



RESOLUTION  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MISSOURI RIVER MEDICAL CENTER

WHEREAS, numerous reports and studies authored by the University of Montana, including well respected consulting firms, have independently demonstrated the HELP Act has significantly benefited more than 95,000 Montanans who have received health care coverage as of October 1, 2018, representing 9.3% of our state's population; and

WHEREAS, the HELP Act has improved health outcomes and led to early detection of disease, ensured 7,026 women received breast cancer screenings, averted 2,313 possible cases of colon cancer, provided 28,683 patients with outpatient mental health services, delivered outpatient substance abuse treatment to 7,146 adults, and provided 86,995 adults with general preventive services; and

WHEREAS, in Chouteau County, more than 330 residents representing 5.6% of the population are now receiving health care coverage under the HELP Act, resulting in 319 preventative primary care visits; and

WHEREAS, hospitals across Montana have seen uninsured rates reduced 54% and more importantly, Missouri River Medical Center has experienced a 94% reduction in bad debt levels; and

WHEREAS, although the HELP Act has benefited Missouri River Medical Center and other hospitals, the loss of coverage would in many cases cause irreparable harm and put at risk the financial viability of numerous hospitals throughout the state, with studies indicating that during the first 2 years of Medicaid expansion nationally, hospitals in expansion states were 6 times less likely to close than hospitals in non-expansion states; and

WHEREAS, health care is the largest source of private sector income in Montana, representing 1 in 5 dollars earned and the second largest source of private sector employment representing 15.6% of the industry total, paying 25% higher than the statewide average; and

WHEREAS, the HELP Act has significantly stimulated Montana's economy, including in its smaller communities, with the University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research reporting that 584 health care jobs were added in areas outside Montana's larger cities and towns in the first two years following Medicaid expansion after several years of stagnant or declining health care employment. Additionally, as the result of the HELP Act, 5,000 new jobs, \$270 million in personal income and \$500 million in additional economic output has been added to Montana's overall economy; and

WHEREAS, the HELP Act has served as an economic incentive for small businesses unable to provide health insurance by making coverage available for working Montanans and generating



\$36 million in state budget savings by using federal funds to pay for state programs, freeing up state tax dollars for other priorities; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MISSOURI RIVER MEDICAL CENTER endorses the HELP Act and further recognizes our patients, caregivers, and the citizens of Chouteau County have a compelling interest in ensuring our hospital remains financially viable and an economic engine for our surrounding area; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MISSOURI RIVER MEDICAL CENTER strongly requests our legislative delegation and the Montana Legislature to reach a bipartisan solution to continue Medicaid Expansion beyond its scheduled sunset date and protect health care coverage for almost 100,000 Montanans and the \$2.6 billion economic engine it has created.

APPROVED ON THIS DAY, DECEMBER 14, 2018, BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MISSOURI RIVER MEDICAL CENTER.

Michael O'Hara  
NAME

Michael O'Hara  
SIGNATURE

Tricia Tuedeman  
NAME

Tricia Tuedeman  
SIGNATURE

Roger L. Pugh  
NAME

Roger L. Pugh  
SIGNATURE

Nikki Stovall  
NAME

Nikki Stovall  
SIGNATURE



**Missouri River Medical Center**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**Special Meeting**  
**December 14, 2018**

A special meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Missouri River Medical Center was held on December 14, 2018 in the Reach Room of Missouri River Medical Center. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mike O'Hara at 3:15 PM.

**Members:** Members present were Mike O'Hara, Tricia Juedeman, Roger Pugh, and Nikki Stovall which constitutes a quorum. Also present were Louie King, CEO; Janice Woodhouse, COO-DON; and Star Taylor, Recorder.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the November 27, 2018 meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION:** The MRMC Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the November 27, 2018 meeting as written. Motion was made by Roger Pugh, second by Tricia Juedeman. Motion passed unanimously.

**Board Action Items:**

- **MoFi Loan Phase II Application:**

**MOTION:** The MRMC Board of Trustees approves proceeding with the MoFi Phase II Application for \$2,500,000 in USDA Rural Development funds for the construction of a new Rural Health Clinic. Motion was made by Nikki Stovall second by Tricia Juedeman. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Letter of Resolution for the continuation of Medicaid Expansion:**

**MOTION:** The Board of Trustees of Missouri River Medical Center strongly requests our legislative delegation and the Montana Legislature to continue the HELP Act and protect health care coverage for almost 100,000 Montanans and the \$2.6 billion economic engine it has created. Motion was made by Roger Pugh, second by Tricia Juedeman. Motion passed unanimously.

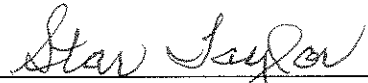
**MOTION:** The MRMC Board of Trustees approve going into executive session to discuss the Benefis Contract. Motion was made by Nikki Stovall, second by Roger Pugh. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** The MRMC Board of Trustees approve coming out of executive session. Motion was made by Nikki Stovall, second by Roger Pugh. Motion passed unanimously.

**MOTION:** The MRMC Board of Trustees approves adjourning the meeting. Motion was made by Tricia Juedeman, second by Roger Pugh. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Mike O'Hara, Chairman

  
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Star Taylor, Recorder