



TETON VALLEY HEALTH CARE

Partners in Health for a Lifetime

120 East Howard Avenue, Driggs, Idaho 83422
208-354-2383

For more information, please contact:

Amanda De Rito, Director of Community Relations

aderito@tvhcare.org

208-354-6319

Rachel Gonzales, Assistant Administrator and CNO

rgonzales@tvhcare.org

208-354-6317 ext. 139

For immediate release:

DRIGGS, IDAHO, OCTOBER 25, 2007. Teton Valley Health Care, encompassing Teton Valley Hospital, Driggs Health Clinic, and Victor Health Clinic, has enjoyed rapid growth in recent years. This growth has brought with it many difficult challenges—for instance, the need for additional space as the community continues asking for more health-care services—along with tremendous opportunities. Because of the complexities involved, the governing board has concluded that it is time to bring in new leadership to help steer the organization toward its future.

Toward this end, chief executive officer (CEO) Susan Kunz has been offered an early retirement, and has accepted. Kunz has been with the system for 31 years, 21 of them as CEO.

“Susan Kunz has been at the heart and soul of this medical facility for many years,” McCullough-McCoy said, “and has been the person pushing for the hospital’s health and well-being. Many past governing board members have told me that Teton Valley would not even have a health care system today were it not for Susan Kunz.”

Kunz was at the helm in the late 1980s when the hospital needed to make the decision whether to close its doors or expand and attract new doctors. The choice was an expansion, which took place in the mid-1990s. Today, TVHC has seven doctors on staff, offers 24/7 emergency room coverage, and employs more than 150 people.

“I have witnessed this woman display great courage and tenacity during my seven years as a governing board member,” McCullough-McCoy said. “I firmly believe that every person in Teton Valley has benefited from her hard work.”

“Patients and their families come first at Teton Valley Hospital, and Susan Kunz has been the strength behind that statement,” added governing board member Janet Penfold.

A national search will begin immediately for a new hospital CEO. Rachel Gonzales, TVHC’s chief of nursing, will serve as interim CEO until a replacement is selected.

Members of the governing board of TVH are appointed by the board of county commissioners to serve three-year terms. The current governing board is made up of McCullough-McCoy (since 2000 and chair since August 2006); Jerry Hall (since 2006 and current vice chair); Joe Martinez (since 2005 and treasurer); Bill Reid, Janet Penfold, and Geordie Gillett (all appointed in 2005); and Steve Hoopes (appointed in 2006).