

Orcas Island Health Care District
Minutes of February 23, 2026
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

President Salierno called the February 23rd Special Board Meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. with a quorum of commissioners present.

II. Land Acknowledgement & Mission Minute

President Salierno highlighted the teamwork of the Board and community members and hopes that will continue to grow. Superintendent Chord read the land acknowledgement.

III. Special Meeting Public Comment

David Zoeller commented on the dental program and the challenges to meet community needs in light of new legislation.

IV. 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 – 01/28/2026**
- b. **AP Voucher Report – 02/10/2026 - \$66,188.05**

V. Strategic Planning Retreat Follow-up

Tim Corey of Colibri Facilitation shared an overview report of the January 17th Board Retreat. His hope is that the board and staff continue to spend time on the collaborative framework and working together. Superintendent Chord added that communication tools and strategies will be a key in our internal and external communication. He also summarized the six categories that make up the identified priorities and future strategies. The Board discussed the priorities and communication strategies further.

Superintendent Chord requested a process to evaluate the progress of priorities. It was suggested that District finances will be discussed briefly every month and in detail alternating months. Priorities are divided out on a spreadsheet and will be discussed quarterly.

Superintendent Chord also requested a decision-making/communication tool to aid him in communicating efficiently. Possible tools will be discussed at the March Board Meeting.

VI. Superintendent Report

Superintendent Chord provided an update on the 2025 end of year financials highlighting out of budget items. President Salierno requested an updated balance sheet to review in March. January and February finances will be discussed at the March Board Meeting.

He also reported on the progress of the Building and Facilities Planning Committee. Contracts are in progress for financing and legal advising, architecture and engineering, and surveying. A water leak has been fixed in the clinic and an interlocal agreement between the Orcas Fire, Library and the Health Care District is in progress.

Superintendent Chord shared that the Operations Committee meets every second month and provided an update on the clinic staffing. There is some concern that AmBetter insurance is not widely accepted.

Superintendent Chord reported that the District has formally ended the contract with our policy advisor/lobbyist. Language has been added to the Washington Administrative Code that mandates rebasing for all Medicare Cost Report clinics when a change in scope occurs. Adding dental service under the auspices of Island Health would cause a significant decrease in their reimbursement rate. OICF will continue to support the dental program. President Salierno commended Superintendent Chord on his hard work to support the dental program.

Superintendent Chord and the Commissioners discussed the Orcas Community Health Projects and requested District funding. The Board had further questions that will be discussed further at the March Board Meeting.

VII. Old Business

a. Orcas Community Resource Center Financial Support Contract

The commissioners used the OCRC financial support request as an opportunity to discuss creating a formal policy for evaluating funding requests. Superintendent Chord will ask that OCRC sign a contract that mirrors the 2025 contract language while the district determines the administrative funding request.

VIII. New Business

a. DLR Group Architecture & Engineering Firm Contract

Motion to approve the Professional Service Agreement made by Commissioner Holland; seconded by Commissioner Guilford. Motion approved 5 - 0.

b. PFM Public Financing Advising Consulting Contract

Motion to approve the contract with PFM made by Commissioner Holland; seconded by Commissioner Guilford. Motion approved 5 - 0.

c. Community Health Network / CHIP Process Memorandum of Understanding

The County requested that participants sign an MOU as a formal commitment to participate in the Community Health Network / CHIP Process. There is nothing binding in the agreement so a motion was not required for Superintendent Chord to sign the MOU.

d. GiveOrcas Application for Home Care Collaboration Support

Motion to approve the GiveOrcas application to support the home care collaborative made by Commissioner Guilford; seconded by Commissioner Boteler. Motion approved 5 - 0.

IX. Public Comment

David Zoeller suggested that it be clear that no district funds would be available for the Home Care Collaboration in the GiveOrcas application. He also shared the need for the district to continue to advocate with Island Health for the Orcas clinic staff and services. He also wanted to ensure that the clinic be kept up to date regarding the Mobile Integrated Health program. He expressed strong appreciation of the Health Care District.

X. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn the February 23rd Special Board Meeting made by Commissioner Boteler; seconded by Commissioner Guilford. Motion approved 5 - 0. Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Minutes approved this 25th day of March, 2026.

Chelsie Guilford

Chelsie Guilford (Mar 31, 2026 20:35:54 PDT)

Attest: Chelsie Guilford, OIHCD Board Secretary

2026_02_23 Special Board Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-04-01

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