Hereford
Regional Medical Center
DEAF SMITH COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
October 23, 2025

The Deaf Smith County Hospital District Board of Directors met in a regular monthly meeting on Thursday October 23, 2025, at 5:30 pm in the Education Room of Hereford Regional Medical Center.

Directors present: Tanner Black, Kevin Bunch, Robert de la Cruz, Carla Purcella, Troyce Sturgess, and Chris Woodard

Other attendees: Candice Smith, CEO; Paul Gafford, CFO; Kay Gudgell, CNO; Jodi Jordan, Admin Asst.; Dr. Philip Jansen; Jim Steiert, Hereford Brand.

1. **Call to Order, Pledge and Invocation**
   Kevin Bunch, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. Kevin led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered the Invocation.

2. **Public Comment**
   No Public comments.

3. **Approval of Minutes**
   Robert made a motion to approve the September 25, 2025, board minutes. Motion was seconded by Chris Woodard. Motion carried.

4. **Chief Financial Officer Report**
   Review and approve financial statements and statistical reports for period ending September 30, 2024.
   Paul Gafford presented the September year-end financial report, including statistical data, balance sheets, and statements of revenue and expense with prior-year and budget comparisons. Financial indicators remain strong, with days cash on hand increasing to 308 days and an improved current ratio. Net days in A/R decreased to 38, reflecting faster collections. Volumes were generally consistent with the prior year, though RHC visits were lower and ER visits slightly higher. Cash increased $712,000 for the month, and all Medicaid supplemental payments were received. Inventory reconciliation showed a minimal variance. September was a softer revenue month; however, year-to-date revenues exceeded the prior year for both inpatient and outpatient services. Net loss for the month was $469,000, while year-to-date net income was $2.63 million, which includes the one-time Employee Retention Credit. Normalized net income was approximately $338,000. Auditors have begun preliminary requests, with fieldwork planned for November and December and final presentation expected in April. Tanner Black made a motion to accept September 30, 2025, as presented. A motion was seconded by Troyce Sturgess. Motion carried unanimously.

   Chief Executive Officer Report
   Docuseries Filming Opportunity
   Candice Smith presented a video and a discussion for a production team to contracted with the hospital about filming portions of a docuseries entitled *"Countdown to Maybe,"* which follows a 48-hour adoption timeline. They stated no medical procedures, patients, or staff would be filmed unless staff volunteer. Portions of another facility were shown in example footage. The board discussed

potential concerns, including privacy, consent, and reputational risk. It was recommended to request the opportunity to preview or approve any content featuring the hospital prior to release and to confirm all release/consent requirements. Additional clarification will be sought from the production team.

HHSC Repayment Update

Texas HHSC confirmed that the previously requested $1.3M repayment was issued in error. The state has not yet communicated when the funds will be returned or whether repayment will be issued in a lump sum or installments. HHSC also confirmed they do not have legislative authority to pay interest on refund amounts.

Physician Recruitment

A Family Practice/OB candidate visited on Tuesday and expressed strong interest in the facility. She and her significant other responded positively to the community. The candidate participates in barrel racing; local arrangements for her horses are being explored. Dr. Rohm has offered temporary boarding if needed. Recruitment efforts are ongoing.

November 2025 Board Meeting Date

Because regular November and December meetings fall on Thanksgiving and Christmas, the board discussed rescheduling. The typical approach is to reschedule November and cancel December. Options include holding the November meeting the week before the holiday. A decision will be finalized soon; a text may be sent to determine board availability.

Chief Nursing Officer Report

Review and approve Dialysis policies and procedures for Med/Surg and ICU

Kay Gudgell presented the board an authority and approval for the dialysis policies and procedures for Med/Surg and ICU. Chris Woodard made a motion on the recommendation of Kay to approve the policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Carla Purcella. Motion carried.

Executive Session

At 6:12 pm, Mr. Kevin 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. At 6:30 pm, Chris Woodard made a motion to reconvene in open session. Motion was seconded by Tanner Black. The following action was taken:

Robert de la Cruz made a motion to reappoint, appoint and voluntary resignation the following providers

Initial Appointment: Provisional Status

Emeana, Princess, DO – Emergency Medicine

Lavigne, William, MD – OB/GYN – Locums (Red Flag) contingent receiving favorable peer references.

Moesch, Dean, MD – Radiology (Red Flag) contingent receiving favorable peer references.

Ruffolo, Aldo, DO – Radiology (Red Flag) contingent receiving favorable peer references.

Toscano, Aljendro, DO – Emergency Medicine (Red Flag)

Reappointment – Consulting Status

Assadourian, Assadour, MD – Cardiology

Voluntary Resignations

Davies, Tabitha, DO – FPOB – 7/27/25

Troyce Sturgess seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Adjournment**
   Carla Purcella made a motion to adjourn. Tanner Black seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Kevin Bunch, Board Chairman