

**PUBLIC HOSPITAL DISTRICT NO. 2 OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WASHINGTON
VERDANT HEALTH COMMISSION**

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Regular Meeting

via Zoom

February 24, 2021

**Commissioners
Present**

Bob Knowles, President (via Zoom)
Dr. Jim Distelhorst, Secretary (via Zoom)
Karianna Wilson, Commissioner (via Zoom)
Deana Knutsen, Commissioner (via Zoom)
Fred Langer, Commissioner (via Zoom, 8:20 am arrival)

Staff

Lisa Edwards, EdD, Superintendent (via Zoom)
Jennifer Piplic, Marketing Director (via Zoom)
Sue Waldin, Community Wellness Program Manager (via Zoom)
Sandra Huber, Community Engagement Manager (via Zoom)
Nancy Budd, Community Social Worker (via Zoom)
Zoe Reese, Director of Community Impact (via Zoom)
Tammy Keuser, Director of Finance and Operations (via Zoom)
Tammy Weenink, Executive Assistant/Office Manager (via Zoom)
Erica Ash, Ash Consulting (via Zoom)

Guests

Marisol Bejarano, LETI Staff (via Zoom)
Jazim Herrera, LETI Staff (via Zoom)
Cindy Montenegro, LETI Participant (via Zoom)
Yesica Billasenor, LETI Participant (via Zoom)
Carl Zapora, Community Member

Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Public Hospital District No. 2, Snohomish County, was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by President Knowles.

**Approval of
Minutes**

Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting on January 27, 2021. (E:08:21)

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**Community
Presentation**

Ms. Reese introduced guests from LETI, including staff members Marisol Bejarano and Jazim Herrera and LETI program participants Yesica Villasenor and Cindy Montenegro.

Ms. Bejarano provided an overview of a few of the COVID relief programs being offered. Through partnerships LETI distributed 200 meal boxes, 350 fresh fruit and vegetable coupons, and approximately 30,000 food gift cards to families in need. Ms. Bejarano mentioned that LETI continues to help community members sign up for programs and services and schedule vaccination appointments. Ms. Bejarano noted that Ms. Herrera is working with the school district and families to create a success plan to fit their needs that includes a financial tune up.

LETI program participant Ms. Villasenor talked about how much LETI has helped their family after her husband lost his job due to COVID. The Villasenor family received help in paying their PUD bill and was directed to other resources for additional support.

LETI program participant Ms. Montenegro heard about LETI through her children's school. The Montenegro family has received assistance with their rent and PUD bill, food boxes, fruit and vegetable voucher and Ms. Montenegro's husband has started the GED training through LETI. Ms. Montenegro is thankful to have someone like Ms. Herrera there to help them.

President Knowles asked about the barriers and how can Verdant be a better resource for LETI. Ms. Bejarano replied that LETI is a small organization, working hard to keep up with the needs of clients. Sharing resources and partnerships that will help support their clients would be very helpful.

Ms. Bejarano also shared that they are experiencing resistance within the community around the COVID vaccine and that they are working to educate and build trust. Ms. Reese shared that Verdant is finalizing details around a COVID grant with LETI to support outreach around the COVID vaccine to the Latinx community.

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**Superintendent
Report**

Dr. Edwards introduced and welcomed Tammy Keuser, Director of Finance and Operations and Tammy Weenink, Executive Assistant/Office Manager. Dr. Edwards reported that Verdant is working on operational structure for all properties. Staff will meet with tenants from the Kruger Clinic and Swedish Hospital to make sure all properties are fully functional, and tenants are satisfied. Value Village walk through has been done. Dr. Edwards announced that the revised Employee Handbook will be rolled out this week to staff and Kara Turner will be meeting with the team on March 5, 2021 to review handbook updates work on team building. Verdant also has 2 new interns that will be introduced at the March board meeting.

**Executive
Committee Report**

President Knowles reported that the committee met on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 to review the agenda for the February 24, 2021 board meeting. No action was taken.

**Finance
Committee Report**

The Finance Committee met on Friday, February 19, 2021. Ms. Ash reviewed the financial statement and cash activity for January 2021 (E:09:21) and noted anything over \$5,000 in payment from the warrants.

**Authorization for
Payment of
Voucher and
Payroll**

Authorization for payment of vouchers and payroll: Warrant numbers 14643 through 14696 for January 2021 for payment in the amount of \$120,124.25 were presented for approval (E:10:21) by Commissioner Langer. ***Motion to approve passed unanimously.***

**Program
Committee
Update**

The Program Committee met on February 11, 2021. Commissioner Knutsen reported that there were no new or renewal program requests, and no conflicts of interest were reported by commissioners.

**Program
Investment
Recommendations**

Ms. Reese reported on 2 contract modifications. Medical Teams International to extend contract to March 31, 2021 (E:11:21). ***Motion to approve passed unanimously.*** Trinity Lutheran Church to repurpose remaining funds for COVID-19 shelter cleaning. ***Motion to approve passed unanimously.***

Ms. Reese provided information about the projects in the Superintendent's Discretionary funds including the Jean Kim Foundation Hygiene Center, Korean Women's Association and South County Fire.

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**Statement on
Housing**

Dr. Edwards stated that because housing has been identified as a priority by commissioners, in order to fund appropriately and for audit purposes, Verdant must have an approved housing statement. Once approved it will be posted to the public for awareness and clarity that Verdant is not funding capital projects rather housing-related services. The housing statement has been reviewed by Brad Berg and committees and now moves to the board for approval. (E:11:21) ***Motion to approve passed unanimously.***

2021 Grant Process

Ms. Reese reported that the 2021 grant application process started February 15, 2021, and applications will be received through February 26, 2021. Ms. Reese expects to receive both renewals and new funding and has 5 fully submitted applicants. A grant Q&A was held February 9, 2021 with over 53 participants. The session was recorded and is available on Verdant's website and YouTube channel. Verdant staff and a focus group of current grantees reviewed demos from three highly rated electronic grant software companies during the week of February 15, 2021.

**COVID Testing and
Vaccine
Partnerships**

Ms. Reese reported that the mass vaccination site at Edmonds College, run by Seattle Visiting Nurses Association year to date has provided 8,142 vaccinations. Adult Family Home/Long Term Care onsite vaccinations run by South County Fire year to date have provided vaccinations for 80 facilities in district and 1,100 people. MTI testing shows positive test rates are decreasing with 219 tested and 5 positive cases 2021.

**Verdant Program
and Marketing
Highlights**

See exhibit (E:12:21) for updates on program staff and marketing highlights.

Public Comments

Mr. Carl Zapora of Edmonds thanked Verdant for the work being done with Edmonds College.

**Commissioner
Comments**

Commissioner Knutsen thanked Ms. Ash for all her work with Verdant and welcomed Tammy Keuser and Tammy Weenink to the Verdant team.

Commissioner Wilson shared that she was contacted by a community member regarding the Woodway campus fields. The community member thanked Commissioner Wilson for having the fields are open and inquired about the missing lacrosse goals. Commissioner Wilson asked if the school district

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could be contacted to have the lacrosse goals put back on the field. Commissioner Wilson thanked Ms. Ash for all her work over the past few months and expressed appreciation for her dedication to Verdant.

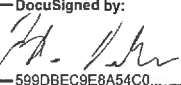
Commissioners Langer, Distelhorst and Knowles also expressed their gratitude to Ms. Ash for all the work she has done for Verdant.

Executive Session President Knowles recessed the regular meeting at 8:57 a.m. and entered into Executive Session to review the qualifications of an applicant for public employment and to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate. President Knowles stated that the board would reconvene at 10:00 a.m. and no action would be taken in Executive Session.

Open Session The board reconvened into Open Session at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

ATTEST BY:

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President

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Secretary