

**MINUTES OF THE KOOTENAY EAST REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**March 14, 2025  
Regional District Office, Cranbrook, BC**

PRESENT: Chair D. Wilks District of Sparwood  
Director K. Cathcart CSRD Electoral Area A (Via Zoom)  
Director G. Jackman RDCK Electoral Area A (Via Zoom)  
Director K. Vandenberghe RDCK Electoral Area C (Via Zoom)  
Alternate Director J. Caravetta RDEK Electoral Area A  
Director S. Doehle RDEK Electoral Area B  
Director R. Gay RDEK Electoral Area C  
Director J. Walter RDEK Electoral Area E  
Director S. Clovechok RDEK Electoral Area F  
Alternate Director B. Csokonay RDEK Electoral Area G (Via Zoom)  
Director W. Price City of Cranbrook  
Director N. Blissett City of Cranbrook  
Director N. Milligan City of Fernie  
Director D. McCormick City of Kimberley  
Director S. Fairbairn District of Elkford  
Director A. Miller District of Invermere  
Director K. Baldwin Town of Creston  
Director C. Hambruch Town of Golden (Via Zoom)  
Director M. Doherty Village of Canal Flats  
Director M. Gray Village of Radium Hot Springs

MEMBERS ABSENT: Director R. Tierney RDCK Electoral Area B  
Director T. McDonald RDEK Electoral Area A  
Director R. Schnider RDEK Electoral Area G

STAFF: S. Tomlin Chief Administrative Officer  
T. Hlushak Corporate Officer  
C. Thom Executive Assistant (Recording Secretary)

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:08pm.

**Election of Chair and Acting Chair**

Tina Hlushak, Corporate Officer, called for nominations for the position of KERHD Chair and Acting Chair for a one-year term.

1478

MOVED by Director Fairbairn

SECONDED by Director McCormick

THAT Director David Wilks be nominated for the position of Chair of the Kootenay East Regional Hospital District Board of Directors.

There being no further nominations, Director David Wilks was declared by acclamation Chair of the Kootenay East Regional Hospital District.

1479

MOVED by Director Wilks

SECONDED by Director Doherty

THAT Director Garry Jackman be nominated for the position of Acting Chair of the Kootenay East Regional Hospital District Board of Directors.

There being no further nominations, Director Garry Jackman was declared by acclamation Acting Chair of the Kootenay East Regional Hospital District.

**Addition of Late Items**

1480

MOVED by Director Baldwin

SECONDED by Director Doherty

THAT the following late items for the agenda be approved:

- Ground Transportation to Kelowna
- Letter to the Minister of Health

CARRIED

**Adoption of the Agenda**

1481

MOVED by Director Miller

SECONDED by Director Gray

THAT the agenda for the KERHD Board of Directors meeting be adopted, as amended.

CARRIED

**Adoption of the Minutes**

**November 8, 2024 Meeting**

1482

MOVED by Director Fairbairn

SECONDED by Director Walter

THAT the Minutes of the KERHD Board of Directors meeting held on November 8, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

**Invited Presentations & Delegations**

**East Kootenay Foundation for Health - 2025 Fundraising Initiatives and Anticipated Projects**

Brenna Hong, Executive Director, East Kootenay Foundation for Health, provided an update on current and upcoming projects that the Foundation is involved in within the East Kootenay Interior Health region.

**Primary Care Network Update**

Shannon Statham, Director, Clinical Operations, Primary Care, Interior Health, Sarah Loehr, East Kootenay Division of Family Practice and Dr. Allison Clare, reviewed the East Kootenay Primary Care Network explaining the value of continuity in primary care and provided an overview of achievements and challenges for primary care in the Golden area.

**Interior Health Authority - 2025/2026 Capital Funding Request**

Todd Mastel, Corporate Director, Business Operations, Interior Health, and Lindsay Hetu, Executive Director, Clinical Operations, Interior Health, reviewed the capital funding request for the 2025/2026 fiscal year advising that the funding request incorporates construction projects, IH-wide digital health and improvements and expansions to make spaces safer for staff and patients.

The meeting recessed at 2:17pm and reconvened at 2:22pm.

**New Business**

**2024 Audit Planning Report from BDO Canada LLP**

1483

MOVED by Director Gray

SECONDED by Director Milligan

THAT BDO Canada LLP be advised for the purposes of the audit, the appropriate person in the governance structure with whom to communicate, is the Board Chair.

CARRIED

**2025 KERHD Invited Presentations**

1484

MOVED by Director Gay

SECONDED by Director Doherty

THAT the following persons or organizations be invited to present at a KERHD Board meeting:

- BC Emergency Health Services
- East Kootenay Foundation for Health
- Angel Flight
- Pete Davis, Kootenay-Rockies MLA
- Brittney Anderson, Kootenay Central MLA
- Scott McInnis, Columbia River-Revelstoke MLA

CARRIED

**2025 KERHD Board Meeting Dates – Proposed Date Change**

1485

MOVED by Director Doherty

SECONDED by Director Walter

THAT the Regular meetings of the KERHD Board of Directors be:

- June 11, 2025
- September 10, 2025
- December 10, 2025

and further, that the meetings commence at 1:00 pm.

IN FAVOUR: Director Doherty

DEFEATED

**STARS Air Ambulance Request for Funding**

1486

MOVED by Director Gay

SECONDED by Director Gray

THAT the STARS Air Ambulance funding request of \$2.00 per capita in supplemental funding for air ambulance support be denied.

OPPOSED: Director Fairbairn

CARRIED

**Patient Return Transportation (Discussion)**

Director Karen Cathcart spoke to a matter related to patient transport by ambulance between Golden and the East Kootenay Regional Hospital of which Interior Health explained the protocol to transfer patients back to their local area.

**Kimberley Health Centre - 2025 Funding Request**

Director Don McCormick declared a conflict of interest on the next item and left the meeting at 3:32pm.

1487

MOVED by Director Price

SECONDED by Director Fairbairn

THAT consideration of further funding towards the renovation of the Kimberley Health Centre be postponed pending receipt of Council support from the City of Kimberley.

OPPOSED: Director Doherty, Director Gray, Director Hambruch, Director Jackman, Director Miller, Director Walter, Director Wilks, and Alternate Director Csokonay

CARRIED

Director Don McCormick returned to the meeting at 3:56pm.

**2025 Annual Budget and Interior Health 2025-2026 Capital Funding Request**

1488

MOVED by Director Wilks

SECONDED by Director Clovechok

THAT the 2025/2026 Interior Health capital funding request be approved, except for the following projects:

- Golden Primary Care Network Additional Funding

DEFEATED

1489

MOVED by Director Gray

SECONDED by Director Milligan

THAT the 2025/2026 Interior Health capital funding request be approved.

OPPOSED: Director Vandenberghe

CARRIED

**Bylaws**

**Bylaw No. 137 (Annual Budget Bylaw)**

1490

MOVED by Director Gay

SECONDED by Director Miller

THAT Bylaw No. 137 cited as "Kootenay East Regional Hospital District - Annual Budget Bylaw No. 137, 2025." be read a first, second and third time.

CARRIED

1491

MOVED by Director Milligan

SECONDED by Director Doherty

THAT Bylaw No. 137 cited as "Kootenay East Regional Hospital District - Annual Budget Bylaw No. 137, 2025." be adopted.

CARRIED

**Bylaw No. 138 (Capital Expenditure Bylaw)**

1492

MOVED by Director Gray

SECONDED by Director Price

THAT Bylaw No. 138 cited as "Kootenay East Regional Hospital District - Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 138, 2025." be read a first, second and third time.

OPPOSED: Director Wilks

CARRIED

1493

MOVED by Director Gray

SECONDED by Director Price

THAT Bylaw No. 138 cited as "Kootenay East Regional Hospital District - Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 138, 2025." be adopted.

OPPOSED: Director Wilks

CARRIED

**Bylaw No. 139 (Capital Expenditure Bylaw)**

1494

MOVED by Director McCormick  
SECONDED by Director Doehle

THAT Bylaw No. 139 cited as "Kootenay East Regional Hospital District - Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 139, 2025." be read a first, second and third time.

CARRIED

1495

MOVED by Director Baldwin  
SECONDED by Director Walter

THAT Bylaw No. 139 cited as "Kootenay East Regional Hospital District - Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 139, 2025." be adopted.

CARRIED

**Late Agenda Items**

**Ground Transportation to Kelowna**

Director Keith Baldwin, spoke on the concept of InterCare BC, a bus service for enhanced regional patient travel from Cranbrook to Kelowna General Hospital for specialized treatment.

Director Mike Gray left the meeting at 4:28pm.

**Letter to Minister of Health**

1496

MOVED by Director Doehle  
SECONDED by Director Clovechok

THAT a letter be sent to the Minister of Health outlining the challenges within the East Kootenay Regional Hospital, and advocating for and committing to partner in funding the following new facilities:

- a detox treatment facility in the region; and
- a new hospital tower at Kootenay East Regional Hospital.

CARRIED

**Adjourn to Closed**

1497

MOVED by Director Fairbairn  
SECONDED by Director Clovechok

THAT the meeting adjourn to a Closed KERHD Board of Directors meeting to consider the following matter:

Capital Project Priorities - Section 90(2)(b) of the *Community Charter* - the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the Provincial Government and a third party.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned to closed at 4:32pm.

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Chair David Wilks

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Tina Hlushak, Corporate Officer