



January 27, 2021

Welcome Announcement of Open Meeting Law Posting

Loren Wiedel called the Meeting of the Thayer County Health Services Board of Trustees to order on January 27, 2021, at 7:02 pm, 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 Loren Wiedel, Karen Dahlkoetter, Connie Lichty, Laura Tuma, and Mike Long. Others in attendance: Paul Edwards, Pam Gallagher, Shawn Petras, Jamie Koch, Marie Knedler, Michael Logsdon, Lori Grummert, Cory Aldean, Rita Luongo, Ryan Sawall, McCarthy, Eric Dill, McCarthy, Michael Hamilton, Altus, and Dr. Marlon Bauhard, County Commissioner. Recorder: Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant.

Approval of Agenda & Approval of December Board Meeting Minutes & January Special Meeting Minutes: Karen motioned to approve the agenda along with December Board Meeting Minutes and January Special Meeting Minutes as amended. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.

Election of Officers:

1. **President:** Loren opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board President. **Connie nominated Karen, Laura seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote; all yes. Motion carried.**
2. **Vice President:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Vice President. **Laura nominated Loren, Connie seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote; all yes. Motion carried.**
3. **Treasurer:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Treasurer. **Loren nominated Laura, Connie seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote; all yes. Motion carried.**
4. **Secretary:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Secretary. **Loren nominated Connie, Mike seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote; all yes. Motion carried.**
5. **Member at Large:** Karen named Mike Member at Large. Mike will be the Board Representative for the TCHS Foundation.

Financial Statements- December 2020:

Pam reviewed the financial statement packet for the Six Months Ended December 31, 2020 and 2019 with the Board:

Month of December: Operating loss (\$61,887) or (2.8%), total loss of (\$42,471) or (1.9%), and an EBIDA of \$101,601 or 4.5%. The operating loss is primarily related to contract labor and increased maintenance/repair expenses. No additional PPP amounts were recognized in December. Cash and Equivalents decreased by \$102K to \$11.6M, however days cash remained strong at 193.6, higher than NE and National benchmarks.

Year to Date: Operating Income was \$1,154,014 or 8.7%, total margin of \$1,199,670 or 9.0%, and an EBIDA of \$2,111,974 or 15.8%. Volumes continue to be steady, despite obstacles caused by COVID-19. The overall income numbers have the first part of the PPP loan forgiveness included for \$789,798 which without would have resulted in a 2.9% operating margin for the year, exceeding the budget of 1.2%. AR Days at the end of December were 44.9.6 (gross) and 45.7 (net). TCHS AR Days are very good and considerably better than benchmarks. Age of plant continues to rise as depreciation expenses continues to drop along with minimal capital investment.

Additional Information: TCHS has received multiple CAREs Act Stimulus Payments. Regulations are being continually reviewed regarding these funds so they can be properly accounted for. TCHS continues to invest in the community and Health System, including upgrades to IT infrastructure, HR/Payroll new system implementation and exploration of expanding the hospital facility to accommodate growth. A retail pharmacy was purchased in December and is part of the investment for growth for TCHS.

Pam concluded the Financial Statements of December 2020 by thanking Lori Grummert, Controller, for her help as well as the entire TCHS Organization for their assistance, as she has been Interim CFO at Thayer County Health Services for less than a week. **Loren made a motion to approve the December 2020 Financial Statements, Laura seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.**

Officers Reports:

Chief Executive Officer Report- Paul Edwards

- a. **Consent Agenda (December) – Loren made a motion to approve the December consent agenda as written; Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Discussion before approval: none
- b. **TCHS Bylaws Review:** Paul is required to review the TCHS bylaws annually and present recommended changes to the Board. Paul reported he did not have any material changes to recommend.
- c. **Capital Projects/Facility Expansion Update:** Paul reported TCHS held expansion meetings for Specialty Clinic as well as Administration with Altus Architectural Studios on Wednesday, January 27th. Paul explained that the Specialty Clinic Meeting has department representatives from necessary user groups. Following this meeting, there was an Administration Meeting that included: Senior Leadership, Marketing, HR, Accounting, and Admin. Ryan Sawall from McCarthy stated that these meetings reviewed their first schematic design of the expansion with the second to be reviewed next week. Ryan then stated that following this second meeting, there will be a break for the architects to work on both of the designs. Ryan explained that hopefully all plans will be finalized by the end of April in order to reduce contingency. Loren asked how many more user groups that TCHS plans to involve in these meetings. In response, Paul explained that user groups have been identified, and these individuals are attending each meeting. This series will involve four schematic design meetings to make modifications. In addition to this information, there was further discussion regarding the footprint of the building. Overall, TCHS feels that all the right people are involved and welcomes individuals who would like to participate in these meetings. TCHS plans to distribute the expansion information to the community as soon as plans have been finalized.
- d. **Pharmacy Update:** Paul stated that Michael Logston, Director of Pharmacy, Pharm D is in attendance to provide the pharmacy update. Michael reported that December 7, 2020 was the first day of operation for Thayer County Pharmacy. The biggest challenge so far been updating licensure and payer contracts. Thayer County Pharmacy State Licensure was approved following the opening inspection. Michael stated that the major issue has been staffing. Currently, Thayer County Pharmacy has two Pharmacists, three Pharmacy Technicians, and seven Pharmacy Clerks. In the meantime, recruitment efforts for Thayer County Pharmacy will continue. Following this information, there was discussion of the 340B Program, how it relates to the organization, and how it benefits the community. In closing, Michael reported to anticipate a financial overview in May and plans to continue to provide pharmacy updates to the board.
- e. **New Hires:** Bridget reported that there were eleven new hires within the month of December. These individuals include: Sydney Escritt, Hospital CNA, Sierra Hatcher, Pharmacy Clerk, Christy Feltes, Surgery RN, JoAnna Bargaen, Pharmacy Clerk, and Pim Cha, Staff Pharmacist.

Chief Nursing Officer Report- Jamie Koch

- a. **Physician Credentialing: Laura motioned to approve the initial appointments and re-appointments as recommended by the Medical Staff. Loren seconded. Roll call vote, discussion prior to approval:** Jamie pointed out the amount of credentialing is due to there being no Medical Staff Meeting in December. Jamie stated that four providers have been granted temporary privileges. There are seven initial appointments and four re-appointments.
- b. **COVID-19 Vaccination Program:** Jamie reported that Thayer County Health Services has started the second round of COVID-19 vaccines for TCHS employees as well as EMTs. By doing so, everyone will receive their second dose of the vaccine by the end of next week. Currently, TCHS will be receiving 50 doses of the vaccine per week. As a result, TCHS will be conducting community vaccinations each Thursday afternoon in the clinic. Loren asked what percentage of TCHS Employees received the vaccine. Jamie responded that approximately 60-70% of the 150 TCHS Employees chose to receive the vaccine. This information led to the discussion of the 65 years and older

age group that is receiving the vaccine during this time. Paul reported that these individuals have been identified, called directly, and have wanted to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Paul explained that scheduling appointments for these individuals to receive their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine began today with their second dose appointment being scheduled during their first vaccination. Continuing on, Jamie explained that TCHS is in high hopes that an increase in vaccination allotment will take place in the near future. In the event that the weekly allotment increases, TCHS would prefer to move to a Vaccination Clinic on Saturdays. Paul reassured the board that the COVID-19 Program has been working well.

- c. **Quality Scorecard:** Jamie reported that the Quality Scorecard has been created by the TCHS Quality Department. The Quality Scorecard displays quarterly data from TCHS and compares this data to State and National Averages. Various data involves: Infection Prevention, COVID-19, Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems, Outcome Measures, Risk Management, Falls, and Environmental Safety. Jamie requested feedback from the board regarding the scorecard content. TCHS went live with Press Ganey on January 1st and hopes to see a significant increase in the HCAPS Survey return rate. Karen asked how patients receive the survey. In response, Jamie explained that previously patients receive both a hard copy and email of the survey. Paul reported that Terry Stafford, Quality Assurance Consultant, plans to make this data more visible than in the past. This statement led to Loren asking if TCHS anticipates any of this data being removed from the scorecard. Paul stated that eventually COVID-19 will be removed while the other data will remain.
- d. **Radiology Presentation:** Jamie reported that Audra Hergott, Director of Radiology has been working with two different vendors to collect quotes for the Hybrid Suite. Jamie has requested feedback from the board to determine the content of this presentation. Karen responded that the board would like to hear Audra's feedback and potentially include a vendor if needed. The Radiology Presentation will be included on the agenda for February's Board of Trustees Meeting.

Chief Financial Officer Report- Pam Gallagher

- a. None

Vice President of Clinic Services- Shawn Petras

- a. **Rural Health Clinic:** Shawn reported that volumes remained flat for the second quarter. Shawn stated that visits from the last calendar year and April saw a significant decrease as COVID-19 appeared. Although, there was an increase until testing for COVID-19 began. Following COVID-19 testing, there were fewer visits due to individuals not wanting to be potentially exposure to COVID-19. As a result, a strategic plan has been developed in order to increase rural health clinics visits by targeting Medicare recipients to maximize their benefits with annual wellness visits. During this time, Shawn reviewed the Thayer County Health Services Clinic Provide Face-To-Face Visit Trending by Rural Health Clinic document with the board. Following the presentation of these statistics, Shawn explained the benefits of telehealth and has suggested starting a pilot of telehealth with the Medical Staff.
- b. **Behavioral Health:** Shawn provide an update on behavioral health by stating that Jan Bock, Behavioral Health Provider has been at TCHS for almost two months. During her time of service, Jan has met with local therapists. Also, Jan has reached out to Blue Valley Lutheran Homes and will start seeing patients there. TCHS is continuing to building their Behavioral Health Program in order to add therapists. In closing, Paul stated that bringing a therapist into the provider group will result in a full network.

Old Business for The Board: none.

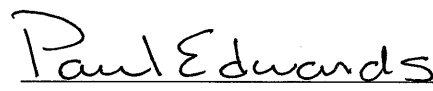
Miscellaneous/New Business for the Board: none.

Visitor Comments: none.

Executive Session: none.

Loren made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:01pm, Laura seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried, meeting.


Bridget Behrends
Executive Assistant


Paul Edwards
President & CEO