



April 25, 2018

7:00 PM

### **Welcome Announcement of Open Meeting Law Posting**

Loren Wiedel called the meeting of the Thayer County Health Services Board of Trustees to order on April 25, 2018, at 7:02p.m., in the TCHS Bruning Conference room, 120 Park Avenue, Hebron, NE. The open meeting laws are posted and viewable in the conference room.

Present on roll call were: Laura Tuma, Loren Wiedel, Craig Pope, Karen Dahlkoetter, and Libby Heitmann. Others in attendance: Dave Burd, Erica Christianson, Stephanie Boldt, Jamie Koch, Dr. Heinrichs, Deb Goldsmith, Lori Grummert, Shawn Petras, Tim Pickering, Rita Luongo, Hayley Ridder, and Dave Bruning

### **Approval of Agenda & Approval of March 28, 2018 meeting minutes:**

Board reviewed the March, 2018 meeting minutes. **Craig made a motion to approve the March 28, 2018 board meeting minutes as written, Laura seconded the motion. Roll call taken: Craig Yes, Laura Yes, Loren Yes, Libby Abstained & Karen Yes. Motion carried.**

**Walking Coalition-** Tim Pickering presented an update on the Hebron Walking Trail to the board. The goal is to attach the walking trail from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the Wellness Center, with September being the goal completion date. Tim said that the Walking Coalition met with All Around Landscaping for input on where exactly to put the trail. All Around suggested staying along the edge of the grass; the Walking Coalition is waiting on a cost estimate for that. Tim reported that approval has been given to expand the trail from 4<sup>th</sup> Street to the area behind Blue Valley Lutheran Homes. Tim asked that the Walking Coalition be put on the agenda for next month so that the board can receive another progress update. Laura asked what the budget was for this project; Tim responded that the budget is \$60,000. Laura asked who assumed liability for the walking trail; Tim responded that he believed that the City assumed liability for the trail, but that he would double check and give an update at May's meeting.

### **Financial Statements –**

The March financial statements were presented to the board. Lori stated that Year to Date was a \$336,000 loss; which is \$723,000 under budget. EBIDA is at 10.4% Year to Date, compared to 9.1% last year. Total cash days on hand at the end of March was 46.2; Lori commented that this number is believed to go down next month due to the \$500,000 payout being made to McCarthy to close out part I and II of the clinic renovation. Lori reported that there will still be a contingency of \$100,000 left to pay to McCarthy as well. Lori reported key ratios were down in quite a few areas year to date, Loren asked where the benchmarks for those come from. Lori said she will check into that and send out an email to the board. Lori reported that next month's meeting will entail budget approvals.

**Karen made a motion to approve the March 2018 financial statements, Craig seconded the motion. Roll call taken, All Yes. Motion carried.**

### **Officers Reports:**

1. Chief Executive Officer's Report – David Burd

**a. Consent Agenda–Karen made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Laura seconded. Roll call taken, All Yes. Motion carried.** *Discussion before motion:* Libby asked if the PI measures would eventually even themselves out as she noticed several of the measured were dropped in the minutes. Steph commented that the PI committee is in re-construction and that they are in the early stages of figuring out which measures need to be kept and tracked, and which measures can fall off.

- b. **Eakes Copier/Printer Lease:** Dave presented the Eakes Printer/Copier Lease for TCHS to the board for approval. Dave explained that TCHS currently has a 5-year lease agreement in place with Eakes; however there was concern that the cost of the lease was too high. Dave said he and Randy Levendofsky met with Eakes to re-negotiate the lease and what was presented was a result of that effort. Dave reported that the new monthly payment would be \$2,779.00, which is down from \$4,133 currently paid monthly. Annually, TCHS currently pays \$70,000; the new contract would reduce that annual payment to \$47,000.00. Dave said that overall the equipment was the same, with the exception of a few printer and copier changes. **Laura made a motion to approve the new Eakes printer/copier lease. Craig seconded. Roll call taken. All Yes. Motion Carried.**
- c. **Billing Changes:** Hayley reported that TCHS had signed a contract with Clear Health Finance Solutions, who will be the new early-out vendor, and will go-live June 1, 2018. Hayley said that Clear Health will offer self-pay collection efforts from 1-120 days, customized statements which can be tailored to TCHS's needs, and a payment portal that will allow patients to pay their bill online, set up a payment plan online, and sign up to receive statements electronically. Hayley commented that unlike Signature Performance, Clear Health works directly out of Cerner which allows TCHS billers to see everything that is communicated to the patients by Clear Health. Hayley reported that the fees are 7% contingency rate including statements and payment portal, and \$.35 per transaction credit card fee. Laura asked about the difference regarding statements currently being sent by Signature Performance and ones sent by Clear Health. Hayley responded that with Clear Health, the statements are completely customizable and that she is working with them to create a statement that will be easy to understand. Hayley said that Billing Questions will still be fielded by the TCHS billing team, even though the self-pay portion is being outsourced. Billing Staff Report: Hayley commented that 2 billers have been hired: Kim Shroeder, who is currently the TCHS cash post clerk, and Gail Anderson, who is a former registration clerk at TCHS. Interviews for the remaining positions are ongoing.
- d. **Specialists Update:** Dave reported that the Oncology Clinic is still on target for May 16<sup>th</sup>, with Dr. Warner holding clinics the first Friday and third Wednesday of the month. Dave reported that the nursing staff is currently going through training in both Council Bluffs and Grand Island. Prior-authorization training will be held with Heartland Oncology at a later date. Dave commented that there should be a story in the newspaper either in the coming week or the week after, and that Dr. Warner is still planning on attending the Cattleman's Ball. ENT Report: Dave reported that Dr. Weekly from Columbus Community Hospital will be holding an ENT clinic at TCHS starting in July. Dave said that the next goal would be to secure an audiologist to accompany the ENT clinic. Dave commented that he had met with Dr. Wik, a pain management physician, in regards to having a clinic at TCHS and that it is an ongoing process. Behavioral Health Update: Dave commented that TCHS had received Kelsey Schilf's credentialing file that will be presented for approval later in the meeting, and that TCHS is waiting on paperwork from Dr. Kohl before Kelsey can officially start.
- e. **TCHS Open House:** Dave reminded the board that the Open House is on Sunday, April 29, 2018. Loren will have opening remarks, followed by Lieutenant Governor Mike Foley, Senator Laura Ebke, and Nebraska Hospital Association President Laura Redoutey. Dave commented that Congressman Adrian Smith would not be able to attend the Open House, but would be on site for a tour on May 3, 2018.
- f. **Introduction of New Hires-** Erica showed the new hires that had started since the last board meeting on March 28, 2018. Shonna Bartholomew, registration clerk and Eric Rinaker, cook, were the new hires since the previous meeting.

2. Chief Nursing Officer Report – Jamie Koch

a. **Physician Credentialing**

1. Initial appointments:

- a. Quinton Kelly, MD (Radiology)

- b. Kesley Schilf, PLMHP (Mental Health)
  - c. Robert Warner, MD (Hematology/Oncology)
2. Reappointments:
- a. Aaron Braun, MD (Orthopedic Surgery)

**Craig made a motion to approve the initial appointments and reappointment based on the recommendations of the medical staff, Karen seconded the motion. Roll call taken, All Yes. Motion carried.**

- b. **Quality Initiatives/Scorecard:** Jamie reported that there had been no changes to the quality initiatives since the previous meeting. Quality scorecard: Jamie reported that in March the med variance was a zero due to data not being inputted at time of printing. Q1 2018 data will be updated in next month's scorecard. Jamie reported that some of the areas listed in the Q1 2018 data had improved, but that there was still more work to do, especially in the ER. Jamie commented that moving forward all Surgical Site Infections will be reported. Jamie reported that in the area of Congestive Heart Failure, discharge instructions specific to congestive heart failure were not given to patients who were admitted to TCHS with CHF not being the primary reason for admittance, and education to improve this is ongoing.
3. Chief Financial Officer – Doug Wismer
- a. None
4. Chief Operating Officer – Stephanie Boldt
- a. **Wellness Center Update:** Steph reported that the Wellness Center Director position had been filled. Whitney Schorer will start in the position in June. Steph commented that Whitney's focus areas will be managing the Wellness Center, Corporate Wellness programs and TCHS employee wellness.
  - b. **Lymphedema Services:** Steph reported that Anne Simms in the Rehab Department was recently certified to provide lymphedema services, which removes edema out of the lymph system. Steph commented that very few therapists are trained to do this kind of work, and Anne is the only trained therapist at TCHS. Steph said she anticipates Anne will be working in conjunction with oncology as well as wound care; there has already been one referral from the Med Staff. Steph commented that this type of service is covered under insurance.
5. VP of Clinic Services – Shawn Petras
- a. **Provider Recruitment** – Shawn reported that in February Jackson Physician Search was hired to help recruit for the position of Physician Assistant, which was then expanded to include the position of Physician. In March TCHS hired Merritt Hawkins to double the effort. Shawn reported that TCHS has decided to terminate the Physician Assistant and Nurse Practitioner portion of recruitment with Merritt Hawkins and will completely terminate the contract with Jackson Physician Search due to lack of results. Deb reported that CHI Health has brought on a rural physician recruiter who will be working with TCHS to assist in the search. Shawn reported that Wendy Van Skiver has accepted the position of Physician Assistant, and that there is another physician assistant that he and Dave will be talking to on Friday.
  - b. **Clinic Renovation-** Shawn reported that Phase I and II of the clinic renovation are complete, and Phase III has yet to be started. Phase III will expand the clinic from 16 rooms currently to 18 rooms, giving each provider 3 rooms to practice out of. The cost for Phase III will be on the FY19 budget.

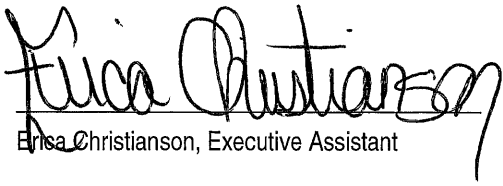
**Old Business For The Board – None**

**Miscellaneous/New Business For The Board – none**

**Visitor Comments** – No visitor comments.

**Executive Session** – none

**At 8:17, Karen made the motion to adjourn, Craig seconded. Roll call taken, all yes. Motion Carried, meeting adjourned.**

  
Erica Christianson, Executive Assistant

  
David Burd, CEO