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Report: Merred offered Idaho job

Doug Flanagan/Post-Register
Dec. 17, 2009

Quincy Valley Medical Center administrator Mehdi Merred has been offered the job of chief medical officer at Teton Valley Health Care in Driggs, Idaho, according to a report in an Idaho newspaper.

The Teton Valley News reported on its Web site on Dec. 9 that Merred was selected by a unanimous vote of Teton Valley Health Care board members on Dec. 9. The Idaho hospital has been without a permanent chief administrator for nearly a year, according to the report.

According to a report on the same Web site on Dec. 7, Merred was one of four finalists for the position, but pulled his name from consideration.

ADVERTISEMENT Merred was contacted by the Post-Register, but declined to comment on whether he's going to take the job in Idaho.

Teton Valley Health Care board chairman Michael Whitfield didn't return several messages seeking comment.

According to the report, Virgil Boss, a senior administrator from St. John's in Jackson, Wyo., was voted the board's No. 2 two pick for the position, in the event that Merred declines the job offer.

"I think we came to the table with some good candidates, and the board concurred with that," Whitfield told the Teton Valley News. "With all the diligence the (CEO recruitment) committee put into reviewing the candidates, they obviously did their homework. I felt like we had a pretty comprehensive process, and we had a pretty good indication of the quality of the candidates. The next test will be how they do on the job."

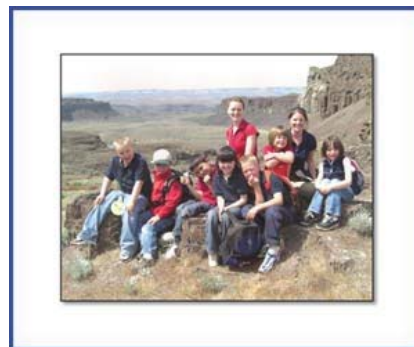
According to the report, TVHC board members expressed some concerns about Merred's brief tenures at previous hospitals, but otherwise showed a great deal of confidence in his ability as a hospital CEO.

The selection followed a public meeting the previous day, where hospital staff and other members of the public were invited to speak in favor of, or in opposition to, the three CEO candidates named as finalists in the CEO recruitment process, according to the report. At that meeting, comments made by the public and by hospital staff were overwhelmingly in support of Merred.

Last week several Quincy Valley Medical Center employees implored the hospital's board of directors to do everything it could to keep Merred in Quincy.

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1 Comment

#1

Michele Wurl commented, on December 17, 2009 at 2:40 p.m.:

In an all staff meeting this afternoon, Mr. Merred confirmed that he will be staying at Quincy Valley Medical Center. His announcement was met with a round applause by everyone present.

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