
Subject: FW: Hospital governance change

From: brenda knapp [mailto:brendacknapp@hotmail.com]

Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 9:49 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; psprague@acsalaska.net; akjfischer@hotmail.com; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; gsuperman@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net

Subject: Hospital governance change

Dear Assembly,

I am writing to tell you that I oppose the joint venture the CPGH Inc. Board has recommended to the Assembly.

First, our hospital is very unique and is being compared with small town hospitals with other facilities 20 or even 50 miles away. So recommending a joint venture by following the "current" trend of other Borough type ownership hospitals is very weak. These other hospitals also not are generating a positive income and are failing. Our hospital is doing very well, even with out the rural funding we are receiving from the Federal Government. I have lived here for nine years and my husband much longer and paid taxes to support this hospital and I would much rather continue to support it than have it go into the hands of someone else.

Second, once a joint venture is finalized, it can never be reversed. I'm not willing to take such a risk.

Third, such a decision as a joint venture or ANY change in governance, even the talked about change in the lease and operating agreement, is a decision for the residents. This is for the people to decided. I know Jamie, the speaker that did a session with you, has said that there is no time for the people to decide but I disagree. What is the rush? This has happened too fast and with the uncertainty of Obamacare, I think we should wait, there is more risk to the JV then there is to riding this wave of uncertainty to the end.

Fourth, don't be swayed by this money that will be lost if we decide not to push forward in the JV. It was a poor decision that is mixed in with many good decision by the Inc. Board and it is better to lose a little now then the whole hospital later. However, we should reconsider the money spending power of the Board since they have agreed to such a contract.

Fifth, we as a community have ownership in this hospital, and that is contributing to the excellent care that is recieved there. Take that away and who knows what might happen to the quality of care. It may by like the Investment banker said when he spoke to the public, if the care isn't good then just drive to Anchorage. That is not acceptable.

Sixth, can we get rid of the concenpt that big is better? Let us remember that we have a certain population and can the population really support the growth proposed by the Board I know a cardiac center sounds good, but with a cardiologist comes a cath lab and can our population support that? Ask the local Internists, they think not. We have the helicopter stationed at the hospital ready to go if someone has a heart attack, we are a small community and it doesn't make sense that we try to provide every service without the population to support it. A cancer center? It sounds wonderful but can the populatiion support it? Our community probably can't keep more the one oncologist busy, so do we need a cancer center? Ask the oncology nurses, they seem to think one or two more infusion rooms is what is needed. We most certainly can do that in the building we already have. A hospitalist program? That can only be supported by BIG facilities. The doctors have been recommending against this move from the Board from the get go, stating there wasn't a need, nor a population to support it. Now the hospital has told the internists, outstanding community

members, that they either work for CPH or CPH will find someone that will. They can't afford to lose their hospital revenue so now we have hospitalists. You no longer can choose your doctor at CPH, it will be assigned to you. All in the name of "growth" and "expansion" we have lost our right to choose our healthcare provider. The hospital now owns family practices and other physicians that can't support themselves so their practices are being supplemented by the revenue from the hospital. Why? Because we all have this mindset the growth is good, but for the hospital it must have the population to support its growth. Now you go to a family physician in a clinic owned by the hospital and if you need a referral, to who will

they refer you? Other hospital owned physicians! I don't know about you, but I want my doctor to have the freedom to refer me to whomever the best doctor for the job is, not just the one employed by the same organization. CPH is breathing down their doctors throats, saying "see more patients, see more patients!" Some the docs are wondering how they can see more, their schedule is already full. The pressure is there for the reason to make money. I don't know about you, but I want my doctor to have the time for ME and not to shorten my visit because they are being pressured to see more patients. Please step back for a minute and think about these decisions that are being made. They sound great and wonderful, but are they what is needed? Maybe in larger hospitals, but not at ours.

I also oppose the change in the lease and operating agreement. There is no need for such fast growth and money spending that is can't wait the two to four weeks for the assembly to hear from the people about it. I know that the involvement in the hospital may seem cumbersome to you since you already have a large list of responsibilities but please hold on to it. Your involvement brings accountability to the Board and the Administration. Everyone needs accountability.

Thank you for your time and your service,
Brenda Trefren

Subject:

FW: Hospital

-----Original Message-----

From: richardmcgahan [mailto:boulderpoint@alaska.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 9:19 AM

To: Carey, Dave

Subject: Hospital

Dear Mayor Carey and Assembly Members,

Please vote NO on the introduction of the ordinance being proposed by the Hospital Operating Board.

We need to reign in this board, and have more oversight by the elected board and the elected assembly members. We do not need more authority by people who are not elected. We certainly do not need to sell 51% of the hospital to any other entity.

As a side note: We also think it was inappropriate for an assembly member to travel with operating board members using hospital funds out of state to visit other facilities. We cannot see how this assembly member can remain unbiased in his vote.

We are sorry that we cannot attend tonight's meeting. Please consider this message our testimony on the issue.

Karen and Richard Mc Gahan

Nikiski

P.O.Box 456
Kasilof, AK 99610
Sept. 7, 2010

Kenai Peninsula Borough Assembly Board Members


RE: Should KPB sell CPH to LHP

I have lived in Alaska 48 years and watched the building, remodelings, additions and improvements of CPH, a major employer of so many local residents. This happened through the visions, services, efforts of local residents determined to have the highest quality, most modern health care for our community. I beg you **please DO NOT SELL OUR HOSPITAL to LHP whose mission is making money for their investors** – by skimming off the top profit of CPH. They will do this by making CPH produce as much profit as possible. It is bound to raise the costs of hospital care and cut down on employees and programs not producing money profits.

In the past our local directors and dedicated Board Members have found ways to pay for making the hospital what it is today. We are so privileged to live in a unique community that works toward the good of all and in my opinion, health care is a major necessity. It is currently given in a well-run, efficient hospital full of caring, compassionate employees and medical personnel. Let's keep it Alaskan, local, and continue **our main mission to provide quality health care to residents and visitors of Kenai Peninsula at affordable costs.** Use the profit as in the past to add services as needed and affordable and to maintain programs that don't necessarily make a money profit but definitely contribute to community health.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,


Mary Joe McElroy

Subject: FW: 2010-19-06

-----Original Message-----

From: Brian Hakkinen [mailto:hakkinen1234@acsalaska.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 4:05 PM

To: Blankenship, Johni; pa12gary@hotmail.com; psprague@acsalaska.net; akjfischer@hotmail.com; hvsmalley@yahoo.com; cpierce@gci.net; bsmith@xyz.net; gsuperman@gci.net; suemccl@gmail.com; mako@xyz.net

Subject: 2010-19-06

Good afternoon assemblymen

Please do not forget to vote down ordinance 2010-19-06. I do not use CPGH for medical services and as a taxpayer I do not want to enrich Mr Mundell et al just to build a medical empire. All of this spending on and within CPGH is totally irresponsible. VOTE NO!!!!

Thank you

Brian Hakkinen

24222 Kalifornsky Beach Road

Kasilof