Hereford Regional Medical Center
DEAF SMITH COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes April 23, 2026

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District Board of Directors met in a regular monthly meeting on Thursday, April 23, 2026, at 5:30 pm in the Board Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Directors present: Robert Delacruz, Tim Laws, Carla Purcella and Chris Woodard.
Other attendees: Candice Smith, CEO; Paul Gafford CFO; Kay Gudgell, CNO; Jodi Jordan, Admin Asst.; Dr. Trevor Rohm; and Jim Steiert, Hereford Brand.

1. **Call to Order, Pledge and Invocation**
   Chris Woodard, Vice chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. Chris Woodard led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the Invocation.

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   Robert de la Cruz made a motion to approve March 26, 2026, board minutes. The motion was seconded by Carla Purcella. Motion carried.

3. **Chief Financial Officers Report**
   Presentation of financial statements
   Paul Gafford presented the financial statements and statistical reports for the period ending March 31, 2026, covering income, expenses, and budget performance. The hospital reported 333.5 days cash on hand and 40.5 days in net accounts receivable. Net gain for the month was $1,576,540, with year-to-date net income of $1,417,006. Medicaid supplemental payments totaled $1,286,606, including the DY10 FY2021 UC/DSH settlement of $1.053 million received this month. March 2026 marked the highest outpatient revenue of the current fiscal year. Increased hospital and clinic patient revenue generated an additional $462,000 in net patient service revenue. Operating expenses were $2,984,552, which was $92,996 higher than last March and $49,000 over budget. Carla Purcella moved to approve the financial statements as presented. Tim Laws seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. **Chief Executive Officers Report**
   Approval of initiating Critical Access Hospital (CAH) Conversion process
   The board tabled this item until all members were present. Candice shared information from several rural hospital CEOs about converting from PPS status to Critical Access designation. The discussion covered architectural and survey requirements, reimbursement increases, billing transition challenges, community education needs, and the expected conversion timeline.
   Candice reported that hospitals converting to Critical Access status saw substantial reimbursement increases, especially for swing bed and inpatient services. They recommend continuing to bill during the conversion process and rebilling claims after Critical Access designation is approved. The discussion also covered future eligibility opportunities, bed decommissioning requirements, and potential financial impacts.
   Physician Recruitment
   Candice reported active physician recruitment efforts continue. A potential physician candidate may visit in June. Candice noted the candidate has significant rural healthcare experience and surgical capabilities including C-section coverage.

Joint Conference Update

Strategic Planning and Grant Opportunities Candice reviewed recent Joint Conference and Strategic Planning discussions. The Strategic Planning Committee recommended focusing on sustaining current services rather than adding new service lines unless financially advantageous

5. **Medical Staff Report**

Dr. Rohm reported that Dr. Jansen is actively practicing in both the clinic and hospital, and that Dr. Okobi is expected to begin in July. Provider recruitment remains ongoing. Dr. Rohm also reviewed hospital and clinic operations, including average daily census, emergency department activity, ambulance volumes, rehabilitation services, surgery volumes, and radiology utilization. Additional updates covered expanded orthopedic clinic services, pain management injections, ICU utilization, tele-nephrology, cardiology outreach, counseling services, chronic care management, remote patient monitoring, and continued weekend clinic operations. He also presented quality metrics and ACO performance data. Hereford Regional Medical Center recorded a 3% Medicare readmission rate for 2025, comparing favorably with national and regional averages. Discussion also highlighted the success of the community paramedic program, care coordination efforts, rehabilitation outcomes, reimbursement structures, and future opportunities related to Critical Access designation.

Executive Session

At 6:28 pm, Chris Woodard 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 7:09 pm, Tim Laws made a motion to reconvene in open session. Motion was seconded by Carla Purcella. The following action was taken:

Tim Laws made a motion to approve the reappointment, appointment, and voluntary resignation of the following providers:

<u>**Initial Appointment – Provisional**</u>
Munoz, James, MD - Radiology
<u>**Reappointment – Active**</u>
Chase, Earl, DO – Emergency Medicine
Rohm, Trevor, MD- Family Medicine
Courtesy Status
Arce, Alexandra, MD – Emergency Medicine
Turney, Matthew, MD - Emergency Medicine
Consulting Status
Slatton, Monte, MD – Cardiology
Advancement
Crowley, William, MD – Emergency Medicine
Rollins, Joshua, DO - Orthopedics
<u>**Allied Health**</u>
Reappointment – Active
Gammon, Sharleen, NP – Nurse Practitioner
Myers, Tomas, PA – Physician Assistant

Seals, Nathin, PA – Physician Assistant
Stovall, Amy, NP – Nurse Practitioner

Robert de la Cruz seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Adjournment**
Carla Purcella made a motion to adjourn. Robert de la Cruz seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Chris Woodard, Vice Chairman