



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AUGUST MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jenifer Shassetz, Gene Davis, Kevin Kessner, Tobie Alsup, Rob Johnson, and Richard Garber
MEMBERS ABSENT: Ron Mischke
OTHERS PRESENT: Mike McCafferty, Dr. Megan Ratterman, Dr. Sierra Gross, Nathan Stutte, Joe Wright, Cody Sinclair, Cathy Bealer, Brendon Kerns, Tommi Ritterbusch, Brady Shoemaker, Tenille Straley, Anthony Spiegelberg, Ada Kirven, Sharon Krueger, Kristen Czaban, Kelly Lieb, Nick Siddle (County Commissioner), Amy Ligocki, Liz Dearcorn, Erin Oetken, Casi Morgareidge, Brittany Goodvin, Jennifer Gaona, Sean Bonnet, Brent Maurhoff, Dr. AJ Ferris, Dr. Kelsey Ferris, Dr. Luke Leary, Kevin Koile with Sheridan Media, and Weston Pope with the Sheridan Press

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Jenifer Shassetz, Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS

Three new physicians are welcomed to the hospital and community – Dr. Andrew (AJ) Ferris (anesthesiology), Dr. Kelsey Ferris (emergency medicine), and Dr. Luke Leary (Hospitalist).

Dr. AJ Ferris grew up in Sheridan, and wanted to come back to a community with good people, which is hard to come by in the world. Sheridan provided for him growing up and he looks forward to giving back and doing the same. The site visit to SMH showed him that we live our mission to serve the community, which is very rare.

Dr. Kelsey Ferris, emergency medicine, grew up in Utah. She is the spouse to Dr. AJ Ferris and found it easy to relocate to Sheridan. This is an amazing hospital and finds that it is truly about serving our patients, which is incredible. In her first week here, she has been able to do, and treat patients in a manner that was never supported at a Level I trauma hospital. Things we do here are amazing for the size of hospital and community it supports. Dr. Ferris thanks everyone for letting her be a part of the organization.

Dr. Luke Leary, hospitalist states that he has no family connection in Sheridan, but the same forces that pull Drs. Ferris to Sheridan are the same. We have a great community and the culture in the hospital is very much like a family. He is happy to be part of the team that cares for our patients.

A warm welcome is extended to all.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

Gene Davis motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Tobie Alsup seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Tobie Alsup moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on July 30, 2025 as presented. Rob Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carries.

QUALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Kevin Kessner, committee chair asks Tommi Ritterbusch, Director of Continuous Improvement to report. The committee reviewed data relative to return to surgery rates, medication adverse events, medication errors, critical lab results and reporting in nursing, mammography call back in radiology, critical results in radiology, patient care service contracts and patient safety. There are no negative trends or areas of concern noted. Kevin thanks the staff for their expertise and appreciates what they do.

August Board Meeting
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2025

PATIENT EXPERIENCE REPORT

Kelly Lieb, Director of Patient Experience reports on net promoter scores in some of the outpatient services areas. Great work continues with clear communication between lab and radiology. The volumes have increased and we are taking care of the community. Wait times have decreased at SameDay Health and Imaging. Context was requested, since data is logged from the time of registration to check out. Our critical strategic goal is 40 minutes from registration to check out. Patients arriving from out of town may show up an hour prior to the appointment and they are checked in well before their actual appointment time, which impacts our data. Emergency department wait times are under 10 minutes.

In order to improve on the patient experience, the patient & family advisory council (PFAC) has created the “Voice” (voicing opportunities for improvement, collaboration and engagement) and had 16 internal applicants and external applicants. Please let Kelly know if you want to be a part of this initiative. There will be 6 standing members which include Jenifer Shassetz, Jody Hecker, Tommi Ritterbusch, Tonya Carlson and Liz Dearcorn; along with Dr. Erin Henderson as the medical staff liaison.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Credentialing will be discussed in Executive Session with no other business to bring before the board.

After review and discussion in Executive Session, Dr. Megan 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	Affiliated Organization
Antoinette Laurel, DO	Telemedicine/Delegated (No Membership)	Psychiatry	Avel
Travis J. Petree, MD	Teleradiology/Delegated (No Membership)	Radiology	Real Rad

MEDICAL STAFF RENEWALS (ACTION)

Name	Category	Specialty	Renewal Date	Affiliated Organization
Kimberlee D. Williams, FNP-C, AGACNP-BC	Advanced Practice Clinician - Nurse Practitioner	Medicine	8/29/2025	SMH TCU
Kenneth C. McKenzie, MSN, PA-C	Advanced Practice Clinician - Physician Assistant	Medicine	8/30/2025	SMH Addiction Medicine Clinic
Robert K. Merchant, MD	Telemedicine/Delegated (No Membership)	Medicine	8/28/2025	Billings Clinic Pulmonary

Richard Garber moved to approve the medical staff initial appointments and medical staff renewals as presented. Tobie Alsup seconded the motion. Motion carries.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT

Strategic Planning – Mike McCafferty continues to educate the community and medical staff on the ongoing changes in healthcare. Sheridan Memorial Hospital wants to be as independent as we can for as long as we can. Independence means a lot on how we set policy, control what we do, have clinical autonomy, prioritize services in the community, and identify master planning in support of the services we offer. Sheridan Memorial Hospital wants

August Board Meeting
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2025

to steer clear of private equity or corporate healthcare, matching with someone who shares our values. Mike will share information in the coming months as we meet with our medical staff. There are both great opportunities and challenges as we move forward as a rural health care provider.

Rural Health Care - recent legislation was released relevant to the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA) /Rural Health Transformation fund. Resources are being made available, allocating \$50 billion to states over the next five years. The states are waiting for final instructions on how the funds will be administered and used. There are five high level categories – access, work force development, innovations in healthcare technology, disease prevention, and behavior health in rural healthcare. Mike believes that the transformation fund lines up well with SMH initiatives. The government has not come up with the final rule on distribution of the funds, but it is expected by mid-September. Each state will need to apply for the funds. Mike encourages everyone to talk with their legislators to have the state move forward with application for the funds. SMH would apply to the State of Wyoming for the funds in support of what we do in the community and the region. The funds received would not be for capital construction but in support of services offered.

Master Site and Facilities Planning – SMH will work with Cushing Terrell for a refresh of our master site and facility plan. The building committee will be engaged in the process and the timeline is eight to twelve months to receive the finalized report, with information shared along the way. SMH continues to expand and we need to be out in front of additional growth, as our population increases and there are changing needs in the community.

Community Needs Assessment – The previous Community Health Needs Assessment, currently on our website was completed in 2023. We will budget for another CHNA in 2026 with the FY27 budget, with an expected completion in the fall of 2026. The assessment is mandated by the government to be done every three years. The assessment helps us understand the makeup of the community and what is needed and necessary to meet health care goals. As you can tell, strategic planning, master site and facility planning and the community healthcare needs assessment all tie together

Mike acknowledges Gene Davis, who is currently serving his full third term on the board. Gene has notified the county commissioners of his intent to resign from the SMH Board of Trustees at the end of September, 2025. Gene was a member of the Foundation board in 2006, providing great insight and helping guide the Foundation at that time. In 2010, Gene was appointed to the SMH board to fill a vacancy and he has been on the board ever since. Gene has done a tremendous amount of work for our organization for a long period of time. Gene's leadership, expertise on the finance committee, and his level of calm is amazing, along with being a mentor to Mike during his time on the board as well. Gene states that he loves this hospital, and it has provided and cared for his parents, his daughters, and most recently his wife with her battle with cancer. The kindness and compassion shows in the organization and the work done during the pandemic was incredible. Our thanks were extended to Gene for his time on the board, which will be ending at the next meeting in September.

Mike states that he would like to take this opportunity to recognize some people for their huge impact with the Foundation and their efforts on the EmPATH project, which he should have done at the groundbreaking ceremony. Sue Belish is the past president of the Foundation and she has done a tremendous job in leading the push for the behavioral health unit. Wendy Smith is current president and Mike knows she will do a great job as well. Mike also recognizes Ada Kirven and Liz Dearcorn for their endeavors to get the resources for the project, and building relationships, trust and confidence of the hospital within the community. Mike extends his thanks and appreciation for their incredible work. Thanks extended to Cody Sinclair as well, for showing up every day with his compassion and care for people within the organization and in the community.

August Board Meeting
Board of Trustee Meeting Minutes
August 27, 2025

FINANCE

Nathan Stutte, CFO reports on July financial results, which showed some growth. Volumes picked up across the organization with growth in pediatrics, women's health, and med-surg. The TCU had increased admission activity, and a record number of unique patients were seen at the Welch Cancer Center. There was growth in imaging, with SameDay Health and Imaging treating patients. Activity in the clinics show patients are coming from all over the state (Buffalo, Kaycee, Casper and Converse County) for healthcare services.

There is an action item for equipment, a BK5000 Ultrasound to be located in surgery to assist in urology cases and with general surgery. Gene Davis on behalf of the finance committee, made the motion to move forward with the purchase of the equipment in support of the urology and general surgery practices. Kevin Kessner seconded the motion. Motion carries.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Richard Garber reports that the behavioral health groundbreaking ceremony was very successful and the tours were great. Thanks extended to Ada and Cody for their leadership. Cody Sinclair thanked everyone for attending and to those that served as tour guides. At the last Foundation board meeting, Dr. Daniel Holst and Jessica Lucas presented to the Foundation board on the equipment needed in the urology practice. The presentation resonated with why we are here with providing the best care for the patient. Dr. Holst's connections with the medical staff and collaboration is evident and the Foundation board is in support of our physicians to make sure care stays in Sheridan.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Joe Wright, COO on behalf of the building committee reports that the 3 Tesla MRI will be delivered on September 29. The WCC pharmacy project construction documents should be received by the end of September, with remodeling of the pharmacy space sometime in the new year. Mike reminds the board that this is an unfunded federal mandate to upgrade the HVAC system in the sterile compounding area of the WCC to SUP 800 to be in compliance. The \$600,000 project will be paid for by the Foundation and SLIB jointly. The EmPATH project is well ahead of schedule and on budget. The building committee approved some change orders that are within scope and budget. The behavioral health parking lot will be completed in the next couple of weeks.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Kevin Kessner motioned to adjourn General Session and go into Executive Session at 4:49 p.m. Gene Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

General session reconvened at 5:17 p.m. to address medical staff credentialing. Please see above under the Medical Staff Report for action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further matters to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 5:18 p.m. with no additional action taken.

Patty Forister, Recorder

Ron Mischke, Secretary