



The **second** regular meeting of the Board of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District for the year 2026 was held on Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. through a hybrid meeting model.

Quorum was maintained for the duration of the meeting.

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Chair. S. Hewat	RDCK Village of Kaslo	In-Person
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(RDCK)

Director G. Jackman	Area A	In-Person
Alternate Director J. Smienk	Area E	
Director H. Cunningham	Area G	In-Person
Director W. Popoff	Area H	In-Person
Director A. Davidoff	Area I	
Director H. Hanegraaf	Area J	In-Person
Director T. Weatherhead	Area K	
Director B. Bogle	City of Castlegar	In-Person
Director A. McLaren-Caux	Village of Nakusp	In-Person
Director K. Page	City of Nelson	In-Person
Director D. Lockwood	Village of Salmo	
Director L. Main	Village of Silverton	

(RDKB)

Director A. Grieve	Area A	
Director L. Worley	Area B	In-Person
Director G. McGregor	Area C	In-Person
Director C. Linton	Area D	
Director S. Gibbs	Area E	In-Person
Director C. Guesford	Village of Fruitvale	In-Person
Director E. Baker	City of Grand Forks	
Director C. Rhodes	City of Greenwood	

Director J. Willsey	Village of Midway	
Director P. Caron	Village of Montrose	In-Person
Director A. Morel	Village of Rossland	In-Person
Director T. Martin	City of Trail	In-Person
Director F. Marino	Village of Warfield	

ELECTED DIRECTORS ABSENT:

Director A. Watson	Area D – RDCK
Director C. Graham	Area E – RDCK
Director T. Newell	Area F – RDCK
Director L. Casley	Village of New Denver - RDCK
Director E. Buller	Village of Slocan
Director J. Weaver	City of Rossland
Director L. Wiese	Area D

STAFF PRESENT

S. Horn	Secretary/Treasurer
M. Morrison	Deputy Secretary
C. Hopkyns	Recording Secretary

1. ZOOM REMOTE MEETING INFO

To promote openness, transparency and provide accessibility to the public we provide the ability to attend the WKBRHD meetings in-person or remote (hybrid model).

Meeting Time:

6:00 p.m. PST
8:00 p.m. MST

Join by Video:

<https://rdck-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/92552748566?pwd=Wxv0pyVwN6b1QknuGNqRcLbzd26dz.1>

Join by Phone:

833 958 1164 Canada Toll-free
*6 to unmute or mute
*9 to raise or lower your hand

Meeting ID: 925 5274 8566

Meeting Password: 174991

In-Person Location: The Confluence - 1995 6th Ave. Castlegar V1N 4B7

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Hewat called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

3. TRADITIONAL LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

We acknowledge and respect the Indigenous peoples within whose traditional lands we are meeting today.

4. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

09/26 The agenda for the March 25, 2026 West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Board meeting be adopted with the inclusion of

- Item 5.1 - Appointment of Alternate Director - Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area D;
- Item 8.7 – 2026 Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Government (AKBLG) – Minister Osborne’s Attendance;

before circulation.

Carried

5. RECEIPT OF MINUTES

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

10/26 The January 28, 2026 West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital Board meeting minutes be adopted.

Carried

5.1 Appointment of Alternate Director - Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area D

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

11/26 That Christine Linton be appointed as Alternate Director of the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District for 2026 representing the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Area D.

Carried

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Dr. Carly Sylvester and Dr. Steven Sylvester - Medical Feasibility Study for a Tier 2 Rural Health Hub at Big White Ski Resort

The presentation from Dr. Carly Sylvester and Dr. Steven Sylvester, re: Proposal for a West Boundary Rural Health Hub, has been received.

The letter of support from Michael Ballingall, Big White Ski Resort Senior Vice President, re: Proposal for a West Boundary Rural Health Hub, has been received.

Dr. Carly Sylvester gave a presentation to the Board on a Strategic Case for a Tier 2 Medical Hub at Big White Mountain.

Dr. Sylvester began by presented on clinical risk and service inequity in West Boundary. She shared the vision for the Tier 2 Medical Hub at Big White Mountain that would reduce these risks and inequities:

1. Trauma Stabilization – On-site X-ray and stabilization.
2. Primary & Urgent Care – establishing a longitudinal medical home for 1,000+ permanent residents;
3. Specialist Outreach – A satellite site to provide sub-specialty follow-ups for RDKB patients;
4. Clinical Teaching – A designated rural trauma training site for to aid long-term physician recruitment and retention.

Dr. Sylvester reviewed next steps, requesting the WKBRHD authorize funding for a formal Medical Feasibility Study, sharing the study is the first step to accurately assess the site, capital, and diagnostic requirements necessary to align West Boundary with provincial safety standards.

Dr. Sylvester and Interior Health staff answered the Boards questions.

6.2 Interior Health Authority

Matt Wilkie, Corporate Director, Business Operations

Lannon de Best, Executive Director, Clinical Operations – Kootenay Boundary

6.2.1 West Kootenay Boundary Nelson Mental Health & Substance Use (MHSU) Update

The presentation from Lannon de Best and Matt Wilkie, re: West Kootenay Boundary Nelson Mental Health & Substance Use (MHSU) Update, has been received.

The report Mental Health & Substance Use (MHSU) Services in Nelson, has been received.

Lannon deBest provided an update to the Board regarding the Nelson Mental Health & Substance Use (MHSU) services, the Nelson Community Health Centre flood and physician recruitment.

Director Main joined the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

7. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

7.1 Interior Health Capital Funding Request for the 2026/27 Fiscal Year

The letter dated December 22, 2025 from Interior Health, re: Capital Funding Request for the 2026/27 Fiscal Year, has been received for information.

7.2 Bylaw No. 440: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Elevator Modernization for Boundary Hospital, Grand Forks

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

12/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 440, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

13/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 440, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.3 Bylaw No. 441: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Fire Alarm System for Castlegar District Health Centre, Castlegar

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

14/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 441, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

15/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 441, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.4 Bylaw No. 442: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Permanent Doors on Patient Rooms in Emergency Department for Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital, Nelson

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

16/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 442, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

17/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 442, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.5 Bylaw No. 443: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Heating Boilers Replacement for Nelson Jubilee Manor, Nelson

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

18/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 443, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

19/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 443, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.6 Bylaw No. 444: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Acute Room 2 Wheelchair Accessible Bathroom for Arrow Lakes Hospital, Nakusp

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

20/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 444, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

21/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 444, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.7 Bylaw No. 445: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Laundry Air Handling Unit Replacement for Boundary Hospital, Grand Forks

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

22/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 445, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

23/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 445, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.8 Bylaw No. 446: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Seclusion Room Door for Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital, Nelson

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

24/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 446, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

25/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 446, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.9 Bylaw No. 447: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Lower Main Conditional Power Distribution Redesign and Replacement for Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Trail

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

26/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 447, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

- 27/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 447, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.
- Carried**
- 7.10 Bylaw No. 448: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw**
Rural Emergency Department Project for Arrow Lakes Hospital, Nakusp
- Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:
- 28/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 448, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.
- Carried**
- Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:
- 29/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 448, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.
- Carried**
- 7.11 Bylaw No. 449: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw**
Interior Health-Wide Digital Health Projects
- Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:
- 30/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 449, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.
- Carried**
- Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:
- 31/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 449, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.12 Bylaw No. 450: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Thulium Laser for Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Trail

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

32/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 450, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

33/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 450, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.13 Bylaw No. 451: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) Towers for Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital, Trail

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

34/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 451, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

35/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 451, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.14 Bylaw No. 452: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Monitoring System, Physiological for Kootenay Lake Regional Hospital, Nelson

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

36/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 452, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

37/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 452, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.15 Bylaw No. 453: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Equipment under \$100,000 (Global Grant)

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

38/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 453, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

39/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No. 453, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.16 Bylaw No. 454: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw

Annual Budget for the year 2026

The report dated March 25, 2026 from Stuart Horn, WKBRHD Secretary/Treasurer, re: Draft 2026 Budget Scenarios, has been received.

The Board had a discussion and staff answered questions.

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

40/26 That the WKBRHD Board approve budget Scenario B, as presented in the materials at the March 25, 2026 Open Board meeting, which sets taxation at \$ 5,272,940 and a contribution from reserve of \$1,185,424.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

41/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No.454, 2026 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

42/26 That the West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure Bylaw No.454, 2026 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

7.17 Bylaw 439: West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw

Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

43/26 That the following motion BE REFERRED to the June 25, 2026 West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Board meeting:

West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw No. 439, 2025 is hereby read the FIRST, SECOND and THIRD time.

Carried

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

44/26 That the following motion BE REFERRED to the June 24, 2026 West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Board meeting:

West Kootenay-Boundary Regional Hospital District Capital Expenditure & Borrowing Bylaw No. 439, 2025 is hereby ADOPTED and the Chair and the Secretary are authorized to sign same.

Carried

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.1 Chair's Report

Chair Hewat provided a verbal update sharing on her recent meeting with Interior Health.

8.2 WKBRHD Accounts Payable Summary

The WKBRHD Accounts Payable Summary from the RDCK Finance Department for January - February 2026, has been received.

8.3 Interior Health Authority and Regional Hospital District Meetings

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

45/26 That attendance at the annual meetings between the Interior Health Authority and Regional Hospital District Chairs be approved for the Chair and the Secretary Treasurer on an ongoing basis, and that the Chair's per diem and allowances be paid in accordance with West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District Bylaw No. 117 and subsequent amendments.

Carried

8.4 Director Gibbs: Letter of Support - Funding for Feasibility Study - Trauma Centre at Big White Mountain

The letter dated March 14, 2026 from Sharen Gibbs, RDKB Director, re: Letter of Support - Funding for Feasibility Study - Trauma Centre at Big White Mountain, has been received.

8.5 2026 UBCM Convention – Provincial Cabinet Minister meeting Priority Topics

The Board had a discussion regarding priority topics for the 2026 UBCM Convention Provincial Cabinet Minister meetings.

The following items were discussed:

- Mental health issues and follow up after mental health emergencies.
- The paused Bill 12 Public Health Accountability and Cost Recovery Act – online harm legislation and holding the government accountable to hold companies accountable, including social media platforms, for the mental health harm that arise from their platforms.
- Additional topic priorities may come out of the AKBLG convention discussion with Honourable Josies Osborne.

Based off the Board’s feedback, the Executive Committee will meet before the June Board meeting to determine the 2026 WKBHRD priority topics.

8.6 2026 Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Government (AKBLG) – Minister Osborne’s Attendance

Director McLaren-Caux shared with the Board that at the 2026 AKBLG Convention, Honourable Josie Osborne, Minister of Health, and Sylvia Weir, CEO of Interior Health will be attending for a facilitated discussion regarding health care in our region. He encouraged the Board to submit their questions or topics in advance of the convention.

9. QUESTION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC AND MEDIA

The Chair will call for questions from the public and members of the media at 7:21 p.m.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved and seconded,
And Resolved:

46/26 The meeting be adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Carried

Digitally Approved

Suzan Hewat, Chair

Christine Hopkyns, Secretary