

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the Washington Township Hospital Development Corporation was held on August 24, 2020 via Zoom in order to comply with Governor Gavin Newsom’s and Alameda County’s mandatory orders to Shelter at Home to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19. Chairman Sah called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

*CALL
TO
ORDER*

Present: Russ Blowers, Steven Chan, DDS, Gloria Villasana Fuerniss, Miro Garcia, Benn Sah, MD, and Kimberly Hartz, President and Chief Executive Officer

*ROLL
CALL*

Absent: None

Also present: Tina Nunez, Vice President of Ambulatory and Administrative Services; Chris Henry, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; Walter Choto, Sr. Director, Ambulatory Care Services; Paul Kozachenko, Attorney and Holly Cedillo, Executive Assistant

Guest: Ed Fayen, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Hartz noted that there was no written or oral communication.

COMMUNICATIONS

Ed Fayen, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, presented “Planning for the Future of Your Local Hospital”. Mr. Fayen shared information regarding goals of the Facility Master Plan (Phase III). This included information regarding Senate Bill 1953. SB 1953 is an unfunded mandate requiring hospitals in California to meet specified seismic regulations for earthquake preparedness. Because it is an unfunded mandate state and federal dollars are not available to assist hospitals in paying for necessary improvements. The final deadline for structural improvements is 2030. Phase III of the Facility Master Plan addresses these requirements and Washington Hospital has already completed multiple non-structural and structural improvements in preparation for the SB 1953 deadlines. Phase III will include construction of a new seismically safe building adjacent to the Morris Hyman Critical Care Pavilion, as well as completion of the build-out in the Pavilion’s unfinished shell space. Some of the services that would be moved from the current Hospital into either the Pavilion or the new building include: operating rooms, cath labs, labor and delivery, intensive care units for infants, and other important support services such as imaging, pharmacy, clinical laboratory, physical therapy and occupational therapy.

*PRESENTATION
“Planning for the Future
of Your Local Hospital”*

The budget for Phase III is \$425M, excluding medical equipment and other campus improvements. Given current seismic regulations, the District Board of Directors approved a resolution placing a general obligation bond on the November 2020 ballot. This measure will provide funds for the District to comply with current California seismic regulations in order to meet the unfunded 2030 deadline and the future health care needs and growth of the community. The DEVCO Board of Directors also received copies of the Washington Hospital Bond Measure Fact Sheet Measure XX and the Role of the District & District Employees in a Bond Campaign.

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Ms. Hartz provided an update regarding COVID-19. Safety initiatives are in place and continue to be developed to address the evolving coronavirus pandemic. Universal face masks are required to be worn by all staff and now face shields are required to be worn by staff in clinical settings to reduce the risk of exposure. Screening continues to take place at all hospital entrances for the continued safety of the patients and staff. Visitors are not currently allowed in the hospital unless authorized under limited circumstances and they are screened as well. Entrance into each building consists of a temperature check, screening questions based on CDC guidelines, and distribution of a face mask that is required to be worn. Inventory of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is being closely monitored and maintained. A task force has been formed to work with skilled nursing facilities to provide education and to improve safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Volumes remain challenged during this time as patients delay their care during the pandemic due to the shelter in place order and personal safety concerns. A marketing campaign to encourage the community that it is safe to receive care at this time was developed. Telemedicine appointments are also available and in an effort to provide continued COVID-19 education, the hospital also has a resource link located on the Washington Hospital Healthcare System internet site.

*PRESIDENT & CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER
REPORT*

Ms. Hartz reported The Joint Commission survey is expected to take place towards the end of 2020 or early 2021. This survey typically takes place during the summer months but due to the current COVID-19 hot spots in California it has been placed on hold. Preparation for the survey is continuing to take place within the hospital.

In accordance with Sections 1461, 1462, 32106 and 32155 of the California Health & Safety Code and Sections 54962 and 54954.5 of the California Government Code, Chairman Sah adjourned the meeting to closed session at 12:56 p.m.


*ADJOURN TO CLOSED
SESSION*


Chairman Sah adjourned the meeting to open session at 1:11 p.m. He reported that no action was taken in closed session.

*ADJOURN TO OPEN
SESSION*

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:17 p.m. The next meeting is currently scheduled for November 16, 2020 at 7:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

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Benn Sah, MD
Chair

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Steven Chan, DDS
Secretary