

IMPulse

Intermountain Media Pulse

A TRUETONE INCORPORATED COMPANY

**news
CLIP**

11623 Lake Shore
Nampa, ID 83686
(208) 880-9814

FOR YOUR INFORMATION
The Lewiston Tribune
Lewiston, Idaho
Sunday Sept. 24, 2017
by Elaine Williams
Page 1 of 1

A new reality at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center after job cuts

Employees from all parts of St. Joseph Regional Medical Center found themselves without work earlier this month when the hospital eliminated 62 positions — 6 percent of its workforce.

Positions of nurses and executives were cut.

“We have eliminated ‘manager’ positions to decrease reporting layers,” states a memorandum shared with the hospital’s board, staff, volunteers and the Tribune.

“We believe that this change will ultimately increase communication, foster team work, provide more support on the nursing units and give all staff (patient and non-patient care) the opportunity to work and practice at their highest skill level,” according to the memorandum.

A total of 956 employees now work at St. Joe’s. The decision affects everyone in the region. The hospital offers the highest level of emergency care between the Boise and Spokane areas. It also has a monopoly on certain types of services in the Lewiston-Clarkston Valley such as child birth.

The new owner of St. Joe’s, RCCH HealthCare Partners, made the changes because the uncertainty about the hospital’s ownership in the last three years “resulted in deteriorating financial health for the hospital,” according to the memorandum.

What is next for the hospital rests with its leadership. RCCH HealthCare Partners is part of a fund of Apollo Global Management, a multibillion dollar investment firm. The board of the hospital chain is comprised of three representatives from Apollo Global Management, people with experience as medical administrators, a former U.S. senator, an attorney and a CEO of a company that provides services to the health care industry.

RCCH HealthCare Partners has hired two executives to fill key positions at the Lewiston hospital. They are Blain Claypool and Jeff Baiocco. Claypool will serve as the CEO and arrives Monday. He comes to Lewiston from Jacksonville, Fla., where he was president of acute care for St. Vincent’s Healthcare system. His previous employer was part of Ascension Health, the previous owner of St. Joe’s.

Baiocco joined St. Joe’s on Sept. 18 as the chief financial officer. Since 2010 he served in that same role at Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center in Idaho Falls.

###