

Health Care Task Force

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular Meeting of the Kenai Peninsula Borough's Health Care Task Force was held on December 3, 2010, in the Borough Assembly Chambers, Soldotna, Alaska. Chair Knopp called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

There were present:

Gary Knopp, Chair
Duane Bannock
Jim Golden
Janet Hilleary
John Hoyt
Linda Murphy
Tim Peterson
Rick Ross

Linda Hutchings, Alternate

comprising a quorum of the Task Force.

Also in attendance were:

Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk
Shellie Morgan, Deputy Clerk

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION:

Hoyt moved to approve the agenda,
seconded by Golden.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

President Knopp called for nominations for the office of Task Force Chair.

NOMINATIONS:

Golden nominated Gary Knopp, seconded
by Ross.

Knopp nominated Duane Bannock,
seconded by Hoyt.

Seeing no further nominations, President Knopp closed the nomination period.

President Knopp was elected to the office of Task Force Chair.

Chair Knopp called for nominations for the office of Task Force Vice Chair.

NOMINATIONS: Murphy nominated Duane Bannock,
seconded by Ross.

Golden nominated Rick Ross, seconded by
Peterson.

Seeing no further nominations, Chair Knopp closed the nomination period.

Bannock was elected to the office of Task Force Vice Chair.

NEW BUSINESS

Summary of Events Which Led To Resolution 2010-089 and the Formation of the Task Force

Ross gave a brief synopsis of the events that lead to the review of the structure of the Central Peninsula Hospital by the CPGH, Inc. Board members. He summarized the following concerns which were considered by the board:

- Physician Availability and Recruitment;
- Reimbursement Rates;
- Certificate of Need;
- Health Care Legislation;
- Bundled Payments;
- Association with Regional Hospitals;
- Public Entity Restrictions.

Hoyt reviewed the Medicare reimbursement rates that Central Peninsula Hospital were currently receiving and noted the concern that those rates would potentially be lowered in the very near future.

Ross recommended review of the Memorial Citizen's Commission website (<http://www.memorialcitizenscommission.com>) as it offered valuable information for the Task Force members to consider.

Chair Knopp questioned if the hospital was in danger of failure if the current model was not altered to allow for some type of joint venture. Ross indicated he believed it would still be viable; however, it would not continue to have the type of growth and success it currently displays.

Ross stated the CPGH, Inc. board had two options on the table up until the last week prior to the Ordinance going to the Assembly for consideration.

Golden asked if the board was fulfilling its fiduciary responsibility, when they considered ownership and governance issues in relations to the hospital. Hoyt stated it was the sole driver of the decision to start the review process.

The Task Force discussed inefficiencies which were driven by reimbursement rates; stating those inefficiencies were economic in nature. Hoyt used the new MRI in South Peninsula Hospital as a prime example of an inefficiency incentivized by the Medicare system.

Scope of Work as Defined by Resolution 2010-089: “That the assembly hereby establishes a Health Care Task Force (HCTF) to examine and review the six governance and ownership options considered by CPGH, Inc. for CPH, and to develop a recommendation regarding the future governance and ownership structure for the CPH.”

The scope of work for the Task Force was determined to be as follows:

- Examination and review of all six (6) options considered by CPGH, Inc.;
- Public and transparent review of those options;
- Develop a recommendation for the future governance and ownership structure for Central Peninsula Hospital.

Setting Of Future Meeting Days, Dates And Times

The Task Force agreed to attempt to meet every other Tuesday for the next six months as schedules allowed, starting Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

The Task Force agreed to review the “Draft Criteria and S.W.O.T Analysis” prior to the next meeting. Ross and Hoyt agreed to provide a brief overview of the analysis at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Knopp called for public comment period with none being offered.

TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS

Bannock apologized in advance for the questions he would be asking at future meetings.

Knopp stated he was looking forward to the future meetings and the process.

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Health Care Task Force was set for Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the George A. Navarre Borough Administration building, Assembly Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Task Force, Chairman Knopp adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Johni Blankenship, Borough Clerk

Approved by Task Force _____