

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District Board of Directors met in a regular monthly meeting on Thursday February 25, 2021 at 5:30 pm in the Education Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

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

Other attendees: Jeff Barnhart, CEO; Sharon Hunt, CFO; Javier Vallejo, CFO; Jodi Jordan, Admin Asst.; Tammy Clements, Infection Control; Dr. Trevor Rohm; Jeff Blackmon, Hereford Brand.

1. Call to Order, Pledge and Invocation

Mike Schueler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Mr. Schueler led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the Invocation.

2. Public Comment

No public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. McNutt made a motion to approve the January 28, 2021 board minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Woodard. Motion carried.

4. Chief Financial Officers Report

Review and approve financial statements and statistical reported for period ending January 31, 2021.

Mrs. Hunt presented the financial statements and statistical reports related to income, expenses, and budgeted operations for the periods ending January 31, 2021. The district had a net gain of \$2,068,236 for the month, which was above budget and prior year. The gain was attributed to grant revenue and increased net patient revenue. Year to date, the hospital had a net gain of \$2,417,784, which is higher than prior year and budget. Mr. Black made a motion to accept November 20, 2020 and December 31, 2020 financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodard. Motion carried.

Review and approve adding Javier Vallejo, CFO to bank signature cards for First Financial Bank and Happy State Bank

Mrs. Hunt requested to add Javier Vallejo, CFO to the bank signature cards. Mrs. Hunt will remain on the cards for availability to the accounts while training Mr. Vallejo. Mrs. Bridwell made a motion to approve Javier Vallejo on the signature cars. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Chief Executive Officers Report

Formal Introduction of new Chief Financial Officer Javier Vallejo

Mr. Barnhart introduced Mr. Vallejo to the board and expressed appreciation to the work he will be doing. Mr. Vallejo gave a brief introduction of himself. He has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration-Accounting from Texas Tech University and a Master of Science in Healthcare Administration from Texas Tech University Health Science Center. Mr. Vallejo is excited to be joining our organization and looks forward to being a part of the team.

The board welcomed Mr. Vallejo and wished Mrs. Hunt good luck in her future ventures and asked for her not to be a stranger.

Review and approve updated Human Resources Policy.

Mr. Barnhart presented the updated Compensatory Time policy and explained the pros and cons to the policy. The board discussed the policy at length. After all questions were answered, the board decided to not support the policy at this time. Mr. McNutt made a motion to not approval the policy at this time. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bridwell. Motion carried.

Radiology Project

Mr. Barnhart gave an update on the Radiology project. A mobile Cat Scan unit is being utilized during the construction and replacement. The project is running a week behind due to the weather. This radiology replacement project includes MRI, CAT Scan, Ultrasound, R&F equipment, and portable X-rays. Installing the new MRI will involve removing the roof and window to get the machine in the room. Mr. Barnhart believes the completion date will be in mid-April. Mr. Barnhart answered questions from the board regarding the equipment and project.

Corridor Project Update

Mr. Barnhart gave a brief update on the corridor project. The board was able to view documentation of the proposed plans for this project. Questions were asked and answered related to the corridor. Mr. Barnhart will continue to explore the viability of this project and how quick they could start.

Physician Recruitment

Mr. Barnhart updated the board on physician recruitment. He continues working with a recruiting company and they are continuing the process of recruiting a Family Practice/Obstetrics physician. Mr. Barnhart will be presenting two Nurse Practitioners job offers to join our team.

Rebranding and website redesign project

Mr. Barnhart updated the board on the continued redesign of our website by Groundswell, our marketing firm. He also expressed increased interest to rebrand our logo with a fresh and new design. The board asked questions and offered to help with this project.

COVID-19 Update

Mr. Barnhart, Mrs. Clements, and Dr. Trevor Rohm gave an update on COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines continue to be administered in the clinic. Mr. Barnhart reported difficulties with the state database which is causing issues related to vaccine reporting and obtaining additional vaccine. This has been an issue for over a month. We continue to work with the state to address the problem with little success. Mr. Barnhart reported that he is encouraged by the interest in the vaccine, noting a 40-plus page waiting list.

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 our peak months. He reported that currently there were no staff out with Covid-19 infections in the clinic or hospital. The district has

Executive Session

At 6:50 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 7:15 pm, Mr. Woodard made a motion to reconvened in open session. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black.

The following action was taken:

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

Initial Appointment: Reappointment

Hansen, Nathan, MD – General Surgery
Nazim, Muhammad, MD – General Surgery
Schneider, Daniel, MD – Pathology
Schocker, Jason, MD – Pathology
Sennett, Michael, MD – Pathology
Tod, Robert, MD - Pathology

Voluntary Resignations

Martinez-Arraras, Joaquin, MD – Cardiology (never returned packet)

Board Report

Dr. Andrew Lang, Emergency Room Physician received disciplinary actions on two charges.

Allied Health Initial or Reappointment

Initial Appointment – Provisional

Howell, Daniel, CRNA
Leasure, Tina, CRNA
Marquez, Genaro, CRNA
Spence, Gabriel, CRNA
Ward, Chris, CRNA (Red Flag)

Voluntary Resignations

Flood, Carmen, NP – Nurse Practitioner – Retired
Hartin, John, CRNA – Nurse anesthetist – Retired.
Newkirk, Marinda, NP – Nurse Practitioner

Mrs. Bridwell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment

Mr. Woodard made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. McNutt seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.



Mike Schuler, Board Chairman