

**MINUTES FROM THE SPECIAL MEETING  
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF SWEETWATER COUNTY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**January 8, 2025**

The Board of Trustees of Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County met for dinner and a special meeting on January 8, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. at Boar's Tusk Restaurant in Rock Springs, Wyoming, with Dr. Barbara Sowada, President, presiding.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Sowada called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.. She welcomed the Foundation Board of Directors and thanked everyone for participating and making it happen. The following Trustees were present: Judge Nena James, Ms. Kandi Pendleton, Mr. Craig Rood, and Dr. Barbara Sowada. Not in attendance: Mr. Marty Kelsey.

The following Foundation Board of Directors were present: Ms. Gina Harvey, Mr. Matt Jackman, Ms. Tiffany Kindel, Mr. Rick Lee, Dr. Joseph Oliver, Mr. Justin Spicer, and Mr. Dolan Wire. Not in attendance: Mr. Jim Jessen.

Officially present during the meeting: Ms. Irene Richardson, Chief Executive Officer; Ms. Kayla Mannikko, Foundation Executive Director.

Guests: Ms. Cory Darlington, Foundation Coordinator; Ms. Cindy Nelson, Chief Experience Officer.

**BOARD PRESIDENT REMARKS**

Dr. Sowada invited everyone to share information about themselves and why they serve on their respective Board. The overall message shared by everyone is the desire to make a difference and give back to our community. Dr. Sowada stressed the need for both Boards. She said it takes a village to run a hospital and it takes absolutely everyone to make a community hospital work well. Dr. Sowada said she doesn't think we look in the mirror often enough to see all we are doing.

**FOUNDATION PRESIDENT REMARKS**

Mr. Jackman thanked the Board of Trustees for the invitation to meet. He asked Ms. Mannikko to provide an update. Ms. Mannikko referenced the strategic plan. She said a lot has been done and we still have a lot to do. She said we are excited to build the donor base. Ms. Mannikko said we feel honored to be in this room together with everyone who chooses to be here. We are working to build new connections and want feedback on how to improve.

**HOSPITAL REPORT**

Ms. Richardson said she has numerous clocks in her office and they symbolize the importance of time. The time spent by the Trustees and Board of Directors is priceless. She said we have a wonderful hospital. She thanked everyone for their time, commitment, and belief in the Hospital. She said we believe in what we are doing and we are completely committed to the Hospital. Ms. Richardson said we couldn't do it without direction, guidance, and the help of our Board and the

Foundation Board. Ms. Richardson provided an update on our move to Critical Access Hospital status. She said we have been working on this for about two years. She said it is basically a different method of payment and is expected to be a large benefit to the Hospital. Ms. Richardson said she thinks this will secure us remaining our local hospital for years to come. She thanked everyone again and repeated the time given is priceless.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

*Dr. Barbara Sowada, President*

Attest:

*Judge Nena James, Secretary*