



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, September 24, 2025 4:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jenifer Shassetz, Gene Davis, Tobie Alsup, Ron Mischke, Rob Johnson, and Richard Garber

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kevin Kessner

**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, Ada Kirven, Sharon Krueger, Kristen Czaban, Kelly Lieb, Amy Ligocki, Liz Dearcorn, Jasmine Slater, Jessica Heil, Megan Ripley, Jessica Lucas, Rob Forister, Bryan Opitz, Tom Klepperich, Ann Aksamit, Jennifer Rasp-Vaughn, Erin Oetken, Casi Morgareidge, Jennifer Gaona, Brent Maurhoff, Dr. Daniel Holst, Dr. Kris Schamber, Dr. Lisa Mullen, 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**

Dr. Daniel Holst is welcomed as a full-time urologist. He has been doing urology outreach in Sheridan and is now employed by SMH. Dr. Holst is a Sheridan native and went through the WWAMI program through the University of Washington. He thanks Mike for getting him to Sheridan and states it is a pleasure to be here. The transition has been seamless, better than imagined and everyone has been welcoming.

Dr. Schamber introduces Dr. Lisa Mullen. Dr. Mullen is also a Wyoming native, attending the University of Wyoming and then going through the WWAMI program. Dr. Mullen has been providing full spectrum family medicine in Buffalo, WY for the past decade, and has now joined the SMH Primary Care practice. She states that in her time in Buffalo, she has referred patients to us as needed and is excited to now join our team. Everyone has been great and very welcoming.

A warm welcome is extended to all.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

Ron Mischke motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Gene Davis seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Richard Garber moved to approve the minutes of the board meeting held on August 27, 2025 as presented. Tobie Alsup seconded the motion, with Ron Mischke abstaining. Motion carries.

**QUALITY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Tommi Ritterbusch, Director of Continuous Improvement reports that the committee reviewed and approved the Utilization Review Management Plan for 2025-2026, as well as the 2025 Infection Prevention Plan for Sheridan Green House. The committee also reviewed data relative to preoperative and postoperative diagnosis, restraint and seclusion, rapid response and code blue, patient wristband and medication scanning compliance, inpatient and outpatient falls, hospital and community acquired c-diff infection, avoidable days, 30-day readmissions, chart abstract, electronic clinical quality measures, tracer activity and patient safety reporting. There are no negative trends or areas of concern noted.

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**PATIENT EXPERIENCE REPORT**

Kelly Lieb, Director of Patient Experience highlights the continued reporting of the net promoter scores in the outpatient services areas and Sheridan Green House. Feedback provided by the residents at Sheridan Green House resulted in a change in food options and menu. There will be an ongoing food panel with the resident’s involvement. Dr. Oss reported on the work done relevant to the patient experience at Northeast Wyoming Pediatric Associates (NEWPA). The spine clinic has exceeded their metrics in just a couple of months of opening this new service line. The Transitional Care Unit (TCU) has been doing incredible work around fall prevention and patient activities with puzzles, games, painting, and potting plants. Appreciation extended to staff and volunteers for making this happen. Respiratory therapy data was reviewed along with providing excellent patient centered care and sustaining their scores. Wyoming Rehab has seen improvement in scores in “would recommend facility”.

**MEDICAL STAFF REPORT**

Credentialing will be discussed in Executive Session with no other business to bring before the board. Dr. Ratterman presents the following to the board of trustees.

**MEDICAL STAFF INITIAL APPOINTMENTS (ACTION)**

Name	Category	Specialty	Affiliated Organization
Marshall Diven, MD	Active Staff – May	Radiation Oncology	Billings Clinic / Welch Cancer Center
Brian Starr, MD	Locums – No Membership	Pediatrics	Billings Clinic / NEWPA

**MEDICAL STAFF RENEWALS (ACTION)**

Name	Category	Specialty	Renewal Date	Affiliated Organization
Cristian Balcescu, MD	Consulting Staff – May Not Admit w/o Active Staff	Ortho/Spine	8/25/2025	Memorial Hospital of Converse County
Sara Beth Berner-Orcutt, DO	Telemedicine/Delegated (No Membership)	Psychiatry	9/27/2025	Avel

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Valerie Cates, LCSW, MSW	Non-Member LIP - Mental Health Consult (Psych, Mental Health)	Mental Health/ Behavior Health	9/27/2025	SMH
Diana Charlson, FNP-BC	Advanced Practice Clinician - Nurse Practitioner	Medicine	9/28/2025	SMH Primary Care
Allison Dawson, MD	Active Staff w Priv - May Admit	Medicine	9/27/2025	SMH Internal Medicine
Michael Peters, MD	Active Staff w Priv - May Not Admit	Anesthesia	9/27/2025	Big Horn Anesthesia Associates
Hugh Bigg, DO	Consulting -No Admit w/o Active Physician cosign	Pediatric Cardiology	9/27/2025	Billings-Pediatric Specialty Clinic
Mohammed Quraishi, MD	Teleradiology/Dele gated (No Membership)	Radiology	9/28/2025	Real Radiology
Erin Rains, DO	Telemedicine/Dele gated (No Membership)	Medicine	10/02/2025	Billings Clinic Pulmonary

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.

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

### **ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

Environment Safety/Security Officer Authority (Action) – Mike reminds the board that action was taken earlier in the year in which Rob Forister was approved by the board to be the safety and security officer for the organization. Mike states that Rob is leaving after a 20 year span, having accepted a job as the Chief Electrical Inspector for the State of Wyoming. Rob was originally hired as a project manager with the emergency department project, and has transformed how work is done in the facility, whether it is with redundancy in the electrical infrastructure, snow removal, lawn care, and writing grants for the HVAC system. With Rob’s departure, Mike recommends board approval to delegate Cody Sinclair to the Environment of Care Safety Officer effective September 24, 2025. Ron Mischke moved to approve this delegation of authority. Gene Davis seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Employee and Community Forums, and County Planning Meetings – Continued work is being done to educate folks around the changing healthcare climate and our positioning. Mike plans to move forward with presentations with the county commissioners in late October/November on how to move forward. It’s important to focus on our guiding principles, to remain independent and resist corporate medicine and private equity organizations. We want to retain, and are committed to local control and governance authority. With this in mind as to the foundation of our endeavors, Mike will make sure the community understands that we are here to serve our mission in serving

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our community.

Beautiful Bill Act (OBBA) /Rural Health Transformation fund – Mike reminds the board that the rural transformation fund has allocated \$50 billion dollars for rural healthcare over the next five years, with \$25 billion dollars being allocated to the states. Areas identified and to be prioritized for our population is chronic disease management, behavior health, access, artificial intelligence (AI) and Telemedicine. Mike will be attending a meeting in Casper on October 8; the meeting is to solidify information for the state to write a grant to submit in November, which may be awarded in December. At this time, we still don't know how to apply for the funds or how they will be distributed once the funds are awarded to the State of Wyoming.

Wyoming Hospital Association Annual Meeting – Mike would like to recognize Grace Stump, SMH regulatory and safety specialist for her nomination for nurse of the year at the WHA annual meeting. This was a well-deserved nomination as Grace has propelled the SMH safety program forward with her enthusiasm for her job, and she has transformed how we look at safety events. Cathy Bealer, CNO states that when on a call with our accreditation agency, the Joint Commission recently stated that Grace's cause and effect work was the best in the nation. Please congratulate Grace when you see her.

Sheridan Surgical Center (Action) – SMH has employed the orthopedic surgeons and staff since December, 2024. SMH is partial owner (40%) of the Sheridan Surgical Center business, with the surgeons owning 55% of the operations. The hospital is 100% owner of the land and the building. Mike recommends consideration of approval to purchase the 55% shares of the Sheridan Surgical Center business. An appraisal has been obtained and metrics and multiplies applied to determine a purchase price of \$4,100,250, which is payable over a 7-year time frame to the owners and members. This is a great move as we garner the balance of the business. Ron Mischke moves to approve the purchase as presented. Gene Davis seconds the motion. Motion carries.

As mentioned last month, this is Gene Davis's last meeting as he is retiring from the board. Gene has provided a steady hand for SMH in the work he has done with the Foundation board and the SMH board over the last two decades. Gene keeps showing up and provides a level of calm, as sometimes what we do is not easy. Healthcare in a rural area is challenging and doesn't line up with free market economics. With only a few service lines that actually pay the bills, we pay close attention to our financial sustainability and his leadership has been tremendous, providing a level of calm and doing hard work. Gene was instrumental in the garden on the hospital campus, which the cancer patients love to see while receiving treatment. A big thank you is extended to Gene for his time on the board and his tremendous leadership. Mike presents a framed print of the garden which came to fruition because of Gene. Jen Shassetz and Ron Mischke also spoke of Gene and how much he will be missed.

### **FINANCE**

Nathan Stutte, CFO reports the committee reviewed August performance. The hospital saw a shortfall in gross revenue for the month, and the write off percentage was better than budget. There was a slow down at the cancer center in August as well. Surgery was busier, but missing revenue targets. The pediatric clinic joined SMH in December, 2024. A year ago they had 4800 visits, and August numbers recorded 5800 patients, showing they are growing to meet the needs of the community. Work is being done to get back on track to our budget of break even. There was a onetime expenditure in August, which we will not continue to see. Nathan takes a few minutes to thank Gene as well for his time on the finance committee. Gene offered a breath of fresh air in his approach and kind heart, and Nathan learned a lot from Gene over the past 10 years.

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### **FOUNDATION REPORT**

Richard Garber reports that the Foundation board had a great meeting, in which Mike spoke of where we are at and the direction we are going. There were tears with Ada Kirven's retirement, in which her final send off for the community will be held on Monday, September 29 from 4-6 pm.

Cody Sinclair states that Ada has mentored so many, and now there are five people to get the work done that Ada did on her own. Ada's meaning of philanthropy is love of human kind and she has lived it every day with everyone she encounters. Ada thanks everyone and states it is an honor to work here and seeing everything that has happened over the last 28 years, is a lot to think about and to continue on.

### **BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Rob Forister reports that the EmPATH project is two months ahead of schedule and on budget. It will be done before it is ready to be occupied. The committee approved one change order, but is still under budget. The 3Tesla MRI is expected on Monday, September 29 and the rigging company will be on site to assist with placement. Once in place, the shielding will be put into place, testing done, we should expect to see patients in approximately six weeks. Remodeling of the OR locker room is on the horizon and commencement to finish the emergency department project to begin again in February 2026.

Rob thanks Mike for his kind words and for all the fun he has had over the years, as the time has gone by quickly.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Thanks to Ada Kirven for setting up the employee appreciation picnic, which will be tonight from 5 pm – 8 pm on the WCC lawn. Her relationship with our donor, as well as the care Mr. T. R. Shelby received when he was a patient, resulted in this fun evening, sponsored by Mr. Shelby.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Ron Mischke motioned to adjourn General Session and go into Executive Session at 4:47 p.m. Rob Johnson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

General session reconvened at 4:56 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, Rob Johnson moves to adjourn the meeting at 4:57 p.m. with no additional action taken. Gene Davis seconds the motion. Motion carries.

Patty Forister, Recorder

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Ron Mischke, Secretary