

Pend Oreille Hospital District
MINUTES
February 24, 2026

A meeting of the **Board of Trustees of the Pend Oreille Hospital District** was held in the HSB Monarch/Cabinet Room.

Present: Chair: Tom Lawrence, Chad Bailey, Dwayne Sheffler, Bart Casey and Whitney Lilly.

Others present: John Hennessy, CEO, Skyler Twidt, CFO, Erin Binnall, Clinic Director and Stacey Good, CMO

Attendance on MS Teams: None

Public Attendance: Cynthia Dalsing, NP

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 AM by Tom L.

Business:

1. **Approval of Agenda.** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Dwayne seconded by Whitney. Approved by 4 yea votes.
2. **Approval of Minutes** from January 27, 2026. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Chad seconded by Dwayne. Approved by 4 yea votes.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** The December Treasurer's Report was reviewed by Skyler T., CFO.

Beginning balance 1/1/26 \$4,156.68

County Warrant deposits: Received 5 County Warrants on **12/30/2025 for \$6,442.19, 1/5/2026 for \$44,961.63 and \$331.44, 1/15/2026 for \$914,839.82 and \$6,889.53 for a total of \$973, 464.61.** Payments to BGH \$330,456.44 for December clinic funding. Account balance end of **January \$647,164.85.**

February activity to 2/23/26 - Received 3 County Warrants for \$62,040.32 total with today's **account balance being \$709,180.17.**

Bart made the motion to approve receipt of the County Warrants and accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Dwayne. Approved by 4 yea votes.

4. Funding requests for January POHD Clinics are as follows:

a. Sandpoint Women's Health:	\$25,876.63
b. Behavioral Health Clinic	\$59,913.63
c. Ophthalmology Clinic	\$39,850.63
d. CMC Insurance	\$4947.00

Total Funding Request for January: \$130,587.90

5. Discussion was held on the clinic financials. Dwayne made the motion to fully fund. Discussion was held and Chad seconded. Approved by 4 yea votes.
6. Travelers Insurance Quote was off by the \$100 fee last month. Check was cancelled and paid by the hospital. Motion to approve reimbursing the hospital for \$4947 by Whitney seconded by Dwayne. Approved with 4 yea votes.
7. Public Comment: Cynthia attended to bring attention to the positive response at the January OB/Gyn meeting at the library and suggest Bonner General have representation at the next meeting to clear up misconceptions. She also brought concerns about the state of rural hospitals and information on the Idaho Academy of Family Physicians rural hospital survey and discussion.

8. Board Education: Dr. Lawrence presented information from the NW Symposium. IHA spoke on the state of rural hospitals. Key points:
 - a. Rural hospitals across the nation are banding together for greater leverage with legislation, insurance and pharmaceuticals.
 - b. Nationwide - rural hospitals are struggling: 206 have closed in last two years, 417 are vulnerable (in the red), 331 quit OB services, 314 quit surgery and 448 quit oncology.
 - c. 56% of rural hospitals in Idaho are in the red.
9. Open Discussion:
 - a. Big Beautiful Bill (BBB) update by John: Based on the application submitted by the state, Idaho is set to receive \$186 million split over five years. There is conflict between the house and senate on how to disperse the funds to the 27 rural hospitals and 56 federally qualified health centers. Idaho could end up losing out on any funds unless a resolution is found.
 - b. Dr. Good added that BBB funds must be applied for and there is disparity in resources available to spend the need time and attention to writing applications – especially when a large health system such as Kootenai has greater resources available.
 - c. Dr. Good addressed some of the challenges with funding the clinics which include high rent, EMR insufficiencies and lack of efficiency in the manual labor of coding.
10. Next meeting is March 24, 2026 The meeting will be in the HSB Monarch/Cabinet Room at 7 a.m.
11. With no other business to be brought before the Board, Dwayne made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Chad and was approved, 4 yea votes. The meeting adjourned at 7:43 am.

Respectfully submitted, Kim Kichenmaster, Secretary