

# TULE RIVER INDIAN HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

TULE INDIAN RESERVATION

P.O. BOX 768

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PORTERVILLE, CALIFORNIA 93258

MINUTES OF: June 2, 2003

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Laura Manuel at 9:17am. Board members present :

Laura Manuel, Chairperson  
Richard McDarment, Vice Chairperson  
Patsy Vega, Secretary  
Barbara Baga, Member  
Veronica McDarment, Member  
Vincent Burrough, Member (9:27)  
Lucille Apalatea, Alternate seated

Absent:

Joseph Garfield, Treasurer-work  
Book Franco, Alternate Member-work

Staff Present:

Sabrina Bustamante, Program Director  
Evelyn Hunter, Contract Care Officer (9:29)  
Michele McDarment, Fiscal Officer (9:50)

### III. Approval of Agenda

MOTION #1 Barbara Baga/Lucille Apalatea motioned to approve the Agenda, the vote was 5-0-0, motion carried.

Vincent Burrough arrived at 9:27am

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### a. CHS Budget

Evelyn Hunter presented a proposed Budget for FY 2004, listing the type of services the Health Center provides. These line items were broken down in percentages of 25%, 50%, 75%, 100%, and 125%.

#### b. Corporate Finances

Sabrina Bustamante prepared and presented a detailed summary of the Corporations finances as requested by the Chairperson. The figures presented were provided within a short period of time and there may be changes made. The Accounts Receivable (A/R) Summary was from July 2002 through April 2003. This included EOB's and Corp Cash Receipts. The figure of \$62,120.34 represents the total amount of EOB's on file YTD up through April 30, 2003. \$33,957.94 represent the total amount of cash receipts recorded in fiscal, leaving a minus of \$28,162.94 difference between total EOB's on file and cash receipts.

Aging breakdown for Tule River (YTD) is \$1,236,502.36. Visalia (YTD) is \$567,734.10 with the total A/R \$1,804,237.46. Billed charges do not reflect the collectable amount. Medi-Cal reimbursement is \$197.00 per visit, there is an over expenditure of \$479,627.92 between both Clinics. Medi-Cal allows 18 months to bill for services. It is possible these charges are too old to bill. Current 90-days between both Clinics amounts to \$909,427.35, if these funds are collected they will go into Third Party monies. Wednesday June 4 2003, Sabrina will know how much monies are current. Valley Electronic Billing who charges TRIHC a flat rate of \$3,000.00 per month prepares the attached summary reports. Sabrina asked to re-negotiate the monthly fee charge and rearrange the reports for the RPMS system. Due to incomplete reports, provider numbers, lack of staff training, and strong leadership our Clinics and patients have had to suffer from the lack of services we could be providing.

Barbara Baga left 11:00am (attending another meeting)

Michele McDarment provided reports of Bank Balances, a yearly expenditure of the State Indian Health from July 2002 to April 2003 with a \$30,059.68 balance left for the months of May and June 2003. Third Party Funds (Corporate) are overspent \$112,313.42. A log of CHS documents of unpaid bills currently in the Fiscal Department amounts to \$39,489.80.

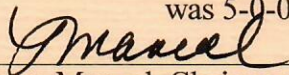
With the training provided today for the Health Board on Financial issues, Chairperson Manuel said a plan of action on how we are to address our concerns to Tribal Council needs to be put in place. What amount of funds from Tribal Council will it take for the Health Center to provide adequate patient care for our people. Contract Care funds are almost depleted because of the Budget, Pharmacy costs and collections. We are bale to provide Level I care at this time. Its important to continue being in Compliance with OSHA. Positions that are in need of filling are: Compliance Officer, Human Resource, PHN, and another Physician. If these positions are filled our; Departments will be in compliance with HIPPA and our Financial issues should turn around within a short time, what may take time is the advertising for these positions. If Tribal Council would consider giving to the Health Center a percentage of Gaming funds, this will enable the Health Center to provide more levels of care and staff our facility as necessary.

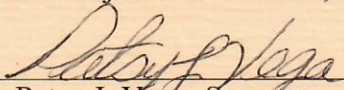
There are several causes of our Financial Status to-date being in poor condition,

- the massive turn-over in staff from all departments
- our data base was down
- proper forms/licenses not in place to be compliant
- lack of staffing in several departments
- lack of staff training in the Billing area
- new forms required to be HIPPA compliant, then train staff in the use of the forms and computer usage
- leadership not holding up to requirements of a clinic facility.

Our meeting with Tribal Council is at 10:00am on Tuesday June 3, 2003, the Board is to meet at the Church to go over other ideas. Laura will make introductions, address the letter to Chairman Peyron on our Financial issues, explain how our providers have affected Third Party monies then turn the floor over to Sabrina to report.

MOTION #2 Lucille Apalatea/Richard McDarment motioned to adjourn at 11:55am, the vote was 5-0-0 motion carried.

  
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Laura Manuel, Chairman

  
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Patsy J. Vega, Secretary

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_