

Observed Meeting: KC Public Hospital District #1

Date: 9/25/2026

Board of Commissioners

LWV Observer: Rosemary Meyer

Time: 5 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
Members			
All members present?	x		
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
Agenda			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	To add approval for capital expenditure
Non-agenda items discussed?	x		

Was time given to public input? If so, how many people spoke?	x		
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Action:

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

There were 2 “Safe Catch Awards” presented. Clinical to a PT for catching an injury that required further eval, and non clinical, to a maintenance worker who caught a fire in the kitchen after hours.

The “Spotlight presentation was by the Controller James Sivonen. He discussed the 4 areas that they work are audited on: Accounts Payable-3400 vendors to verify invoices and pay; Payroll-every 2 weeks, 800+ employees and 5 unions to deal with; Accounting-monthly financial statements and balance sheets, annual and gov’t accounting board audits: Other agencies-Hospital Dist 2 (all of the above), KVH Foundation and KV Health Network (grants accounting). All audits have been clean!

Quality Improvement officer- have started giving flu shots; compliance is usually 75%-those staff not vaccinated must wear mask at work. Medicare Wellness visits vary at each clinic and they are having difficulty hiring a nurse to do these visits.

CEO report-A MOU has been signed with U of W Airlift Northwest for joint training and drills- a collaboration between KVH, KVHR and Medic One. The WSNA (nursing) contract is due for negotiation and will begin in Oct. The Open House for the remodeled ortho and surgical building is Oct 7th. Radio Hill office remodel continues with site plan and construction plans in progress and to go to bid in January.

Human Resources-Total workforce Aug was 887. New hires for ARNP for Home based care, pediatrician, vascular surgeon (Jan. start), ARNP in cardiology and ED (aug starts). Anticipating visits from all county high schools for students interested in health care.

Resolution authorizing benefits advisory committee oversight of retirement plans (who is on committee by position and not by name) Passed

Resolution authorizing individuals to act on behalf of the plan (changing the name of the trust company to VALIC Trust Co.). Passed

Patient Care services- MSW hired and one more needed. OR nurses needed. There were 5 babies born in one day! 20 for the month. Virtual Dietician-an agreement has been signed with Quincy Valley Medical Center to use our dieticians.

Ancillary Services- Imaging staff shortages there have been up to 400 exams in the queue to schedule, Hospice won an award for patient satisfaction for being in the top 20% nationwide, \

Clinic Operations-the new appt reminder app (Artera) has been up for a month and still tweaking it, Ortho and Surgery clinics have moved back to permanent locations, new nurse midwife starting late Sept, Family Medicine Ellensburg seeing backlog and they are offering appt at Internal and Adult Medicine clinic, Rapid Access still has coverage from other clinics.

Chief Medical Officer-KVH has never had a Urology provider and refers out 500 patients a year. This is a self sustaining practice with clinic and surgery. Will be starting a hybrid practice between 3rd party urology group while recruiting for a KVH employed urologist. Motion passed to authorize this partnership and specialty.

Chief Financial Officer- "Expenses were unfavorable for the month (+245K over budget) and are \$664K over budget for the year, mainly in benefits, professional fees and supplies. Labor remains approx 60% of expenses and slightly over budget". Good news is gains on investments are up, which is more than budget and keeping net income better than budget. Issues with inpatient days vs observation days is a continuing fight with insurance companies. Roof assessment was done 2 years ago showing many issues and the need for a new roof (last done 2002 and 2006). Plan is for a new roof in 2026 for a cost of approx \$3 million and a warranty of 25 years. 7 fetal monitors proposed to be purchased as capital expense (\$225K) Approved.

Community relations- Michelle Wurl is leaving Oct 3. Getting ready for Open Enrollment and educating the public about Medicare Advantage plans and how they impact the hospital.

If minutes were posted online, please provide a link: For details on the above information please see the Agenda Packet, videos, and Minutes posted [here](https://www.kvhealthcare.org/about-us/board-of-commissioners/2025-board-meetings/).
<https://www.kvhealthcare.org/about-us/board-of-commissioners/2025-board-meetings/>

If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Observed Meeting: KC Public Hospital District #1

Date: 6/27/2025

Board of Commissioners

LWV Observer: Rosemary Meyer

Time: 5 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
Members			
All members present?	x		
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
Agenda			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?	x		
Non-agenda items discussed?	x		

Was time given to public input? If so, how many people spoke?	x		No one spoke
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Action:

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

A financial audit was completed by Dingus, Zarecor & Assoc. That showed no deficiencies or findings. He reported no difficulty working with staff. Interestingly, 55% of revenue comes from Medicare and Medicaid (in the range but less than other WA critical care hospitals) and there is concern about the federal budget bill cuts deeply affecting revenue.

A presentation was done by the Women’s Health clinic. One OB-GYN doc is a hospital employee but the other 3 are contracted through OBHG- a national company that partners with 290 hospitals to provide OB-GYNs on 3 year contracts. This has meant that KVH can increase OB care, run clinics and do GYN surgeries again. They have seen 400 new patients, 35% out of county.

The remodel of the ortho/surgery clinics is progressing. The new surgical suites had an open house on June 11- 150 attendees Mid Town Depo Therapy is under renovation in Cle Elum.

KVH is running its first levy, on the Aug 5th ballot, requesting voter approval for a levy at the rate of 75 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value, beginning in 2026, to support labor and delivery services and other healthcare needs. Community relations is working on presentations around the county.

The rest of the meeting was more routine reports.

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Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

Info on levy, speaker?

Observed Meeting: KC Public Hospital District #1

Date: 8/28/2025

Board of Commissioners

LWV Observer: Rosemary Meyer

Time: 5 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
Members			
All members present?	x		
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
Agenda			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	
Non-agenda items discussed?	x		

Was time given to public input? If so, how many people spoke?	x		No one spoke!
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Action:

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

The consent agenda was approved.

A presentation was made by the head of Sterile Processing. There were photos showing the very small space they had been in and the new space after the OR remodel. He discussed the process that all instruments go through after being used on the floor or in the OR and the different ways that equipment is sterilized. He stated that they partner with YVCC sterile tech program by providing the monitoring and 400 hours that they need to be certified and take their exam. He was very complimentary of his staff and the care and concern they take in their job!

The certification for CMS Conditions of participation has been obtained for 3 years. In this process KVH is now eligible for ISO 9001 certification (international standard for quality business management).

Jason Adler, CEO, reported that the levy passed and thanked the communications team for promotion and the community for supporting it., He presented the new KVH Strategic Pillars which will be used to develop the strategic plan in the next year. Recruiting has been going pretty well and they are changing the APC to physician ratio from 6-1 to 3-1 which “will create stronger peer physician collaboration”. Whole Health Pharmacy has leased space in Cle Elum (the old Cle Elum Drug). This has been supported by a \$10,000 commitment by each hospital district. The remodel of the general surgery, vascular and ortho clinics is almost done. The Radio Hill remodel (completion) has been contracted with Systems Designs from Yakima to do the architecture and engineering. Finally, he will be meeting with congresswoman Dr. Schrier on Friday to discuss needs and advocate.

Clinics: Rapid Access has had difficulty with staffing and finally there are 2 full time providers hired and one more with a letter of intent. Medical assistants now have a career growth path from 1=apprentice to 5= lead MA. There is hope this will help keep employees in these roles.

Staff: A new midwife starts this fall at Women’s Health. A physician leadership course will be offered to department heads, provided by the WA state medical association and paid for by the KVH foundation.

Anticipated capital expenditures: a new roof!

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If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues?

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):

A presentation on professional staffing would be interesting.

Observed Meeting: KC Public Hospital District #1

12/4/
2025

Board of Commissioners

LWV Observer: Rosemary Meyer

Time: 5 pm

	Yes	No	Comments
Members			
All members present?		x	
Members attentive & involved?	x		
Members courteous to each other and public?	x		Mostly*
Any members recuse themselves?		x	
Agenda			
Agenda available prior to and during meeting?	x		
Agenda followed?	x		
Agenda amended?		x	To add approval for capital expenditure
Non-agenda items discussed?	x		

Was time given to public input? If so, how many people spoke?	x		4 people spoke all on the same subject *
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Action:

Please provide a brief, impartial summary of the meeting, including key issues discussed, significant actions taken, and other observations:

There were 2 “Safe Catch Awards” presented. Clinical to Matt Knight, RN who “prevented harm” in surgery by noting a patient’s implant may not be compatible with surgical procedure planned. Non-clinical to Niko Moya (?) from central services who smelled smoke and notified appropriate persons when an instrument was compromised.

The “Spotlight” presentation was by Auren O’Connell, psychiatric consultant and lead for KVH behavioral health. This service is used by primary care clinicians to collaborate on patients with mental health issues. Using a U of W Collaborative Care Model with main emphasis on suicide prevention and anxiety/depression. In Cle Elum the therapist also sees many with PTSD. Purpose is to co manage patients for up to 6 months, co manage psych meds and develop a relapse prevention program. Most of these services are billable.

Public Comments: The issue presented to the board was the “firing vs resignation with a NDA” of the Chief Nursing officer in October. Most wanted the board to comment on the issue (board does not reply to public comment as well as this is a personnel issue so they would not), citing several RCWs, public record requests for the NDA in pdf form and/or having a town hall meeting where the issue could be discussed. 2 RN’s read lengthy statements wanting more information, one man (I do not know who he was or what his connection was) was most adamant about having the town hall and making all public information*. One RN supported the comments of the other 3.

Quality Improvement officer- Now have 3 year certification as a critical care hospital under CMS.

CEO report- Bringing 3 new programs to KVH: Podiatry, Urology, limited spine services. Introduced interim Chief Nursing Officer, Holly Urban. KVH was awarded a \$105K grant for cybersecurity infrastructure. He also summarized his first year as CEO.

Human Resources-Travel/agency contract increased to 23 in Oct after running 15 the last 3 months. The past months have signed on 1 MD general surgery, 1 ARNP Women’s Health, 1 DO Fam Med, 1 DO CE Fam Med. Still trying to fill OR positions.

Patient Care Services-On track for 34% increase in ED. Urgent Care in CE has had a decrease in volume of patients seen mainly due to lack of staff.

Clinic Operations: Dr.s Cardon and Johnson will be joining KVH and move to ortho clinic Jan. 2026

Medical staff- there was an all staff meeting in November which was well attended. The by laws for medical staff will be revised in 2026

Financial-Key performance indicators (13) were all positive but for Operating margin (red), patient days, adjusted patient days, billable and total lab visits (all yellow).

Capital Expenditure Requests-for surgical services the purchase of Arthrex video equipment and towers used by ENT, GYN, Ortho, and General Surgery and Urology in future. . Cost \$379,337. Approved.

Also for Diagnostic imaging the refurbishing of 2 portable x-ray machines, one for ED and the other for Med/surg. Cos \$90,321 each for a total of \$180,642. Approved.

Resolution 25-11: to approve dates for meetings in 2026. Will continue to be the 4th Thursday of each month, except for Nov/Dec, which will be the first Thursday in Dec. Approved.

Board Officers- they are on a 2 year cycle so will keep current positions. Will also keep committee assignments. Motion passed.

The board recessed into executive session to "evaluate the qualifications of an applicant for public employment and to discuss with legal counsel the risks of a proposed action or current practice."

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If a vote on an ordinance will be taken later, please provide the name or number of the ordinance and the date of the vote:

Do you recommend local League action on any of these issues? No sure if we should get involved with the Chief Nursing Officer firing/resignation

What action do you recommend, i.e., support, oppose, study, inform the community, other (please specify):