

**Jefferson County Public Hospital District No.2
Board of Commissioners, Special Session Minutes
Community Forum
Thursday, April 13, 2017
Quilcene Community Center
294952 Hwy 101, Quilcene, WA 98376**

Commissioner Buhler called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm Commissioners Buhler, De Leo, Kolff, and Ready were present. Also present was Katie Holmes, facilitator, Lisa Holt, CAO, and Alyssa Rodrigues, Administrative Assistant. Commissioner Dressler was excused.

Community Forum:

The purpose of this special session is to hold a community forum at Quilcene Community Center, 294952 Hwy 101, Quilcene, WA 98376 on the Jefferson Healthcare 2017-2020 Strategic Plan.

Commissioner Buhler and Katie Holmes gave an introduction to the meeting. Introductions were made from Commissioners.

Katie Holmes explained the 2017-2020 Strategic Plan and displayed the high level goals the board has brainstormed already for People, Service, Quality and Safety, Growth and Innovation, and Sustainability. She explained how the forum will be used to allow the public to give their thoughts and comments about what they want or don't want to see for Jefferson Healthcare in the next three years. She explained how all comments were welcomed.

Public Comment:

The public commented on having a bigger clinic that will serve the growing public. Urgent Care and expanded services to Primary Care and closer pharmacy access.

The public commented that Jefferson Healthcare to fund exercise classes in Quilcene. Jefferson Healthcare to collaborate with local Quilcene groups.

The public commented on having more access to senior care in Quilcene. Jefferson Healthcare to partner with other groups to provide more social opportunities for seniors with limited ability to get to Port Townsend.

The public commented that Jefferson Healthcare should provide assisted living along the hood canal in order to keep families closer together and have job growth opportunities.

The public commented on the need for Aging in Place and Aging Mastery classes in Quilcene.

The public commented on the need for more home care givers in Quilcene.

The public commented on having more emphasis on the young Quilcene generation and providing education for health careers to result in employment opportunities. The need to work closer with the school district.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, announced there will be a career night with orthopedic surgeons and all levels of employees from Jefferson Healthcare coming up.

The public commented on the need for more scholarships in the area, more job shadowing, organized programs, and outreach from Jefferson Healthcare for employment opportunities.

The public commented on the expansion in Brinnon and Quilcene.

The public commented on telecommunication with pharmacy, having a pharmacy tech available in South County.

The public commented on access to urgent care across the board. It's hard to get an appointment at Family Practice clinics and when you arrive they do not seem busy.

Merrily Mount, ARNP- Explained the old process for transporting medication years ago.

The public asked what the hospital plans to build in Quilcene.

Katie Holmes explained how it sounds like Quilcene is an older community and is need of Aging in place and basic healthcare services, this is when leadership will sit down with their resources and decide how it fits into the three year strategic plan. She explained the first draft will be finished in June and the final draft will be finished the beginning of July.

The public commented on the importance of having a satellite provider as a result of the Discovery Behavioral Health affiliation in Quilcene at least once a week in the South County Medical Clinic.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, clarified that Mark Cherniak, MSW and Dr. Ehrlich do routinely visit South County Medical Clinic.

The public commented on the importance of succession planning as a result of Merrily Mount's retirement someday.

The public questioned where the money is coming from and how much will Jefferson Healthcare allow to be used in Quilcene growth.

Katie Holmes explained that this is the conversation the Commissioners and leadership will have.

Commissioner Buhler clarified a rumor that happened in years past regarding the closure of South County Medical Clinic. She confirmed this was just a rumor and from this developed the Citizens Advisory Committee. She mentioned that maybe it would be a good thing to start this committee again and if the community was interested to let her know.

The public commented on the need for services and growth in Quilcene. Although the town doesn't look populated there are a lot of new residents that live off the main road.

The public commented if the resort in Brinnon will be built that will have a huge impact on the communities need for growth.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, announced South County Medical Clinic had 19 new patients in the last month.

The public questioned if Medical Doctors have information or research to what the causes of deaths may be.

Commissioner Kolff asked if this member of the public suspected there to be an issue the Medical Doctors should be aware of as far as to why people were passing away.

The public commented about the hospital and its affiliation with Swedish and explained how nice it is to have the connection to make a smooth transition.

The public commented on how sustainability costs money and questioned how all of these ideas will be funded.

Katie Holmes explained that this is why Jefferson Healthcare is getting this important feedback to identify what can be addressed now and what needs to be placed on the strategic plan for a look in the future.

The public commented on the need to spread the word about airlift insurance and how important and inexpensive it is.

The public asked the question of what kinds of hoops did Port Ludlow have to jump through to get their new clinic.

Commissioner Buhler explained the long two year process of getting the Port Ludlow Clinic and all of the community support they had to have. She explained how important it is to have a clinic in Port Ludlow so community members don't drive across the bridge for access to healthcare and shopping.

Commissioner De Leo explained that in Port Ludlow there is aging in place and it is a lot of peoples dream to live in Port Ludlow.

The public commented on how isolated it is in Quilcene and how much more isolated it is in Brinnon and the large need for access to care. The Brinnon community wouldn't go south if there was more to offer in Quilcene.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, announced that half of the new patients from last month were residents of Brinnon.

Commissioner Kolff asked if there was a way to track how many patients come from Brinnon versus Quilcene.

The public commented on the potential growth in Brinnon in regards to the Master planned community in the works.

The public asked if there were any providers that offered home care

Commissioner De Leo confirmed Dr. Mattern provides home care.

The public asked what the data was for how many residents of Brinnon established care at Jefferson Healthcare.

Commissioner Kolff asked if there had been a recent survey for unmet needs in Quilcene in regards to what services are needed and what types of care do residents have to travel for elsewhere.

The public commented if we have higher than average cancer specific locations.

Commissioner Kolff mentioned that these are health department studies. The problem is that there isn't enough data to calculate proper data between towns in Jefferson County. We can get county wide data but not town specific.

The public commented that there is a need for more EMTs and Emergency Medicine training in the community.

Commissioner Kolff questioned how many times in the past year has it been an issue to get emergency services. Would be it be more sufficient to get more EMT's or build an Urgent Care.

The public commented that many residents are hesitant to call 911 because of the charge associated with the transfer.

The public commented that if you go to the Emergency Room there is always someone there if you go to the Fire Station there may not be someone available.

Commissioner De Leo explained the importance of always making sure you call 911.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, explained that in the past 21 years it has never failed, when she calls 911 from the clinic there is always someone there within two minutes.

The public commented that there is a need for community education in regards to calling 911.

The public questioned how many people actually knew what services we offered in South County.

The public commented that there are many ways of advertising, "I Heard of Quilcene", flyers and posters up at the post office, bank, and schools. The question is if Merrily Mount, ARNP, has the ability to accept and increased volume of patients.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, explained that if a patient calls today that patient will be seen within the next 24 hours

The public commented how lucky they were to have Merrily Mount, ARNP, and also the services of Physical Therapy, Exercise for Health, Acupuncture. Etc.

Commissioner Kolff asked if all the services have been written on a brochure.

The public commented yes, but it was short lived.

The public commented that it is a challenge to communicate.

Commissioner De Leo asked if they feel they have good access to internet services.

The public commented that they do, and "I Heard of Quilcene" and "Quilcene Conversations" is a good way of communicating.

The public commented that the newspaper is not as popular.

Commissioner Buhler asked if they receive their "To Your Health" magazine in the mail.

The public commented that they don't read it because it doesn't affect them. The information is not based on what they need.

Commissioner Buhler asked if they are looking for news more specified to their needs.

The public commented that they are not fond of the Jefferson Healthcare ads in the mail.

The public commented that there wasn't enough time to advertise for the Community Forum and they found out about it a couple of days ago.

The public commented that if there had been a couple of weeks of advertising there would have been at least 30-40 people present tonight.

The public commented that they are thankful that Jefferson Healthcare came.

Katie Holmes explained how they will summarize all the input from the different communities and present it at the April 19 board meeting.

The public asked what the amount of the budget was going to be for Quilcene health expansion.

Katie Holmes explained that while the strategic plan is being developed they will be questioning what is needed in Quilcene and how it will be paid for.

The public asked if this was a 20 year plan.

Katie Holmes explained this was three year plan and anything after three years in healthcare is a wash due to changing rules, laws, and regulations.

The public commented that if there are any questions from more Quilcene or Brinnon residents that were unable to attend the meeting tonight, a good way to communicate with the Commissioners is the Commissioner's email at commissioners@jgh.org.

The public commented that it would be better to deemphasize that the community forums are for the Strategic Plan and more that Jefferson Healthcare wants to hear from the community.

The public asked if there will be a forum in Chimacum and that it is a central area that needs to be considered for services.

The public commented that Chimacum does have a pharmacy.

Merrily Mount, ARNP, confirmed that Cascade Valley closed and that the Tri-Area is a growing community.

Commissioner Kolff announced that anyone is welcome to any forum and to take a flyer and try to carpool to other forums.

Commissioner De Leo reminded everyone of the Jefferson healthcare website and using this as a resource for viewing minutes, audio recordings, and upcoming meetings, along with locating the commissioner's email.

The public commented how they were impressed with the work that Merrily Mount, ARNP, and Jefferson Healthcare are doing and the services they are providing.

The public commented about the great service they had at Jefferson Healthcare.

The public commented that they have been invited to be on the CHIP steering committee.

The public commented on the good care received at Jefferson Healthcare and how they would rather go to Jefferson Healthcare than Harrison.

Conclude:

Katie Holmes and Commissioner Buhler concluded by thanking the public for coming tonight and that they learned a lot and have many great ideas and inputs for the plan. They asked the public to please take the carrot cupcakes that Chef Arran Stark had made for them.

Meeting concluded at 7:20 pm.

Approved by the Commission:

President of Commission: Jill Buhler _____

Secretary of Commission: Marie Dressler _____