

January 22, 2026

1. Call to Order:

The Healthcare Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order by Chair Lacey Simpson at 9:00 a.m. This meeting took place in Council Chambers at City Hall, 334 Front Street, Ketchikan, Alaska.

2. Roll Call:

Committee Members' Present:

City of Ketchikan

Lacey Simpson - Chair

Jai Mahtani – City Council member appointed
to replace Councilmember Zenge

Amanda Robinson - City Asst. Public Works
Director

Kim Stanker - City Clerk

PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center

Sarah Cook – Chief Administrative Officer

Scott Smith – Vice Chair, Director of Support Services

Committee Members Absent

Judy Zenge and Tim Horton both submitted
resignation letters.

3. Communications:

Documents provided by PeaceHealth that will be discussed under New Business.

4. Persons to be Heard:

Dr. Peter Rice said he was not speaking for the hospital today, but wanted to share his history as a physician in Ketchikan. He said he has seen and appreciated the City and the community's strong investment in the hospital. He reminded everyone of the hospital's access to high-quality specialists, as some of them are regionally ranked and some are nationally ranked. He indicated that the services the hospital provides are not typical of a community of our size and stated some of the state-of-the-art equipment available. He stated this is a challenging healthcare environment and hoped the partnership continues for another 100 years.

Dr. Mark Wever said that it is an advanced, crucial access hospital for a town this size, but it's not what it could be. He questioned whether the governing body was located in Ketchikan or in Washington State. He felt there was a lot of changeover in staff happening, and we are coming up to the hospital lease review. He felt the hospital had become corporatized, and we need to have increased transparency. He thanked everyone for serving.

5. Approval of Minutes:

Following a review of the draft minutes from the October 28, 2025, Healthcare Advisory Committee meeting, it was moved by Smith and seconded by Robinson to approve the draft minutes of October 28, 2025. The committee unanimously approved the minutes as presented.

6. Unfinished Business:

Update on Same Day Clinic -PeaceHealth – Postponed from the October 28, 2025, meeting

Member Cook updated the committee on the operations of the Same-Day Clinic. She answered questions from the committee.

A. Emergency Department /Renovation Update – Postponed from the October 28, 2025, meeting.

Member Cook stated they are currently working through all the steps for the Certificate of Need and will have more information at the next meeting.

Member Smith stated that the work continues, and they are getting closer to the final design on Phase II for the lab, noting that Phase I CT scan is complete.

Chair Simpson stated these two items are standing agenda items, and we should continue having updates, unless there are any objections, and none were heard.

7. New Business:

A. Nomination of Chair (PeaceHealth rep) and Vice-Chair (City rep) for 2026

A nomination for Chair was made by Member Cook and seconded by Member Robinson to nominate Member Scott Smith as Chair.

The motion was carried by unanimous consent.

A nomination for Vice-Chair was made by Member Simpson and seconded by Member Mahtani to nominate Member Robinson as Vice-Chair.

The motion was carried by unanimous consent.

Member Simpson passed the gavel to Chair Smith.

B. Draft Brochure on HAC & Community Health Board – City – Postponed from the October 28, 2025, meeting.

Chair Smith stated the City will talk about the draft brochure providing information on the Healthcare Advisory Committee (HAC) and the Community Health Board.

Member Simpson said this brochure was put together in response to the community wanting to know how to submit comments and concerns about their care at the hospital. She said the City

has worked with Kate Govaars to get information regarding the Community Health Board, and the City provided information about the duties of the HAC. She said she would like the members of the committee to review it for comments and corrections so it can be finalized and made available for the public.

Member Cook said PeaceHealth made business-sized cards with this information and a scannable QR code. She indicated the intent was to help the public with easy reference to the website to be able to provide us with comments, concerns, complaints, or positive input.

Chair Smith said this will be on the next agenda as Unfinished Business for finalization.

8. Future Agenda Items:

Chair Smith said he would like a more in-depth discussion and status update regarding capital items that are included in the lease. He said the hospital is currently looking at this list to make sure the priorities still make sense and will share its update with the City soon.

He encouraged members to reach out to him if they think of something before the next meeting.

Member Cook provided information regarding some of the topics at the Council work session back in November 2025. She said this report provides information on:

- CMS Spot Survey of New Horizons.
- Core Services and how they are maintained.
- Regulatory Oversight – State and National.
- Complaint Process & Patient Relations Regarding Patient Complaints and Grievance Process.
- Internal and External Patient and Caregiver Escalation Pathways.
- Behavioral Health – Telehealth.
- Community Health Board (CHB), including Scope and Physician & Clinician Credentialing.

Member Cook provided information on the hospital's 2024 and 2025 financial statements, along with the hospital's quarterly financials for 2025 and 2026. She informed that all of their revenue stays in Ketchikan. She said on behalf of PeaceHealth, they appreciate the partnership with the City.

Member Simpson said between the last HAC meeting, the Town Hall meeting, and the special meeting of the City Council, there were a lot of questions and information that were requested of PeaceHealth, and she thanked PeaceHealth for compiling this information, it may not cover everything, but it is a great start and presents easily digestible information that addresses a lot of those requests.

9. Comments from Healthcare Advisory Committee:

Member Simpson stated this is likely her last HAC meeting and that she enjoyed working with all the members of the committee. She said it has been a great experience and a privilege to be part of a committee that is different from anything else the City has had related to the lease with PeaceHealth.

Member Mahtani thanked the committee for having him and would like to also thank Member Simpson for her services to this committee, many other committees, and her services to the City, as she will be missed.

Members Smith and Cook echoed comments made by other members, as it has been a privilege to work with Member Simpson, and they appreciated all of her work on the committee.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Healthcare Advisory Committee, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 9:31 a.m. The next meeting of the Healthcare Advisory Committee will take place on Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall.

Respectfully Submitted by: Kim Stanker, City Clerk
City of Ketchikan