



**Selectmen's Meeting
Bristol Town Hall
November 20, 2019**

*Selectmen Present: Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates
Also Present: Rachel Bizarro, Candy Congdon, Jessica Westhaver
From Lincoln Health: Jim Donovan, President, LincolnHealth; David
Lawrence, Chair, LincolnHealth Board; Russell Mack, MD; Rose Mary,
Administration*

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Chad Hanna, at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

It was moved by Yates, seconded by Poland, to accept the minutes from the November 6th meeting. Motion passed 3 – 0.

New Business:

Jim Donovan opened the discussion by introducing his colleagues. LincolnHealth is continuing their outreach with Selectboards in Lincoln County to update them on new programs and services being offered and to answer any questions or concerns.

LincolnHealth has been joined with MaineHealth for over two decades and is currently one of the 8 hospital corporations in the network. This merger has created greater financial and clinical strength and improved operational efficiencies and workforce engagement. It allows for small communities to be a part of a bigger health care system.

The new Watson building has provided space to grow and several specialty services have expanded within LincolnHealth.

- Outpatient Psychiatry has grown to one full time psychiatrist and they are in the process of recruiting a nurse practitioner or physician's assistant who specializes in psychiatry. There is an ever-increasing demand for these services.
- ENT services have been offered for some time, and new facilities have been provided in the Watson building. Services are offered two days a week.
- The Miles campus is developing a medical oncology practice. There is currently one oncologist specialist working 1 day a week and an oncology physician's assistant who works 5 days a week. In the spring, a chemo suite will be opening.
- After retirement of a long time Ophthalmologist, the practice will have two full time doctors. The location has moved from the old location in Newcastle onto the Miles campus.
- Population Health is about a health group (MaineHealth) taking care of a population of patients for a fixed contract or a fixed rate. It's how

- insurance companies pay for services across the MaineHealth system. Roughly 250,000 patients are covered under this type of risk contract, and it includes working with nurse navigators for regular visits and prevention.
- Palliative care treats people with chronic disease. Doctor's work with the patient and family to determine what are the best courses for comfort. This form of treatment often leads to patients living longer.

In addition, improved communication between the ambulance, ER and surgery units creates a seamless transfer for the patient. This is especially useful for myocardial events.

Each year, Medicare requires a report of various levels of free and discounted care. In 2018, LincolnHealth incurred about \$15.5 million actual costs. This included \$1.9 M free care, \$3.2 M unpaid medical bills, and \$1.8 M covered the shortfalls of Medicare and MaineCare, (67% of care provided by LincolnHealth is paid by Medicare and MaineCare each year. Lincoln County has a high percentage of these patients, yet Maine has a low reimbursement rate nationally.) The remaining is made up of program and services provided to the community.

LincolnHealth has 43 employees with Bristol addresses and in 2018 they served 908 Bristol patients, with 46 qualifying for free care.

Workforce engagement, commitment to medical education, and continuous measurement of quality, cost and value are strategic priorities for 2020.

The Harbor Committee received a request to lease Thompson Landing. They voted to recommend the lease at their 10/24 meeting and forwarded the recommendation to the Selectboard. The board was unsure of giving exclusive rights to one person as it could interfere with public access. It was recommended that the Town's attorney be consulted on use policy and liability before making a final decision.

Old Business:

Westhaver presented the amendments to the Human Resource Policy. Moved by Poland and seconded by Yates, the motion passed 3 - 0.

The OBD Committee has been notified on how to apply for town funds as a non-profit service organization. All non-profits providers have a deadline of 12/15 to submit their financial documents for the 2020 budget process.

Regular Business:

Selectmen reviewed and approved a building permit for the owners of Map 002, Lot 093-8.

Selectmen reviewed and signed Warrants for payroll and accounts payable for the Bristol-South Bristol Transfer Station, Bristol Consolidated School, Fire and Rescue, Parks & Recreation and the Town Office.

Hanna shared that the transfer station found a used backhoe to replace the current one.

Correspondence received:

The Highway Dept. reported he had cleared the lower drainpipe of leaves and twigs at the dam.

Fun Fact: The first annual town report was issued for 1879. It was voted in at the March 13, 1879 Annual Town Meeting.

Public Comments:

Congdon asked about the working relationship between LincolnHealth and Midcoast Hospital. The LincolnHealth team responded that Midcoast was in the process of merging into the MaineHealth system. After the merger, there will be a planning process to form a regional district to include LincolnHealth, PenBay Medical Center, Waldo County Hospital & Midcoast Hospital.

Executive Session:

It was moved by Hanna, seconded by Poland, to enter Executive Session to consider personnel matters, subject to M.R.S. 13, §405.6.a.1. Motion passed, 3 – 0, and the Board entered Executive Session.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8.07 pm. No action was taken arising from the Executive Session.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8.08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Bizarro