**LWV Observer Corps: Public Hospital District (PHD) Meeting August 24, 2022**

**Peace Island Medical Center (PIMC) Half Year Report:** Review of services provided. They have added in-house **physical therapy** and **speech therapy** and are looking for an **occupational therapist**. They have pharmacy services and can dispense Paxlovid. Both the hospital and the clinic side are interviewing for social workers. They are looking for a medical director. They are planning to replace the **CT Scanner.**

Commissioners asked about meeting the need for **urgent care.** PIMC agreed there is a need; they have seen a significant increase (about 30%) in people coming to the emergency room for after-hours urgent care. They would need more staff to expand clinic hours, but have tried to address some cost issues by creating three ER billing levels depending on the service. Standard ER service is level 3, but they now have levels 1 and 2. An open question is whether PIMC should be the community urgent care provider.

The Commission approved the **six-month subsidy for PIMC.**

**Staff Reports:** The PHD has plenty of cash on hand and will make a bond payment shortly. Finances were normal for the month. They are finalizing a contract with Faber on the feasibility study for the **Village expansion.** Contract came in under budget. They will move forward on adding a Medicaid room/s. They may do a similar contract for the **EMS building expansion**. They have confirmed that the PHD legally could provide **housing for medical staff** and will explore this issue further. There is a **delay** in finalizing a contract for **new office space** on Market Street.

The Council approved pursuing a **low-interest loan** via a State program to finance **EMS equipment.**

The Commission approved waiving their fee ($400) for EMS stand-by services for the **Pride Festival** on August 13 as a one-time support to healthcare for a marginalized community.

The Commission approved the **disposal of furniture** and non-working room refrigerators from the Village.

The commissioners discussed the ongoing review and overhaul of their **policies and procedures.**