

**SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
Public Hospital District No. 1-A of Whitman County, Washington
d/b/a
Pullman Regional Hospital
Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 4:00 p.m.**

Conference Room C & D, Pullman Regional Hospital, 835 SE Bishop Blvd.

Board of Commissioners

P-Tricia Grantham, President
P-Jeff Elbracht, Vice President
P-Sandra O'Keefe, Secretary
P-Joe Pitzer, Commissioner
E-Michael Murphy, Commissioner
P-Margaret Werre, Commissioner
P-Karen Karpman, Commissioner

Hospital Personnel

P-Scott K. Adams, CEO
P-Jeannie Eylar, CCO
P-Steve Febus, CFO (via phone)
P-Bernadette Berney, CHRO
P-Megan Guido, CMCRO
P-Dr. Gerald Early, CMIO
E-Rueben Mayes, CDO
P-Isaac Grindeland, M.D., Medical Staff President
P-Erin Sedam, Executive Administrative Assistant
P-Kelly Brown, Legal Counsel

Guests:

P-Anthony Kuipers, Moscow-Pullman Daily News
P-Evan Ellis, Pullman Radio
P-Jaime Brush
P-Kyrk Taylor

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Grantham called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll call was taken with the following Commissioners answering present: Grantham, Elbracht, O'Keefe, Pitzer, Werre, and Karpman. Commissioner Murphy was excused.

II. OPEN SESSION

A. Consider information from legal counsel and discuss the activities, requirements, and process related to the validation of election results for Proposition 1 on the November 5, 2019 General election ballot.

President Grantham invited legal counsel to provide the Commissioners with information regarding the Hospital District's responsibilities in determining validation of election results for Proposition 1 on the November 5, 2019 General Election. Kelly Brown explained that on November 26, 2019 the County Canvassing Board will certify the results of the election and then provide the taxing district with these results at which point the taxing district will be responsible for determining if there were enough valid ballots returned to meet the 40 percent validation threshold. He went on to explain that a valid ballot excludes any undervotes or overvotes. Mr. Brown explained that an undervote is when a voter does not mark either yes or no on a proposition and an overvote is when a voter marks both yes and no and neither of these are considered valid votes and should not be counted in determining the voter validation requirement. If the validation requirement is met, the proposition will need to pass by 60% or higher favorable votes. Mr. Brown also explained that two observers can witness the vote tallying at any time during the election voting period and recommended that the taxing district have observers participate in the Canvassing Board meeting when any questionable ballots will be reviewed. It was also Mr. Brown's recommendation that once the taxing district receives the certified results and has made their determination of an invalid or valid election, and if valid whether the proposition passed, that the Board of Commissioners adopt a resolution stating the results. In the situation of a valid, passing proposition, bond counsel will draft the resolution.

Commissioner Karpman asked if the votes are counted by machine and if so, can the machine depict undervotes and overvotes. Mr. Brown answered that they are counted by machine and it is his understanding that the machine can determine undervotes and overvotes.

President Grantham offered clarification around today's meeting time. The notice was distributed to all external outlets who have requested to be included in such announcements with the correct date and time. The Pullman Regional Hospital website incorrectly stated the meeting start time. Mr. Brown added that because the distributed notice was correct this will be considered a valid meeting.

Vice President Elbracht moved that Pullman Regional Hospital determine that overvotes and undervotes will not be counted in the 40 percent turnout needed to validate the election, as per WAC 434-261-005(7) and WAC 434-261-005(8) and RCW 29A.60.040. Only the ballots that include a valid selection (yes or no, in the case of ballot propositions) should be included for purposes of determining whether a sufficient number of voters have voted to meet the voter-validation requirement of 40 percent. Commissioner Werre seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Erin Sedam
Executive Administrative Assistant



Sandra O'Keefe, Secretary
Board of Commissioners

(Minutes are not officially approved until the next Board Meeting.)