

Orcas Island Health Care District  
Minutes of October 16, 2025  
Board of Commissioners  
Special Board Meeting

**Commissioners Present:**

Mark Salierno  
Diane Boteler  
Chelsie Guilford  
Trey Holland  
Alison Sanders

**Staff:**

Chris Chord, Superintendent  
Ellen Fraser, Administrative Assistant

**I. Call To Order – Special Board Meeting**

President Salierno called the October 16<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with a quorum of commissioners present.

**II. Land Acknowledgement & Mission Minute**

Superintendent Chord opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement. Commissioner Sanders shared a message about the Community Health Network public forum and Commissioner Guilford shared regarding DentALL's commitment to see Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) children at the preschool.

**III. Commissioner Additions to Board Agenda**

Mr. Ely financial business will be added to the agenda after long range forecasting.  
Commissioner Boteler doesn't want additional clinic services lost in the budget – add to budget discussion.

**IV. Special Meeting Public Comment**

No public comment.

**V. Consent Agenda**

**Motion to approve** the following consent agenda made by Commissioner Guilford; seconded by Commissioner Boteler. Motion approved 5 – 0.

- a. **Regular Board Meeting Minutes – 09/24/2025**
- b. **AP Voucher Report – 10/07/2025 - \$35,081.06**

**VI. Island Health Quarterly Board Presentation**

Aaimee Johnson, Clinic Manager at Island Health Primary Care – Orcas, presented the Island Health quarterly report highlighting provider visits and updates on clinical excellence goals. Island Health held a strategic action brainstorming session for long-term planning of management and clinical services.

### **VIII. Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Chord provided an update on the September financials as well as updates on the Building and Governance Committees. The Operations Committee highlighted that more communication is needed regarding Clinic after-hours messaging.

Superintendent Chord shared updates regarding Orcas dental access and the progress of the SJC Community Health Network. He also updated the Board regarding a facilitator proposal for the January 2026 Strategic Board Retreat and Commissioner Guilford shared an update on Dementia Friendly Orcas.

### **IX. Orcas Community Resource Center – 2025 OIHCD Support Impact**

Greg Guzauskas, Board Member for the Orcas Community Resource Center, shared appreciation for the 2025 community support grant of \$40,000 and asked that it continue in the 2026 budget. He shared an appreciation graphic along with an itemized list of how their clients used the money – for medical support, medical travel support and vision support. He requested that the board allow up to \$10,000 of the possible 2026 funding be used for staffing support.

### **X. Old Business**

#### **a. Island Primary Care – Orcas Contract Review**

Island Health has proposed an increased service fee plus an additional amount depending on the revenue loss from Medicare/Medicaid. Uncompensated care is a separate budget line item, apart from the base service fee and would be unknown for 1-2 years. There is a concern for a possible 30% loss of Medicaid income to the clinic plus the inability for people to afford insurance. There may be more uninsured clients or difficulty paying health care costs.

The Board discussed that for the 2026 budget year they must be very judicious with spending. They will explore a possible operational endowment for additional primary care services, philanthropy and fund raising directly related to capital funding for the clinic. The Finance Committee's recommendation is to reduce primary expansion dollars in the 2026 budget to \$100,000.

### **XI. OIHCD 2026 Draft Budget**

The Board went through the 2026 draft budget line by line and suggested several changes.

Superintendent Chord invited Mr. Dale Ely to share his financial projections regarding the temporary levy lid lift approved in the April 2025 Ballot Measure. Mr. Ely concluded that the numbers presented by the Board were understated. President Salierno thanked Mr. Ely and responded that there are different methodologies for calculations.

### **XII. New Business**

#### **a. Financial Management Policy Changes**

A draft Financial Management Policy was circulated and discussed. President Salierno suggested making the budget changes and vote on the new policy at the next meeting.

**b. Strategic Board Retreat Consultant Proposal**

Superintendent Chord is pleased with the direction that the potential facilitation consultant is proposing for the Board Retreat. The Board Retreat will be in early January and following that, the consultant would do a follow-up session at one of our board meetings.

**Motion to approve** the contract with Board Retreat consultant made by Commissioner Holland; seconded by Commissioner Guilford. Motion approved 5 - 0.

**XIII. Public Comment**

- Mr. Ely commented regarding the OCRC funding request, that if \$10,000 goes to administrative/staffing costs then 25% of the community members would be underserved.
- Aaimée Johnson thanked the Board for the thoughtfulness of difficult financial decisions. She shared her perspective on uninsured patients prior to the Affordable Care Act and mentioned that the Mobile Integrated Health program is eligible for reimbursement but it takes a lot of work. She also wanted the Board to know that two of the front desk applicants rejected the employment offer because of low salary.

**XIV. Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn** the October 16<sup>th</sup> Special Board Meeting made by Commissioner Boteler; seconded by Commissioner Guilford. Motion approved 5 - 0. Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

**Minutes approved this 06<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2025.**

*Chelsie Guilford*

Chelsie Guilford (Nov 10, 2025 10:56:40 PST)

**Attest: Chelsie Guilford, OIHCD Board Secretary**