



NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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Joint Labor, Health & Social Services Interim Committee Meets Northern Wyoming Daily News

The Joint Labor, Health and Services Interim committee meeting started Monday in Lovell and resumed Tuesday at the Wyoming Retirement Center in Basin.

Tuesday's open meeting in Basin was to discuss the future of the Wyoming Retirement Center, with public comment.

After a brief tour of the facility the meeting began with an overview of what the committee was considering and why.

The general public was given time to comment and ask questions after the recap with one gentleman standing up half way through the public comment part of the meeting giving the committee a thumbs down and walking out.

State Rep. Nathan Winters, R – Thermopolis, said, "What you're doing here under section 2, under skilled nursing facility, is essentially duplicating the services that can be currently found in this state, in Basin, rather than Lander." (Section II of the proposed legislative bill is in regard to the Wyoming Life Resource Center, which would expand their duties to include a skilled nursing facility.) "We already have an excellent facility that is available here, with adequate space, if we needed to, as more and more baby boomers are moving into the retirement phase in this

state and across the country, we already have the ability to meet those upcoming needs. And I do appreciate the co-chairs statement that this facility has developed a need, I would also repeat though that that need can be filled now for the State of Wyoming, right here in this facility."

Wyoming Retirement Center resident Shirley Ann Elliot told her tear-filled story about how she ended up at WRC and finished her statement with, "This is my home. It saved my life. I want the task force and the state congressmen, our senators and representatives to realize how important this center is. I wouldn't be alive without it! This is the only home I have ... This is my home, give me a chance."

South Big Horn Hospital Administrator Jackie Claudson said, "I think that if nothing else, what they're doing, is their saying to us right now, not that we want to close the Retirement Center, but community it's your turn to step up and figure out what we need ... I think we are going to need to come together as a community to protect our community and our state, if we don't protect our state we aren't protecting our community."

John Worrall Sr. of Worland said, "Mary (his wife) has excellent care and she's well

accepted, tended and cared for here. In the long run if I take her from here, that's it."

There were four recommendations that may affect not only the Wyoming Retirement Center in Basin but also the Wyoming State Hospital in Evanston and the Wyoming Life resource Center in Lander according to the Nov. 1, 2014 Interim Report:

1(a) Integrate acute, intermediate and long-term care across the Wyoming State Hospital and the Wyoming Life Resource Center. In this option, the Wyoming Retirement Center would be privatized or closed. Cost to be determined.

Other alternatives included in the interim report were:

- All facilities would remain in place, but the facilities would specialize in the type of care offered. In this option, three facilities – the Wyoming State Hospital, Wyoming Life Resource Center, and Wyoming Retirement Center – would work together. The Wyoming Retirement Center would focus on long term care. Cost \$113 million.
- All facilities stay the same. Cost \$113 million.
- One new centralized facility – the Wyoming State Hospital, Wyoming Life Resource Center and the Wyoming Retirement Center - would be closed. Cost \$90 million.

WHA Calendar:

WHA PAC Golf Tournament	9/1
WHA/Leading Age Annual Meeting & Convention Casper	9/2-9/3

Other Events:

Labor, Health & Social Services Committee Buffalo	10/19-10/20



Don't forget to send us a story about your hospital so we can feature you in our Member Spotlight



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WPH Includes Pediatrics in Expansion

As West Park Hospital (WPH) expands facilities and services, so does the need to bring more medical staff to Cody.

CEO Doug McMillan is excited about recent physician recruits.

Internist Courtney Spencer started in June and pediatrician Peter Sidor and pediatric nurse practitioner Lori Hipwell will start seeing children in the hospital's

clinic in September.

Long term, they will work from a pediatric and obstetrics clinic in the Cathcart Health Center, opened six years ago.

Critics said the 60,000 square-foot building was too big, would never be filled, and therefore a waste of money.

"In January 90-95 percent will be occupied," McMillan said. "We antici-

pated future growth, but because it wasn't full (when first built), the community didn't support it."

Another physician, radiation oncologist Michael Smith, has committed to Cody.

"While the unexpected need to expand poses some problems, seeing growth is good."

WYCODE/Lucas2 Training

There is the potential to open an extra site for a WYCODE/Lucas2 training on Oct. 7, 2015 for those agencies who were unable to attend one of the 11 statewide/regional trainings.

There are also openings for those agencies that have already received their device but wish to send additional students to a training.

Please note that this is the last coordinated training this year with the Physio-Control Lucas2 expert team.

This course is limited to

20 students and will be CANCELLED if there are less than 5 students registered. If the course is cancelled, additional trainings may be scheduled through your regional trainers.

Registration deadline is September 17, 2015.

If you are interested in this special training, please go to <http://goo.gl/forms/xdDAAlwZcQ> and register.

You may also visit the OEMS/WYCODE webpage and register there! <http://health.wyo.gov/sho/ems/wycode.html>

[wycode.html](http://health.wyo.gov/sho/ems/wycode.html)

Thank you to all of you who have made this project successful and who are committed to providing the best care to our communities!

Please pass this information on to your trauma coordinators, ED and PCI unit managers.

If you have questions, do not hesitate to ask the WYCODE team.

Contact information is available at: <http://health.wyo.gov/sho/ems/wycode.html>

SMH is 2nd in State to Achieves HIMSS Stage 6

Congratulations to Sheridan Memorial Hospital (SMH)!

The organization recently achieved Healthcare Information and Management Systems (HIMSS) Stage 6 – a measure that puts the hospital on the forefront of Electronic Health Record adoption.

Stage 6 hospitals have made significant executive commitments and invest-

ments to reach this esteemed stage, according to HIMSS Analytics.

These hospitals have almost fully automated/paperless medical records and have begun to create strategic alignments with their medical staff to effectively utilize information technology to improve the patient safety environment.

Stage 6 is an important

indicator that the organization delivers high quality patient care with an interoperable Electronic Medical Record in place.

This achievement positions SMH very well to attest for Stage 2 Meaningful Use.

This is truly a remarkable achievement and Sheridan Memorial Hospital is being recognized as the second in the state with this accomplishment.