

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District Board of Directors met in a regular monthly meeting on Thursday April 22, 2021 at 5:30 pm in the Education Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Directors present: Tanner Black, Becky Bridwell, Cynthia Cooper, Harold McNutt, Carla Purcella, Mike Schueler and Chris Woodard.

Other attendees: Jeff Barnhart, CEO; Javier Vallejo, CFO; Candice Smith, CNO; Jodi Jordan, Admin Asst.; Dr. Trevor Rohm, Medical Director.

1. Call to Order, Pledge, and Invocation

Mike Schueler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. Mr. Schueler led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invitation.

2. Public Comment

No public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Purcella made a motion to approve the March 25, 2021 board minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Motion carried.

4. Chief Financial Officers Report

Review and approve financial statements and statistical reported for period ending February 28, 2021.

Mr. Vallejo presented the financial statements and statistical reports related to income, expenses, and budgeted operations for the periods ending March 31, 2021. For the month, the district had a net gain of \$674,531, which was above budget and prior year. This gain was attributed to the recognition of grant revenue from Covid expenditures. Year to date, the hospital has a net gain of \$3,627,133, which is higher than prior year and budget. Mrs. Bridwell made a motion to accept March 2021 financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodard. Motion carried.

Review and approve to seek bids for banking services.

Mr. Vallejo presented the 2021 Invitation to Bid packet to the board to seek bids for all banking services. Mr. McNutt made a motion to approve the bid invitation as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Purcella. Motion carried.

5. Chief Executive Officers Report

Physician Recruitment

Mr. Barnhart updated the board on physician recruitment. He continues working with a recruiting company to recruit a Family Practice/Obstetrics physician.

Hospital/Clinic connector corridor project

Mr. Barnhart gave a brief update on the project and the timeline for the project's bids and start date. One item of note was the price increase of construction materials. The bids close date will be May 6th. He then took questions from the board relating to the project. General comments of support were made by the board regarding the need for this project.

Radiology Project

The board was updated on the progress of the radiology project. Mr. Barnhart gave the board an update on the project. All radiology equipment has been installed except for the MRI and it should be onsite the first of May. This project will increase DSCHD patient's quality of care. Mr. Barnhart answered questions from the board regarding the equipment and project.

Clinic Flooring project

Mr. Barnhart updated the board on the progress of the clinic flooring project. There has been a delay. Rick Lovelady is working with the district to resolve this issue.

COVID-19 and Vaccination Clinic

Mr. Barnhart and Dr. Trevor Rohm gave an update on COVID-19. For the Deaf Smith County, we have a 20% COVID positive rate. Dr. Rohm estimates that 40% of the adult population in Hereford has had Covid. With this number, he reported that we could reach a "herd immunity" situation sooner than other rural communities. COVID-19 vaccines continue to be administered in the clinic. Mr. Barnhart reported that he is encouraged by the interest in the vaccine.

6. Utilization Review Plan – A'llan Bradley and Kristin Delossantos

Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Delossantos presented DSCHD updated utilization and CDI review plan PowerPoint. They updated the board on the progress to the plan and where the district today compared to prior years. Along with the presentation, Mrs. Delossantos presented to the board an updated Utilization Review policy for approval. Mr. McNutt made a motion to approve the Utilization Review policy on the recommendation of the staff that the policy is written based on best practices and compliance with regulations. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodard. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Chief Nursing Officer Report – Mrs. Smith

Mrs. Smith presented updated HRMC departmental policies and procedures, then answered questions related to the policies. Mr. Woodard made a motion to approve the HRMC policies on the recommendation of the staff that the policies are written based on best practices and in compliance with regulations. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bridwell. Motion passed unanimously. Mrs. Smith also congratulated Laboratory on the successful lab survey they received prior this week.

8. Medical Staff Report – Dr. Rohm

Dr. Rohm gave an update on COVID statistics and vaccination efforts, The State FEMA staff have been a great resource with the overflow of patients during out peak months. He reported that we are currently recruiting Nurse Practitioners to replace a couple of positions and for an OB/GYN and/or surgeon due to the retirement of Dr. John Gregg. He informed the board on the importance of documentation by all in the hospital to have a successful CDI and utilization review department.

Executive Session

At 7:20 pm, Mr. Schueler announced that a closed meeting would be held pursuant to Tex. Gov Code 161.032, Tex. Gov Code 551.071 and Health and Safety Code 161.032. At 7:21 pm, Mr. Black made a motion to reconvened in open session. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Bridwell.

The following action was taken:

Mr. McNutt made a motion to reappoint, appoint and voluntary resignation the following providers:

Initial Appointment: Reappointment

Consulting Status

Rollins, Joshua, DO - Orthopedics

Voluntary Resignations

Farr, Michael, DO - Orthopedics

Allied Health Initial or Reappointment

Provisional

Cachola, Jeremy, CRNA

Hoelting, Ashley, PA

Reappointment

Cruz, Susan, NP

Flores, Elisa, NP

Johnson, Julia, Ed.D

Voluntary Resignations

Shaffer, Ronald, CST

Mr. Woodard seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment

Mr. Woodard made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. McNutt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.



Mike Schuler, Board Chairman