

APPROVED

**City of Ketchikan &
PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center**

Healthcare Advisory Committee Meeting

July 25, 2024

1. Call to Order:

The Healthcare Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Lacey Simpson at 9:03 a.m. This meeting took place in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 334 Front Street, Ketchikan, Alaska. A WebEx option was available at this location and included four participants.

2. Roll Call:

Committee Members Present:

City of Ketchikan

Lacey Simpson - Vice-Chair
Amanda Robinson - City Member
Judy Zenge – City Member
Kim Stanker - City Clerk

PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center

Scott Smith - PeaceHealth Member
Clay Keene - PeaceHealth Board Member
Lori Medvid - Executive Assistant

Committee Members Absent:

Dori Stevens - Chair

Call in: Kate Govaars, Becky Harris, Myrna
Johannsen

3. Communications:

None

4. Persons to be Heard:

- Lisa DeLaet, Ketchikan Wellness Coalition, addressed the committee with a desire to ensure the city of Ketchikan, PeaceHealth and the new mental health provider (IRIS Telehealth) follow Alaska State Statute. Title 47, Chapter 30 requirements. There was an update in May. Mrs. DeLaet wants to make sure all parties are following the current statute. She also addressed Bridge Services with IRIS Telehealth (PeaceHealth), which assists with patients following a mental health hold. She addresses the possibility

of PeaceHealth being able to add up to 10 more beds specific for mental health holds. She asked that this be investigated if possible.

- Becky Harris, Ketchikan residence and PeaceHealth employee, is wanting to know about the response time for a Title 47 hold. Scott Smith will follow up with Mrs. Harris and provide a clear answer on response time. Mrs. Harris stated the current response time is 1 – 3 hours. She is asking for a quicker response time. Mrs. Harris is also requesting those patients who do not qualify for a hold if PeaceHealth Psychiatry can 'hold' appointments for these patients.

5. Approval of Minutes:

Following a review and brief discussion of a proposed amendment to the draft minutes from the April 25, 2024, Healthcare Advisory Committee meeting, and there being no further discussion, nor objections, the committee unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

6. Old Business:

A. Update on Behavioral Health Services at KMC

Scott Smith providing an update on the Behavioral Health services at PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center following the exit of Akeela. He confirmed the DES designation remains intact. The short-term Bridge Plan was put into place to work with local providers for outpatient behavioral health patients until IRIS Telehealth, who will be providing support for Title 47 holds, gets set up and on board. IRIS will be a 24/7 program. Mr. Smith reiterated the remaining community needs are as follows: Outpatient behavioral health services, residential substance abuse program, reduction in homeless shelter beds. These services will not be met by PeaceHealth, but through other providers.

B. Same Day Clinic

Mr. Smith went over the Same Day Clinic volume since it's opening. The number of patients seen is on the rise. The expectation is that this trend will continue to rise. He went through statistics, again showing numbers are on the rise. He did emphasize that the total number of patients seen in the Same Day Clinic are still relatively low compared to overall patients.

- Question from Becky Harris related to billing: If a patient is first seen in the ED and referred to the same day clinic, will they get two separate bills for that? Mr. Smith speculated with Yes, the patient would most likely receive two separate bills. Mr. Smith will confirm this and get back to Mrs. Harris with a definite answer to this question.
- Question from Lacey Simpson: does it look like the same day clinic is doing it's intended job? Mr. Smith suggested getting feedback from the ED nurses to see if there has been a noticeable difference in the ED. Becky Harris, PeaceHealth emergency room RN, indicated there is no noticeable difference. Scott Smith did reiterate, the trend is showing an increase in patients seen in the clinic, so there does appear to be a need.
- Question from Becky Harris: Is there any way, without violating EMPALA Law, to direct them to the same day clinic, vs being seen in the ED. Scott Smith responded by stating there are very clear laws about treating patients coming into the ED. It would be a violation to recommend a patient leave the ED to go to the clinic.

C. Emergency Department Update (Standing)

Phase I – Moving the CT scan to the new location.

Phase II – Lab Design is in process.

Phase III – Emergency Department.

Scott Smith shared the current update on the ED Renovation. The RFP for construction went out to three companies, two local and one out of state. The out of state company declined to bid, leaving the two in-state contractors to review the construction documents. An extension was issued to both companies, the bids are due by the end of July. Dori Stevens had reached out to Lacey Simpson and Amanda Robinson to see if the city needed to be involved in the RFP process for selection of the contractors. The city did not need to provide input. The CT company has been selected. Lacey Simpson asked for an estimated installation date for the completion of phase I. Mr. Smith reported the target completion date is still by the end of this calendar year.

D. Hospital and Nurses Activities

Recent caregiver recognitions included nursing excellence awards, caregiver & family movie night, prize drawings, breakfast with leaders. The breakfast with leaders offered caregivers the opportunity for caregivers to visit with leaders and get to know their role a little better.

7. New Business:

A. Date / Location for annual Town Hall

One of the provisions set aside in the lease agreement is to schedule one meeting a year for the public to participate and engage with the board. Lacey recapped last year's HAC meeting was set to take place the same day as the town hall, which gave community members further opportunity to participate and engage. Kate Govaars will work on securing date and location for the Town Hall during the month of October.

Future Agenda Items:

1. October – Annual Report Card

Lacey Simpson requested other agenda items from the committee. Scott Smith noted there should be movement on ED renovation the construction project.

2. ED Renovation – Update

Clay Keene suggested another update regarding behavioral health. Mr. Keene also asked if there were any updates that could be provided. Lacey Simpson informed the committee that Akeela has conveyed the Gateway facilities to KTBC/RISE (Ketchikan Tribal Business Council's nonprofit substance abuse services). Mrs. Simpson also noted that PeaceHealth and True North Recovery are in discussion regarding the transfer of use of the former KAR House adult rehabilitation building to True North to provide inpatient treatment. Mrs. Simpson reiterated the long-range plan for KTBC/RISE & SEARHC services will be to offer more behavioral health services but initially, it will just be substance abuse services. Mrs. Simpson is hopeful there will be more information available during the October meeting.

3. Behavioral Health – Update

Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Healthcare Advisory Committee, Vice-Chair Simpson adjourned the meeting at 9:33 a.m. The next meeting of the Healthcare Advisory Committee will take place on Thursday, October 15, 2024, at 5:00pm at the Ted Ferry Civic Center. This will be an in person meeting only.

Respectfully Submitted by: Lori Medvid, Executive Assistant
PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center