

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District Board of Directors met in a regular monthly meeting on Monday January 27, 2022, at 5:30pm in the Education Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Directors present: Tanner Black, Becky Bridwell, Kevin Bunch, Cynthia Cooper, Mike Schueler and Chris Woodard.

Other attendees: Jeff Barnhart, CEO; Javier Vallejo, CFO; Candice Smith, CNO; Jodi Jordan, Admin Asst.; Dr. Trevor Rohm; Jim Steiert, Hereford Brand.

1. Call to Order, Pledge and Invocation

Mike Schueler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Schueler led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the Invocation.

2. Public Comment

No public comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Woodard made a motion to approve the November 29, 2021 board minutes. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Bridwell. Motion carried.

4. Chairman's Report

Election of Officers

Mr. Black made a motion to reappoint Mike Schueler – President, Chris Woodard – Vice President, and Becky Bridwell – Secretary. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bunch. Motion passed unanimously.

2021-2022 Deaf Smith County Hospital Board Committee Assignments

Mr. Schueler announced the following DSCHD Board committee assignments for 21-22.

- Executive: Mike Schueler Chair, Chris Woodard, Becky Bridwell
- Finance: Mike Schueler Chair, Kevin Bunch, Tanner Black
- Bylaws: Tanner Black, Becky Bridwell
- Joint Conference: Mike Schueler, Tanner Black
- Long Range Planning: Chris Woodard, Carla Purcella, Cynthia Cooper

5. Chief Financial Officers Report

Presentation of financial statements for November 30, 2021 and December 31, 2021.

Mr. Vallejo presented the financial statements and statistical reports related to income, expenses, and budgeted operations for the periods ending November 30, 2021 and December 31, 2021. For the month of November, the district had a net gain of \$469,396 for the month, which was above budget and higher than prior year. For the month of December, the district had a net gain of \$3,532,235 for the month. Of which, \$2,562,244 was recognized through a lost revenue calculation. Mr. Bunch made a motion to accept November and December financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Woodard. Motion carried.

6. Chief Executive Officers Report

Physician Recruitment

Mr. Barnhart gave a brief update to the board on the recruitment of providers for our clinic and hospital. He is looking for a new recruitment agency to help with locating a FPOB or OB/GYN. Our laboratory department is working with a recruiter who specializes in staffing from the Philippines. The district is also looking at recruiting nursing staff from the Philippines, Mexico, or Canada. He also reported on the hiring of a new Nurse Practitioner, Olga Prieto. She is building her patient load and progressing well. Katie Pemberton has started her outpatient/wound care clinic. She also rounds on all inpatients and will be performing blood transfusions, antibody infusions, and other hospital outpatient treatments. Mr. Barnhart commented on services to the community, such as the podiatrist coming once a week, our orthopedics coming in weekly, and the Texas Tech surgeons now seeing patients at the clinic and performing surgery in our hospital.

COVID 19 Pandemic Update

Mr. Barnhart, Mrs. Smith, and Dr. Rohm gave a brief update on COVID-19. Our district has had a big hit of COVID in 2022. Our ICU has been full since August 2021. The Med-Surg volume has also been steady. Most of our cases are the Omicron variant. They also reported that a high number of COVID inpatients are unvaccinated. With the continued pandemic and staffing shortage, facilities are struggling to care and transfer patients.

Facility Project Update

Mr. Barnhart gave an update on the corridor project. The project continues to move slowly but making progress. They should be pouring concrete this week and putting up steel.

Approve CEO to sign documents related to H-1B visa petitions.

Mr. Barnhart informed the board about the H-1B visa petitions to recruit Filipinos and working with the ambassador department. Mr. Woodard made motion to approve Mr. Barnhart to sign the H-1B visa petitions. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bridwell. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Chief Nursing Officer Report

Mrs. Smith gave the board a brief update on the nationwide staffing shortage. With the pandemic and traveling staff it has been difficult to maintain floors at all facilities. Hereford Regional Medical Center has been on OB diversion a couple of times during the week due to not enough nurses to cover shifts. As of today, she has 12 fulltime positions and 12 parttime positions open.

8. Medical Staff

Dr. Rohm discussed the district's clinical stats and answered questions. He commented that since August 2021, our facility has been busy with COVID and the different variants. Most all COVID patients have the Omicron variant.

Executive Session

At 6:30 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 and Tex. Gov't Code 551.074. At 7:05 pm, Mr. Black made a motion to reconvened in open session. Motion was seconded by Mrs. Bridwell. The following action was taken:

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

Initial Appointment: Provisional Status

Algilani, Kamran, DO – Emergency Medicine (Red Flag)

Childers, Manon, MD – Emergency Medicine (Red Flag)

Allied Health – Voluntary Resignation

Black, Kelly, CRNA – terminated due to not being part of the group we use

Hardie, Mary, CRNA – terminated due to not being part of the group we use

Hawkins, John, CRNA – terminated due to not being part of the group we use

Richardson, Christy, CRNA – terminated due to not being part of the group we use

Mrs. Cooper seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Bridwell made a motion to approve the Chief Executive Officer review and recommended salary. Mr. Bunch seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

9. Adjournment

Mrs. Bridwell made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Black seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.



Mike Schuler, Board Chairman