

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF UTE PASS REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE DISTRICT

HELD

JULY 16, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Ute Pass Regional Health Service District was held at 1017 US-24 #2138, Woodland Park CO 80863, and via Zoom on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Directors in Attendance Were:

John Gentzel
Chris Erickson
Gillis Gautreaux
Jocelyn Rosado
Miranda Bickford

Also in Attendance:

Tim Dienst, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Kara Fox, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
James McLaughlin, Mobile Integrated Health Director (MIH)
Janeé Karle, Deputy Chief of Operations
Chad Bauer, Captain
Kara Winters of Collins Cole Winn & Ulmer ("CCWU")

DISCLOSURES

Director Gautreaux disclosed that family members work for the district; Director Gentzel disclosed that his son works for the district; Director Bickford disclosed that her husband works for the district.

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Director Gentzel asked for a moment of silence for the two firefighters that were killed in the line of duty fighting the Snyder Fire.

MINUTES

Director Bickford moved to approve the June 18, 2026 regular Board meeting minutes, such motion was seconded by Director Rosado and unanimously approved by the Board.

Director Bickford moved to approve the July 9, 2026 special Board meeting minutes, such motion was seconded by Director Gautreaux and unanimously approved by the Board.

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PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AUDIT PRESENTATION

2025 Audit Report. Auditors Steve Hochstetter and Chris Stager of Sorren were present. Auditor Stager presented the supplemental audit reports. Auditor Stager said there were no new accounting policies and no new accounting policies that needed to be adopted. Auditor Stager said that some adjustments to the financials were needed.

Auditor Hochstetter reviewed audited financial statements and reported that they are fairly presented in all material respects, the highest level of assurance that CPAs give on financial statements. Director Gentzel moved to approve the 2025 audited financials, such motion was seconded by Director Rosado and unanimously approved by the Board.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Accountant Austin Thomas of JFS reviewed the May financial statements and said the auditor's suggested changes have no financial impact and processes have been put in place for 2026. Accountant Thomas said adjusting entries were down fifty percent with giving credit to Kara Fox for these improvements. Director Bickford asked about the issues with Quad billing. Auditor Thomas stated the claims on books for Quad's billing adjustments dating back to 2023 were going to be removed from the financial statements because they are deemed to be uncollectible. Director Erickson moved to approve the May financials, such motion was seconded by Director Gentzel and unanimously approved by the Board.

BOARD REPORTS

President's Report. No questions or comments.

Policy Committee Report. No questions or comments.

Chief/CEO Search Committee Report. Director Bickford reported that the CEO position was reposted on July 10th and the posting will close on July 24th. MIH McLaughlin said that Deputy Chief Karle sent out a letter approved by legal to existing applicants.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief/CEO Report. Director Gentzel thanked Chief Dienst for his thorough report.

2025 Impact Grant. Director Gentzel moved to approve the 2025 Limited Gaming Grant request, such motion was seconded by Director Rosado and unanimously approved by the Board.

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Chief Dienst reported that there is another grant, the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) grant, if approved, will provide additional revenue for the whole life program.

Chief Dienst said that the supplemental reimbursement program provides \$1.8 million in federal dollars to offset the cost of providing care to Medicaid patients and if CMS chooses to go ahead with its recommendation the District will directly benefit from this program. Chief Dienst said he was instrumental in getting this program started. Chief Dienst requested that the Board approve the letter of recommendation. Director Gentzel asked for comments from the Board regarding the letter of recommendation to be received by noon on July 20th, to send the letter out by July 21st.

Deputy Chief Operations Report. There was discussion about the PTO policy and the changes to the staff titles. Director Bickford asked if the policy can be revised to have more agnostic terminology so that we are more nimble.

Director Gautreaux asked about the status of the El Paso-Teller County 911 Authority. Chief Dienst said that Colorado Springs wants to withdraw from the Authority and there has been discussion of an increase in the 911 phone fees to bring in the revenue needed. Each user agency may need to pay a per call fee in the future. Deputy Chief of Operations Karle reported that the City Council did not vote on this, and it would need to be taken back to the Council for a decision to be made in a public meeting. Deputy Chief of Operations Karle reported that Teller County currently does not have an OEM.

Mobile Integrated Health Report. MIH McLaughlin reported on a safety event with staff that occurred at the library. MIH McLaughlin provided an update on the Rural Health Transformational Program offer of support and services to them by providing data and in return they will provide free education and the use of the data.

MIH McLaughlin presented a quote for vehicles to the Board which was \$41,000 more than that for which was originally budgeted. Chief Dienst stated that no action was needed from the Board as it can be absorbed within the existing budget.

MIH McLaughlin said that under Deputy Chief Karle leadership evaluated the impact of applying for the RHTP grant, its alignment with the District, and staff agreed that the return on investment was worth doing so.

Chief Administrative Report. No questions or comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Paid Time Off Policy (PTO). Director Gentzel said the draft was received from legal counsel. The Board discussed revisions to the title definitions. CAO Fox stated that the policy is not ready for approval. Director Gentzel tabled the item.

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NEW BUSINESS

Board Process for Chief/CEO Finalist.

Expectations and Next Steps. Director Gentzel said Director Gautreaux reached out to him to discuss the process for the CEO search, so he added to this agenda. Director Gautreaux asked what happens when the list of applicants comes to the Board and what the Board should consider when making their decisions. Director Bickford said when finalists are chosen they will be invited to spend a day at the District and the Board will conduct a formal interview, the candidates will tour operations, meet with the community and then the Board will make their final decision. Director Gentzel said each Director should look at the interview questions, pick out their top ten, then agree on the final list of questions. Director Gautreaux requested that the finalists sit with leadership and leadership make a recommendation to the Board prior to the Board interviews.

Chief/CEO Transition Period. Director Gautreaux asked what the transition plan was for new CEO. Chief Dienst said that he is currently working on the transition plan. Director Gautreaux asked if the plan can be shared with the Board at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Gentzel adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

These minutes were properly moved, seconded, and approved by the Board of Directors of the Ute Pass Regional Health Service District during a duly noticed public meeting.

/s/ Miranda Bickford

Miranda Bickford, Secretary

/s/ John Gentzel

John Gentzel, President

