**LWV Observer Corps: Public Hospital District (PHD) Meeting September 28, 2022**

The Commission approved **the 2nd Half grant to Planned Parenthood of Mount Baker.** PPMB head Linda McCartney reported that they had **hired a Nurse Practitioner who resides on San Juan Island** who will **open the office three days a week** and **provide telemedicine.** She asked about the possibility of additional grant assistance to offset the cost of training. The PHD asked for brief written proposal; money was budgeted for possible additional PPMB needs.

PHD **finances are sound.** There are continued issues with the County acting as Treasurer, and the manager got approval to explore the PHD taking on that role and **creating a fulltime financial position. Capital projects** at the Village and EMS building are **moving forward**. Peace Health is doing preliminary work to look at creating **housing for healthcare employees.** The manager will continue negotiations to lease **new space on Market Street.** The Commission approved paying for Lifecare memberships for employees.

The **Village** is fully occupied and has a waitlist**.** The respite space is now getting booked.Staff will visit Bellingham long term care facilities in November as they work on the vision for expansion of the Village. The Village has launched a **concierge service** and a **new electronic health records system.** They will be **painting** the interior and getting **new carpet** this fall and **new furniture** in the spring. **Medicaid approval** has gone through phase one and it is expected phase two will be processed quickly.

They are doing a **whole county survey of those 65 and over of needed home health services** and their service partner will be presenting their work on October 13 at the Brickworks.

At **EMS,** morale is high and **summer season performance was top notch.** The **radio gaps** continue to be **serious; the service provider is sending a rep** to review the situation. Commission approved funds to test and document radio problems, if necessary. **Union negotiations** are underway.