

WYOMING MINERS' HOSPITAL BOARD  
THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2012  
CONFERENCE CALL VIA LEADER PHONE

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting of the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Those present were:

Brook Bahson-Gillette  
Albert Battisti – Rock Springs  
David Hornbeck – Casper  
Bill Korhonen – Rock Springs  
Jamie LaValley – Gillette  
Don Stauffenberg – Riverton

Others Present were:

Stephanie Hartford-GR Admin Assistant  
Helen Jerome-Gillette Admin Assistant  
Ken Nelson-Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Mary Ellen Young-Executive Director

Not Present were:

Cliff Knesel – Gillette  
Jamie LaValley - Gillette  
Rose Mosby – Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County Representative

Mary Ellen announced there was a quorum present and the meeting could proceed.

**MEETING AGENDA:**

**1. RULE CHANGES:**

Chapter 1

Proposed Rule changes to Chapter 1 were sent out to all Board members prior to the meeting. There was discussion concerning Section 4. Definitions (e). After the discussion Bill Korhonen moved and Don Stauffenberg seconded to change the language to read: "Resident of Wyoming" means a person who has lived in the state of Wyoming for at least twelve (12) months and have not claimed residency elsewhere. Motion passed unanimously.

Bill Korhonen moved and Don Stauffenberg seconded to accept the proposed changes in Chapter 1 as submitted, including the change above. Motion passed unanimously.

Chapter 2

Proposed Rule changes for Chapter 2 were sent out to all Board members prior to the meeting. There was discussion concerning Section 1. Eligibility for Services (a) (i). After the discussion Don Stauffenberg moved and Gary Wolfe seconded to change the language to read: Be a miner who works, or has worked, at or near the point of extraction of a mineral, engaged in milling or preparing the mineral for use or shipment, removing overburden, removing waste rock from an underground mine, or whose work provides or provided direct support to those activities. Motion passed unanimously.

Don Stauffenberg moved and Gary Wolfe seconded to add a section C under Section 1. Eligibility for Services (a) (i) to read: Persons employed, or who were employed, in plants which manufacture minerals into separate products and are not engaged in the extraction process are not eligible for benefits. Motion passed unanimously.

Don Stauffenberg moved and David Hornbeck seconded to change the wording in Section 1. Eligibility for Services (b) (i) to read: Residency – Any two (2) of the following: current voter registration; current Wyoming driver’s license; or any other information which verifies residency acceptable to the Board. A general hospital stay does not qualify as time toward meeting the residency period. Motion passed unanimously.

Bill Korhonen moved and Gary Wolfe seconded to change the language in Section 1. Eligibility for Services (b) (ii) to read: Employment as a miner - Employment records; W-2 forms; notarized attestation by third parties with personal knowledge of the individual’s employment as a miner; or any other information which verifies employment as a miner. Motion passed unanimously.

After much discussion, Don Stauffenberg moved and Gary Wolfe seconded to change the language in Section 3. Eligibility for Medical Assistance Benefit (a) (i) to read: Be fifty (50) years of age or older or physically unable to work as a miner, have completed a Board registration form, and have established eligibility as provided in Section 1. Motion passed unanimously.

Gary Wolfe moved and David Hornbeck seconded to delete Section 4. Acceptance of Claims (b) (ii) and replace it with the wording: Miners with no insurance may request a Prescription Hardship. The Hardship will be determined on a case by case basis and will be assessed on the miner’s income and prescription expenses. Qualifying miners will be issued a Miners’ Hospital Identification Card which allows pharmacies to charge the entire cost of covered prescriptions, up to the annual maximum allowed under Section 2(a), to the Board, The Prescription Hardship must be renewed every October. Motion passed unanimously.

Gary Wolfe moved and Don Stauffenberg seconded to accept the proposed changes in Chapter 2 as submitted, including the changes above. Motion passed unanimously.

## **2. SHUT DOWN HEARING AID PROGRAM FOR MAY AND JUNE**

Mary Ellen Young, explained to the board that the Hearing Aid account had a balance of \$12,3674.15 as of 3/1/2012. The projected expenses for this account for months April, May and June, based on last year’s expenses, is \$257,000. Mary Ellen worked with the accountant in Cheyenne to move a credit of \$50,525.00 from CCMH to the Hearing Aid program, but even with that increase in funds, the Hearing Aid program will run out of funding prior to June. Mary Ellen made the recommendation to suspend the Hearing Aid program for the months of May and June. Per our rules, any charges incurred in those months would not be able to be submitted for funding at a later date. Gary Wolfe moved and Bill Korhonen seconded that the Hearing Aid program would be suspended for the months of May and June 2012 and will begin again July 1, 2012. Motion passed unanimously.

## **3. EXTEND CCMH WELLNESS CONTRACT FROM OCTOBER 31, 2012 UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR:**

At the last board meeting held in Cheyenne on February 24, 2012, the Board voted to end all Wellness Testing at the end of December 31, 2012 for Campbell County Memorial Hospital. Mary Ellen Young told the board that the current Wellness Contract with CCMH ends October 31, 2012

and asked if the Board wanted to extend the contract until December 31, 2012. After discussion Bill Korhonen moved and Gary Wolf seconded that the Board not extend the Wellness Contract for CCMH past the end date. Motion passed unanimously.

**4. NEXT PHYSICAL MEETING:**

The next board meeting will be in Casper, time to be determined based on the public comment period for the Rules changes, probably around the middle of June.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm