

Board of Trustees

April 27, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Richard Moe, *Chair*
Becky Siebenaler, *Trustee*
Debbie Stelmach, *Trustee*

Julie Berg, *Vice Chair*
Susan Miller, *Trustee*
Don Amundson, *Secretary/Treasurer*

MEMBERS ABSENT: Adam Jones, *Trustee*

OTHERS PRESENT: Donna Neste, *CEO*
Jane Moe, *Clinic Director*
Peggy Hiner, *HR Director*
Tyler Johnson, *Compliance*
Anne Marie Kloppel, *Manager of Regional Financial services*
Kris Kester, *CFO Billings Clinic*
Tina Barnhart, *Executive Assistant*
Amanda Hannah, *Director of Regional Operations*
Emily Shoup, *Director of Nursing*
Roxanne Berg, *Business Office Manager*
Terry Tellock, *Director of Facilities*

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Mr. Moe called the meeting of the Vista Plains Health Board of Directors to order at 3:31PM.
- b. The Board presented Ms. Neste with an award for her dedication to making Vista Plains a reality.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. *Upon motion, duly made and seconded the consent agenda approved with a correction to the regular session minutes.*

III. MANAGEMENT REPORT

- a. Ms. Neste and the Directors reviewed the management report.
- b. Ms. Berg would like to see better signage at the front door directing people at night.
- c. Ms. Neste stated the front door signage concern is being addressed.

IV. EOP

- a. Mr. Tellock presented the Vista Plains Emergency Operations Plan for approval.
- b. *Upon motion, duly made and seconded the Vista Plains EOP was approved as presented following preceding explanation of the changes.*

V. INFECTION PREVENTIONIST

- a. Ms. Shoup presented Ms. Ann Schlichting, RN, for approval as Infection Preventionist.

- b. Ms. Shoup explained it is a condition of participation for Vista Plains to have an infection preventionist.
- c. *Upon motion, made and seconded approval was granted for Ann Schlichting, RN to be the Vista Plains Infection Preventionist with preceding explanation.*

VI. Vista Plain Quality Improvement Plan

- a. Ms. Shoup presented the Vista Plains Quality improvement plan for approval.
- b. *Upon motion, duly made and seconded the Vista Plain Quality Improvement Plan was approved as presented.*

VII. COMPLIANCE CHARTER

- a. Ms. Johnson presented the Vista Plains Compliance Charter for review and approval.
- b. *Upon motion duly made and seconded the Vista Plains Compliance Charter was approved with corrections and preceding discussion.*
- c. *Ms. Johnson presented the Vista Plain Compliance Report.*
 - i. *Ms. Johnson announced that 285 of the 557 policies have been updated, seven new policies have been published so far in quarter one.*
 - 1. *Five of these policies were forms split from existing policies or existed but added to Compliance 360 for staff availability.*
 - 2. *The two new polices were the Investment policy and the capital budget form.*
 - ii. *Ms. Neste announced we are comparing our policies with those required by the conditions of participation to try and reduce the number of policies.*

VIII. CEO REPORT

- a. Gray House
 - i. We signed papers to sell the gray house today. This sale did not include the two extra lots adjacent to the gray house.
- b. 855A Update
 - i. Donna announced all three 855 A have been submitted.
 - 1. We have received approval from Noridian for the Clinic NPI. We are still waiting for approval for the other two NPI's.
 - 2. Surveyors have been on site twice to verify we are hospital.
 - ii. Ms. Neste announced all Medicare claims the CBO was holding have been released and are getting paid.
- c. CLIA Survey-Blood bank
 - i. Ms. Neste received a letter from the CLIA inspector asking for two more proficiency reports.
 - ii. Once the surveyor approves the proficiency reports, we will be able to apply for the sanctions to be lifted.

- iii. Ms. Neste announced we are close to meeting all the requirements to bring emergency blood back into the facility.
- d. WMH equipment decommissioning
 - i. Ms. Neste announced the WMH building will go back to the County at the end of June.
 - ii. There will most likely be a sealed bid process for items of value left at the facility i.e., the generator.
 - iii. The County has expressed interest in some of the office equipment.
 - iv. Ms. Neste has tasked all departments with inventorying all items left at the old building, so we have a comprehensive list of items. Ms. Neste will then make a decision on what items will be sold, donated, or disposed of. Ms. Neste and Ms. Moe will work on a plan to advertise for sealed bids.
- e. AHA
 - i. Ms. Neste explained the current administration has a huge focus on fraud, waste, abuse, and rural healthcare.
 - ii. Ms. Neste stated the funds from Rural Transformation Fund will be distributed to the states
 - 1. The first round of funds will have a technology and workforce development focus.
 - 2. Montana was number four in the dollar amounts received.

IX. FINANCE REPORT

- a. Ms. Kloppel presented the March 2026 financials.
 - i. Ms. Kloppel explained to the board that Vista Plains has a Medicaid payable of \$502,779 from years 2021-2024.
 - 1. Medicaid has allowed us to take 12 months to get this paid off at \$20,000 twice a month with no penalties or interest.
 - 2. Ms. Kloppel is looking at options to estimate the amount owed to Medicaid to avoid getting in this position again.
- b. *Upon motion, duly made, and seconded the March 2026 financials were approved as presented with preceding explanation.*

X. REGIONAL UPDATE

- a. Ms. Hannah presented the regional update.
 - i. Ms. Hannah reminded everyone of the Regional Trustee and Leadership conference April 29 & 30th in Billings with an update to the agenda.
 - 1. The conference is at the Northern Hotel in the ballroom, not the Doubletree.

- ii. Ms. Hannah reminded everyone that Billings Clinic is closely monitoring the rollout of the Rural Transformation Funds.
- XI.** Adjournment
 - a. Upon motion duly made and seconded the meeting of the Vista Plains Health Board of Directors was adjourned at 4:53 PM.

Don Amundson, Secretary