

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District Board of Directors met in a regular monthly meeting on Thursday April 24, 2025 at 5:30 pm in the Board Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Directors present: Tanner Black, Becky Bridwell, Kevin Bunch, and Tim Laws.

Other attendees: Candice Smith, CEO; Paul Gafford, CFO; Debra Whitley, FORVIS; Jodi Jordan, Admin Asst.; Dr. Trevor Rohm, Medical Director.

1. Call to Order, Pledge, and Invocation

Kevin Bunch, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Bunch led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the invocation.

2. Public Comment

Kevin Bunch acknowledges Becky Bridwell and her last meeting. Kevin and the rest of the board thanks her for her service, professionalism, expertise, and dedication.

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Black made a motion to approve the March 28, 202 board minutes. Motion was seconded by Mr. Woodard. Motion carried.

4. Chief Financial Officers Report

Review and approve financial statements and statistical reports for period ending March 31, 2024.

Mr. Gafford presented March financial information. The financial package included statistical data, balance sheets, and statements of revenue and expense with prior year comparisons and budget comparisons. Financial indicators continue to show a strong days cash on hand and current ratio. March 31, 2024 ended with a net loss of (\$252,086) and a year to date a net loss of (\$318, 850). Mr. Gafford made a conservative approach to recognize the net patient accounts receivable resulting from the cyberattack on Change Healthcare billing and care authorizations portals. Some insurance payor claims have been on hold since late February. The attack has negatively impacted cash and net days to collect patient accounts receivable. Also purchased services are up for ER services because there is a larger coverage from Southwest Medical Associates. Mr. Woodard made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Mrs. Bridwell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Review and approve Presentation of the Financial Year End September 30, 2023 Audit – Debra Whitley, FORVIS.

Deborah Whitley, CPA, a partner with FORVIS presented the audit. FORVIS issued a clean opinion on the financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2023. Mrs. Whitley discussed all the required communications in connection with the independent audit of the Hospital District. She answered questions from the board regarding several audit items and gave her insight into future healthcare challenges. Mr. Bridwell made a motion to approve the audit as presented. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Chief Executive Officers Report

Oracle Platform

Mrs. Smith gave a brief update on the Oracle platform, how it will help improve productivity in our clinic, the increase of patients and hopefully decrease in complaints, no calls, and increase revenue. She spoke with two clients using the platform. The facility she spoke with has had a good outcome with the platform. The board asked several questions regarding the platform and were pleased with the outcome and the recommendation.

Review and Approve Tim Laws on Finance committee.

Mrs. Smith recommended Tim Laws to serve on our Finance committee. Mrs. Bridwell made a motion to approve Tim Laws to serve on the DSCHD Finance Committee. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Motion carried.

6. Medical Staff Report – Dr. Rohm

Dr. Rohm gave an update on statistics for the clinic and the hospital. Our inpatient and swing bed has increased along with our wound care and outpatients. The summer months the district is typically slow across the district, so March has been a good month.

7. Executive Session

At 7: pm, Mr. Bunch 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 personal matters. At 7:45 pm, Mrs. Bridwell made a motion to reconvene in open session. Motion was seconded by Mr. Black. Motion carried.

The following action was taken:

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

Physician Initial or Reappointment

Provisional Status:

Arce, Alexandra, MD – Emergency Medicine
Martinez, Miriam, MD – Emergency Medicine
Murtagh, James, MD - Emergency Medicine
Palomarez, Rigo, MD - Emergency Medicine
Seymour, Elizabeth, MD - Emergency Medicine

Reappointment – Active, Courtesy and Consulting Status

Chase, Earl, DO – Emergency Medicine - Active
Aguilar, Rodrigo, MD - Emergency Medicine - Courtesy
Slatton, Monte, MD – Cardiology - Consulting

Allied Health Initial or Reappointment

Provisional

Klohn, August, CRNA – Nurse Practitioner
Myers, Tomas, PA – Physician Assistant
White, Linda, CRNA – Nurse Practitioner

Reappointment

Nathin Seals, PA – Emergency Medicine

Voluntary Resignations

Sealey, William, CRNA – Nurse Practitioner

Mrs. Bridwell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Woodard made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Bridwell seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.



Kevin Bunch, Board Chairman