

NEWS BRIEFS

Informational Newsletter for Wyoming Hospitals

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WHA Calendar:

WHA Annual Meeting
Sheridan

9/20-
9/21

WHA Golf Tournament
Buffalo, WY

9/19

Other Events:

Wyoming Medical Society Annual Meeting
Jackson

6/2-6/4

Annual Wyoming Quality Conference
Casper

8/9-
8/10

WHA Trustee Recap - Fundamentals of Good Governance

The 2017 WHA Trustee Education conference was conducted in Casper last week, with excellent attendance and participation from local hospital board members statewide.

Bob Harris, CAE, was engaged for this year's core content, using the morning to focus on board performance, definitions of roles and responsibilities, with an open forum to share common issues and challenges.

Harris focused on the purpose of the board - to govern the organization, dissecting the responsibilities into five high-level areas. Of key importance, Harris stressed that Board discussions should be strategic and visionary. No aspect of Board service is about personal gain, but rather advancing the statement of mission and purpose to benefit the hospital's service to the community. Effective Board's set clear direction for the professional staff to work towards the identified objectives.

Elements of Governance

Mission Focused – the mission will frame nearly every decision of the board.

Culture of Trust – little will be achieved without trust amongst the leadership and staff. Trust on a board is built

upon accountability, transparency and integrity.

Board/CEO Partnership – it takes a balanced partnership to advance the mission and goals. The board focuses on strategic governance while administrative staff is accountable for sound management.



Strategic Plan – the road map is the strategic plan, clarifying goals and priorities for multiple years.

Access to Information – it would be difficult to govern without access to information. It begins with on-boarding of new directors and continues with reliable lines of communication. No trustee should feel left out of the loop.

The balance of the agenda provided opportunity for Janet Bastian & Neil Hilton to unveil plans for reintroducing the "Best on Board" online trustee education for WHA member hospitals to enroll

and participate. Recognizing the strong desire for good, consistent, well-grounded trustee basics – this program provides live content that very closely mirrors and supports the best practices presented by Bob Harris.

The six-module "Essentials of Healthcare Governance" serves as an effective new board member orientation, while expanding upon details that are proven to be of great value and benefit to trustees at all levels of experience and tenure. All hospitals will be receiving information regarding the formal rollout of this program and how to enroll and participate going forward.

Ron Purcell, as the AHA Regional Executive serving Wyoming, and WHA's Eric Boley rounded out the day with an extensive review of federal and state-based legislative initiatives.

WHA clearly views the annual Trustee Education conference to be among the most important ventures of the service year – as diligent, sound, effective hospital governance at the local level is ultimately of highest priority and benefit for all hospitals statewide.



WCHS Completes Phase I Construction Project

In the fall of 2015, Weston County Health Services began an extensive three phase construction project. The first phase of the project was complete in January 2017. An Open House was held on February 24, 2017 for the community to see the completed work.

The new 10 room patient wing at the hospital was the first of the new areas to be occupied followed by the two additions in Weston Manor. The kitchen and dining room moved from

the basement to the main floor making it more efficient to serve food to hospital patients and residents. The nursing home dining room was extended adding room for visitors. A visitor and employee dining room is adjacent to it with an accordion door making more room when needed.

A new front entrance welcomes patients with registration desks that offer privacy. To the left of the lobby, Weston County Pharmacy is accessible for patients to fill their prescriptions either by walk-in or via a drive-thru and is open

seven days a week. The laboratory size was increased and relocated to the center of the facility,

Another elevator was added giving additional to access the basement. Currently, it is used frequently by therapy patients since Therapy Services has moved to the old cafeteria while their space is being renovated during the second phase of construction. The tentative completion date for the entire construction project is the end of the year. The Emergency Department will be remodeled during the last phase which should begin this summer.



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

Patient and Family Engagement Projects

KEPRO is embarking on an exciting new project that will encourage Medicare beneficiaries and their families to be more involved in their health care.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) explains PFE as making sure that the patient/beneficiary is respected and that his/her needs are met in a timely

manner. In PFE, the patient's voice is crucial to improve the quality and safety of health care.

The Patient and Family Engagement (PFE) projects will reflect beneficiary and family perspectives and needs; provide opportunities for beneficiary engagement and education; foster improved case review experiences for patients, their fam-

ilies, and clinicians; and encourage proactive communication and partnered decision-making between healthcare providers and patients, families, and caregivers.

For more information, visit the QIO Program PFE Overview at <http://qioprogram.org/person-and-family-engagement> or KEPRO's PFE website page at <https://www.keproqio.com/bene/pfe.aspx>

Forslund Named as Director of DFS

Governor Matt Mead has named Tom Forslund as the director of the Department of Family Services (DFS). Forslund is currently the director of the Department of Health and will continue to lead that agency as well. He replaces Steve Corsi who recently announced his resignation to accept a

position out of state.

"I wanted to provide the Department of Family Services immediate leadership while assessing the best long-term approach for the agency," said Mead. "Tom Forslund is an extraordinary administrator. He has proven his capability at the Department of Health and is well able to manage both

agencies."

"Director Corsi has been an integral member of my cabinet for more than six years – the longest tenure of a Wyoming DFS director," Governor Mead said. "He has brought good insight and perspective to the agency. I appreciate his service and wish him success in his new endeavors."

Wyoming Hospital Association

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