

August 27, 2026

The Regular Board Meeting of the Board of Commissioners for Island Health was called to order by Commissioner Lang at 7:30 am on August 27, 2026, in the Cypress Room of Island Health.

A Webex option was available for the Regular Board Meeting.

Those present were: Commissioner Lynne Lang, PhD, Commissioner Warren Tessler, Commissioner James Tangaro, and Commissioner Joseph Mulcahy, MD.

Also present were: Elise Cutter, CEO;; Paul Hammer, MD, COS; Galina Gandy, CIO, Jennifer Graham, CNO Colin Walker, CAS, Paul Vachek, CFO, and Kim Graf, Executive Business Manager

Not Present: Commissioner Jan Iversen

**Public Comment, if any:**

No public comments were made

**Action Items Completed**

None

**August Spotlights:**

**Introduction:** Elise Cutter, CEO was pleased to introduce Dr. Jonathan Seavey, orthopedic spine surgeon, and Kristen Roberts, PA-C, orthopedics. Both have joined the Island Orthopedics Clinic. All welcomed them to Island Health and the Medical Staff.

**Patient Experience:**

Jennifer Graham, CNO shared a patient experience story from a grateful patient who shared their experience while being an inpatient at Island Health after surgery.

**Board Quality & Patient Safety:**

Commissioner Tangaro briefly remarked on the recent Quality Management Organization where MQI, dashboard tracking and Medical Staff Office were discussed.

**Medical Staff:**

## Medical Staff Report:

Dr. Hammer provided an update on the following Medical Staff Committees meetings:

- Credentials & Bylaws
- Department of Medicine
- Pharmacy and Therapeutics
- Department of Obstetrics and Pediatrics

## Reports/Discussion:

Galina Gandy, CIO provided an update on the following Information System initiatives and Diagnostic Imaging:

- Provided an update on an upcoming TECCA upgrade expected in September
- Upcoming events within Diagnostic Imaging for Breast Cancer Awareness Month (Women's Health Month) in October
- Update on outpatient laboratory processes for specimen drop offs

Colin Walker, CAS, provided an ambulatory services update highlighting the following:

Expanding Access to Care:

- Orthopedics-Addition of Kristen Roberts, PA-C and Jonathan Seavey, DO spine surgeon and services provided by Island Orthopedics
- Cardiology-Addition of Matt Grisso, PA-C, and services provided by Island Cardiology
- Overview of recruitment efforts for cardiology, family medicine, internal medicine, Walk-In-Clinic, Psychiatry & Behavioral Health, OB/GYN and Chief Medical Officer
- There was discussion of the patient portal: self-scheduling and messaging processes.

Paul Vachek, CFO provided an overview of the July financials.



Paul remarked on the strategic financial focus highlighting the following:

- Top-Line Net Revenue
- Staffing Optimization
- Supply Chain Management
- Capital Process Improvements
- Quarterly Forecast

There was discussion of the Emergency Department provider staffing. Elise reviewed the processes to review Emergency Department volumes and how provider staffing is aligned to meet the daily patient demand and briefly commented on quality metrics which are being tracked as a metric to ensure sufficient provider staffing.

Elise remarked on the 4 RHTP grants that IH will be submitting applications for over the next several weeks. If Island Health is a recipient of the RHTP funding, Island Health could see close to a \$1.0 million in funding for the infrastructure/business related areas of focus:

- WSHA- Infrastructure Focus
- TRC- Business Focus
- HCA-1 – Technology Focus
- HCA-2 – OB, Emergency, Specialty Care Focus

Elise presented Resolution 2026-2206 Amendment to Bond Resolution remarking that Keith Kleven, Piper Sandler, joined the Finance Committee Meeting to recommend amending the IH Bond Resolutions in response to Moodys realignment of basing ratings on hospital rather than industry standards. The suggested amendment amends Resolutions Nos. 1947, 2018-2065 (as amended by Resolution No. 2018-2066) and 2019-2097, to establish additional procedures for funding the debt service funds used to pay the District's limited tax general obligation bonds with the regular property taxes received by the District. The amendment makes no significant changes to the way bond funds are allocated, but establishes a process to manage the bond funds at the County level. It is anticipated that this may potentially help the bond rating up to 3 points.

After discussion, Commissioner Tessler made a motion to approve the Resolution 2026-2206 as presented. Commissioner Mulcahy seconded the motion. Commissioners Lang, Tessler, Tangaro and Mulcahy all voted aye, and the motion carried.

### **Consent Agenda:**

After review and discussion, Commissioner Lang made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Commissioner Mulcahy seconded the motion. Commissioners Lang, Tessler, Tangaro and Mulcahy all voted aye, and the motion carried.

### **Commissioner Recognition:**

In honor of Jan Iversen's twenty plus years of serving our community on the Board of Commissioners for Island Health, Commissioner Lang read the following letter:

There are people who serve on boards, and then there are people who SERVE---who show up not just for the meetings, but for the mission, pouring their heart and soul into each challenge each moment. I think we can all agree that this is the type of Commissioner Jan Iversen has been for the past 20 years. She has left a mark that will be felt for generations.

Perhaps nothing speaks more clearly to who she is than the Iversen Scholarship through the Island Health Foundation. That's not just a gift, that's a statement of belief. Belief in the next generation of healers, in the future of care in our community, and in the idea that one person's commitment can ripple outward in ways we may never fully see. Jan championed our hospital not because she had to, but because she genuinely cares. And that kind of heart is irreplaceable.

So, as Jan steps away from our board, though I suspect she will never truly step away, I know that the care she's poured into our community lives on. In the students who carry her name forward. In the patients who'll be touched by work she helped make possible. And in those of us lucky enough to call her a friend!

If Jan was here today, I would say thank you. Congratulations and here's to everything that is still ahead!

### **Executive Session:**

Commissioner Lang called for an Executive Session to review the qualifications of a candidate/candidates for appointment as a District Commissioner RCW42.30.110 (1)(h) and discuss the performance of a public employee RCW42.30.110.(1)(g).

It was expected that the session to twenty minutes (20) minutes in length.

At the end of the Executive Session the Board is expected to take action and therefore we will reconvene.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:40 am.

The Board reconvened at 10:00am.

### **Commissioner Succession:**

Commissioner Lang announced that pursuant to the applicable provisions of RCW. 42.12.080, the Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 2 Board of Commissioners nominated Jan Hendrickson, Anacortes, WA, to fill the vacated seat of Position #1 from September 23, 2026 through November 2, 2027.

The District posted the nominated candidate for the required 15 days in 3 public places which included our website and accepted applications that were sent to Island Health for Position 1.

**Appoint Candidate:**

After review of applications received, Commissioner Lang moved that Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 2 appoint Jan Hendrickson, Anacortes, WA as Commissioner for Skagit County Public Hospital District No. 2 Position #1.

Commissioner Mulcahy, seconded the motion to appoint Jan Hendrickson to fill Position #1 on the Island Health Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Tessler seconded the motion. Commissioners Lang, Tangaro, Tessler and Mulcahy all voted aye, and the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Commissioner Lang called for the meeting to be adjourned at 10:15am.

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Lynne Lang, PhD, President/Commissioner

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Jan Iversen, Commissioner

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Warren Tessler, Secretary/Commissioner

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James Tangaro, Commissioner

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Joseph Mulcahy, MD, Commissioner