Stephanie Williams, Brady Shoemaker, Ann Aksamit, Casi Morgareidge, Tenille Straley, Anthony Spiegelberg, Katie Demarais, Liz Dearcorn, Ada Kirven, Jasmine Slater, Dr. Bill Doughty, and Weston Pope with the Sheridan Press

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Ron Mischke, Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS

Joe Wright, COO introduces Katie Demarais to the board. Katie is a physician assistant and has been in Billings for the past eight years working in neurosurgery and spine. She is now back home in Sheridan, ready to serve the community and hospital in the spine clinic, along with Dr. Ulibarri and Sean Schoonover.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

A request was made to amend the agenda, removing the Star Rating presentation, which will be presented in a couple of months. Gene Davis motioned to approve the revised agenda. Kevin Kessner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Shirley Coulter moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on March 26, 2025 as presented. Richard Garber seconded the motion. Motion carried.

QUALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Tommi Ritterbusch, Director of Continuous Improvement states that the committee reviewed quality measures specific to Green House, hospital safety events, the trauma report, pressure ulcers, alarm fatigue, nursing pain management, behavioral health/emergency detention/Title 25 data, employee injuries, flu and COVID immunization rates, multi drug resistant organisms (MDRO), hand hygiene, health equity structural measures, and quality strategic priorities. There are no negative trends or areas of concern noted.

Mike McCafferty thanks Tommi for her outstanding work on CMS regulations and her work with the Joint Commission surveyors. Mike appreciates everything she has done and continues to do for the organization. Kevin Kessner echoes that sentiment and thanks Tommi and the Quality Department for an awesome job and putting forth the effort for the benefit of the hospital and community.

PATIENT EXPERIENCE REPORT

Tommi Ritterbusch, in Kelly Lieb's absence, reports on the synergy of the nurses and physicians on communication with the patients and families. This intentional time with the patients is having an impact on HCAHPS scores. Case management's work on care transitions, helping patients understand their status has been successful. The ICU patient flow project was reviewed and an action plan determined to improve patient placement. And lastly, the collaboration between nutritional services and the TCU has had successful outcomes, with patients having a voice in their food choices, leading to increased patient satisfaction.

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MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Dr. Ratterman reports that credentialing will be done in executive session. No other business to present at this time.

After review and discussion in Executive Session, Dr. Ratterman, on behalf of the Medical Executive Committee and Credentials Committee recommends the following Medical Staff Initial Appointments and Medical Staff Renewals for consideration and approval.

MEDICAL STAFF INITIAL APPOINTMENTS (ACTION)

Name	Category	Specialty	Renewal Date	Affiliated Organization
Reginald Deligent, MD	Telemedicine/Delegated (No Membership)	Psychiatry		Avel
Adam Graham, MD	Consulting -No Admit w/o Active Physician cosign	Neurology		Blue Sky
Zachary Norman, MD	Consulting -No Admit w/o Active Physician cosign	Neurology		Blue Sky

MEDICAL STAFF RENEWALS (ACTION)

Name	Category	Specialty	Renewal Date	Affiliated Organization
Kelly E. Lieb, MPAS, PA-C	Physician Assistant	Emergency Medicine	5/08/25	SMH
Elise M. Lowe, MD	Locums (Privileges Only - No Membership)	Internal Medicine	5/25/25	SMH Hospitalist
Sean M. Schoonover, PA-C	Physician Assistant	Orthopedic Surgery/Spine	4/30/25	SMH
James A. Ulibarri, MD	Active Staff w Priv - May Admit	Orthopedic Surgery / Spine	3/29/26	SMH
Jake Vrdoljak, MD	Teleradiology/Delegated (No Membership)	Radiology	5/03/25	Real Radiology

Kevin Kessner moved to approve the medical staff initial appointments and medical staff renewals as presented. Gene Davis seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Recruitment – Mike informs the board of continued recruitment efforts. Dr. Mullen is a family medicine physician from Buffalo, WY where she has practiced for the last decade. She will join Primary Care in September, 2025, rounding out our family medicine team downtown. Work continues on future growth in the area of urology and pediatrics. Mike hopes to share more information next month as we strengthen our medical staff. SMH has a strong following and impact with the WWAMI program. Ron Mischke states that recruiting for the community is a big deal and Mike does a great job with the WWAMI program, connecting with physicians while still in med school. The strength of our medical staff speaks for itself.

Starting in August is Dr. Andrew Ferris, anesthesiology and his spouse, Dr. Kelsey Ferris in emergency medicine.

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Dr. Luke Leary, Hospitalist, will start in July; and Dr. Ulibarri will start a spine clinic July, 2025 along with Sean Schoonover and Katie Demarais.

Spine Center of the Bighorns - Joe Wright reports that as stated by Mike, we will have one physician and 2 physician assistants for the clinic starting July 7, 2025. Sean Bonnet is leading the charge on getting the clinic up and running and people are already calling to make an appointment. The clinic will be situated on the east end of the main campus, between Internal Medicine and Big Horn Surgery.

Pediatrics – Dr. Kristopher Schamber, the medical director at Primary Care, had an article in the Sheridan Press regarding the collaboration of pediatrics and family medicine. Pediatricians, Dr. Oss and Dr. Sanderson have been operating in the 99th percentile for a while and it is not sustainable. Dr. Bowers of Goose Creek Pediatrics has indicated that she will be retiring this summer after serving the community for decades. Family medicine physicians, Dr. Rinker and Dr. Denney have started seeing pediatric patients at Northeast Wyoming Pediatric Associates clinic to provide some relieve and support of Dr. Oss and Dr. Sanderson.

With Dr. Mullen coming to Sheridan in September, we are already receiving calls from her patients in Buffalo, willing to travel to Sheridan to see her. Dr. Bowers's panel of patients will transfer to Primary Care as well. A big thank you extended to Sean Bonnet and Dr. Kristopher Schamber for their leadership and support.

Ortho – the Sheridan Orthopedic group joined the hospital in December of 2024. Dr. Wasserburger spoke on Public Pulse radio program, explaining the collaboration, and how joining the hospital helps leverage the orthopedic surgeons practice and support of the clinic. Sheridan Memorial Hospital will assist Dr. Peterson, a fellowship trained foot and ankle surgeon within the orthopedic practice, build his panel of patients and support growth endeavors.

Surgery – SMH is growing capacity by adding a new anesthesiologist. We are working with the Sheridan Surgery Center (SSC) group on what the future holds. Mike hopes to report next month, on potential opportunities and SMH taking a leadership role at SSC. SMH is building capacity to serve our mission and take care of the Sheridan community.

Medical Imaging – Stephanie Williams has done a fantastic job as the manager in imaging, along with former manager and current PA Chris Bilyeu. Imaging has been able to expand hours and people resources. There is a need to continue to grow and read studies in a timely manner, and create the best customer experience that we can. There is a vision for the future and a priority for medical imaging, including a PET (positron emission tomography) scan.

FINANCE

Nathan Stutte, CFO reports that March closed out the third quarter. February and March were particularly slow, but should see a reversal in the next quarter. Volumes are increasing with the clinics being extremely busy. The fourth quarter is seeing an increase in total gross charges and a decrease in spend. Work is being done to cut costs across the organization. High level projections with increased volumes for July, August and September. The budget review process is now happening.

Cath Lab Equipment Replacement (Action) - As reported last month, the cath lab equipment is at end of service at ten years old. Due to the number of hours of usage, the equipment does not warrant immediate replacement and its use can be extended. SMH will enter into an agreement to extend the current equipment by four years, locking in a price commitment to replace in 48 months. We will enter into a service agreement with Siemens for 24 months, utilizing a third party for service the remaining two years. The commitment with Siemens is to purchase and replace the equipment in 48 months. The projected cost is \$2 million dollars. Nathan will approach the Foundation

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for support closer to the time frame outlined for actual replacement. There is expected to be some costs associated with construction needs, but nothing of significance. Gene Davis, on behalf of the Finance Committee made the motion to execute the proposal with Siemens. Kevin Kessner seconded the motion. Motion carries.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Richard Garber stated that there was a volunteer appreciation breakfast with great attendance, reminding everyone of how important volunteers are to the operation of the hospital. Jasmine Slater reports that there were volunteers that retired this year, one being Barbara Sare retiring at 94 years old. Volunteers provided 5,312 hours of service in 2024. Please thank a volunteer when you see them in the facility. Mike thanks Jasmine for her great work with the volunteers and states Barbara Sare deserves the recognition for the service to the hospital and the community over the years.

Cody Sinclair, Chief Development Officer states that the Foundation received a proposal from the hospital in support of the WCC hood project. Bryan Opitz, Tommi Ritterbusch, Joe Wright and Jordan Lentz provided information to the Foundation board on the WCC pharmacy being out of compliance, and what it entails to upgrade the pharmacy hood and ventilation system. The Foundation board approved support for a matching grant from SLIB for \$300,000 for this project.

The Foundation board also approved a scholarship for imaging rad techs. A rad tech that takes advantage of this scholarship will need to agree to a three year commitment to work at the hospital. The Foundation wants to support, grow and sustain this vital program.

The Foundation office is working hard on the growing for you 60 tours in 60 days initiative. They are within a dozen tours of meeting this goal. The Foundation is \$800,000 short of their \$18 million goal.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Joe Wright reports that Phase 1 and now Phase 2 of the EmPATH project is complete. Thanks extended to Kim George and her staff with the peds project. We are looking at close to 10% under budget equal to approximately \$600,000 savings. Demolition of the remainder of med-surg south started last Monday. Jessica Heil, med-surg manager and her team took the brunt of the transition, with high census and working through the patient experience. Joe extended his appreciation to Jessica and her staff on their efforts. The building committee approved \$27,000 in change orders, falling within the contingency budget and relevant to exhaust and ligature free hardware.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mike announces that Nyle Morgan will be retiring on May 23, so next month is his last board meeting. Please wish him well after serving Sheridan Memorial Hospital for the last 17 years. Nyle has done an amazing job and has been a huge asset to the hospital.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Shirley Coulter motioned to end the General Session and go into Executive Session at 4:40 p.m. Kevin Kessner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

General session reconvened at 5:10 p.m. to address medical staff credentialing. Please see above under the Medical Staff Report for action taken. Mike made the board aware that SMH medical staff and Billings Clinic medical staff will be meeting in May.

Ron Mischke moved into Executive Session once again to discuss executive compensation.



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General session reconvened at 5:20 p.m. with no action taken relevant to executive compensation.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further matters to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Patty Forister, Recorder

Kevin Kessner, Secretary