

7/11/22 Commissioners Chris Branch; Andy Hover and Jim DeTro

Thank you for the opportunity today to provide a summary of recent events effecting Mid Valley Hospital and Clinic from the perspective of the current administrative team. We welcome any questions or clarifications you may have.

On Monday, June 27th, 2022, the MVH/C administrative team became aware of the possibility that we could be left with two commissioners by the end of the next board meeting. Out of a deep desire to protect the safety and welfare of this community and viability of this organization, an attorney was retained as a resource for the district to ensure we operate with fiduciary effectiveness.

On Tuesday evening, June 28, three of the five hospital board commissioners resigned: Gary Oestreich, Chairman; Jerry Bowes, Vice-Chairman; and Brent Yusi, commissioner. Reasons for their resignations as stated by them, included declining health, general well-being, and disagreements with the board's current direction. Our attorney was introduced to the remaining board members as a resource, which they refused at the time, stating that they "know the RCW's". The remaining commissioners, entered executive session for approx. 30 minutes and emerged with two appointees, Rebecca Christoph, former MVH DON and Becky Corson, former MVC Clinic Administrator. At that time, Becky Corson was still a paid employee with her last official day on July 1, 2022. Ms. Corson would be officially appointed at the 7/6 special board meeting along with a 5th commissioner, Dr. Richard Johnson.

We have grave concerns that proper rules and procedures were not followed despite efforts from the public and Commissioner Branch to intervene. The rapid appointment of three board commissioners without seeking public participation and input is alarming and lends the appearance of subterfuge. In the meeting minutes from June 28th, Commissioner LaGrou expressed the need to find a CEO that would "turn this ship around". We want to make it clear that the MVH/MVC ship is heading in a positive direction and will continue to do so because of the cohesiveness of the current Administrative team. Statements to the contrary are incorrect and exhibits ignorance about national trends of shrinking margins and staffing shortages. The MVH/C team is skilled, knowledgeable, and has been tirelessly working to support staff and the district through these unprecedented times.

Since the June 28th board meeting, Commissioner LaGrou has circumvented established channels of communication with me, Interim CEO and has been increasingly inserting herself into day to day operations and decision making. We have provided more detail in the attached timeline for your review.

To complicate matters further, there have been significant allegations filed internally against board members regarding misconduct and disruptive behavior. It is the responsibility of the Administrative team to ensure a safe and non-hostile workplace and uphold our zero tolerance policy for workplace violence. Commissioner LaGrou was asked on June 30 to participate in mediation to discuss problems and improve relations between the board and executive team members. Her answer continues to be, "I will think about it". The trauma from these allegations has resulted in staff illness, absence, inefficiency, and two administrative team resignations effective today. As a result and to protect the district, we have retained the services of an independent investigative firm to conduct an unbiased and objective investigation. In order to preserve the mental health, well-being and safety of our employees, I the Interim CEO informed the board of commissioners that all communication be directed solely through me and to only come on campus of Mid Valley Hospital or Clinic for board or committee meetings or to seek medical treatment.

In summary, we are gravely concerned that the statements and actions of the hospital board during this time of transition has put the stability of the public hospital district in jeopardy. We desire to work in unison with a board of commissioners that respects the skill and knowledge of our administrative team.

We are here today to ask for your support and guidance through this difficult time.

In attendance today is our Administrative staff who can answer any questions you may have.

Thank you for your time,

Winnie Adams, Interim CEO