



My name is Ralph Strickland.

Simply put, I chose to run for the Park Hospital District (PHD) board out of a desire to continue to serve my community. Also, as I believe there's demand for transparency, I saw this opportunity to contribute and chose to step-up. Although, I don't have any 'alphabet soup' after my name, nor any licensure, nor a medical filter through which I view the world... I believe that frees me to be more candid and transparent in my dealings with friends and neighbors, and I imagine possibly more so than others seeking the same PHD vacancies.

My present and past experiences working in public health, closely collaborating with non-profit organizations and building rapport with private citizen stakeholders – prior to, during and following the pandemic – make me a well-rounded candidate for a seat at PHD's board. I think there is value in what I can contribute – given that I am a bit of a non-conformist, free thinker, and a simple man at heart. Finding consensus can be challenging in times of change – like with the possible UHealth partnership – but I can foster genuine communication, engage Estes Valley stakeholders and broker some much-needed transparency if selected.

Given my experience of being a part of a non-profit's leadership, in two significant positions, I know I positively affected the marketing of our organization, it's footprint in the community, and improved communication related to the services for our target populations to the extent that fund-raising improved, as well as building new relationships with external (corporate) stakeholders within the county and region.

a) There should be a recurring and full accounting as to why the Estes Valley District residents' and business owners' taxes are being collected – nowhere in the Minutes did I see an explanation. b) Items mentioned/annotated in the Regular Monthly meetings, should require monthly updates (with funding impacts) until the action is considered 'complete' – without 'tabling' it indefinitely; c) as Balance Sheets and Statements of Revenue don't provide comprehensive explanations as to how our taxes are spent – there needs to be an Agenda item in the Finance Subcommittee's Meeting for Public Comments on Items ON the Agenda.

This is a simple question with a complex answer. It has been my personal experience, as a patient of hospital systems (in my past) that in such 'mergers' things are both gained and lost – it is the inevitable mark of change. Do we need more services? Yes; but, at what frequencies such specialists can be retained is going to require proper assessments and

more than simple surveys tossed at us. Will the proposed partnership require tax increases to/for the PHD? That will largely depend on what we could expect to get for the taxes we currently provide.