



Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

April 28, 2021

Welcome Announcement of Open Meeting Law Posting

Karen Dahlkoetter called the Special Meeting of the Thayer County Health Services Board of Trustees to order on April 28, 2021, at 5:33 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 Karen Dahlkoetter, Loren Wiedel, Connie Lichty, Laura Tuma, and Mike Long. Others in attendance: Scott Cook, Jamie Koch, Marie Knedler, and Tamara Brose-Littrell.

Executive Session:

Laura Tuma moved to go into Executive Session at 5:34 p.m. to discuss personnel issues, as well as potential real estate transaction. Loren seconded. Roll call vote, all yes.

Loren Wiedel moved to end executive session at 6:39 p.m. Laura Tuma seconded. Roll call vote, all yes.

Loren Wiedel made a motion to adjourn open at 6:40 p.m. Laura Tuma seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Meeting adjourned.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Connie Lichty", is written over a horizontal line.

Connie Lichty

Secretary/Acting Recorder



April 28, 2021

Welcome Announcement of Open Meeting Law Posting

Karen Dahlkoetter called the Meeting of the Thayer County Health Services Board of Trustees to order on April 28, 2021, at 7:00 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 Karen Dahlkoetter, Loren Wiedel, Connie Lichty, Laura Tuma, and Mike Long. Others in attendance: Scott Cook, Jamie Koch, Marie Knedler, Dr. Randy Pritza via Zoom, Cami Syphers via Zoom, Dr. Hubl, Wendy VanSkiver, Travis Wright, Michael Logsdon, Lori Grummert, Tamara Brose-Littrell, John Luongo, Rita Luongo, Andrew Novotny, Mike Dougherty, and Dr. Bauhard. Recorder: Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant.

Approval of Agenda & Approval of March Board Meeting Minutes: Mike motioned to approve the agenda along with March Board Meeting Minutes as amended. Laura seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.

Financial Statements- March 2021:

Lori Grummert, Controller reviewed the financial statement packet for the Nine Months Ended March 31, 2021 and 2020 with the Board:

Month: Operating loss of (\$175,332) or (7.7%) and an EBIDA of (\$44,354) or (1.9%). The operating loss is attributed to higher benefits, contract services, pharmacy, a catchup on insurance and an increase in maintenance and repairs. \$89,695 CARES Act funding was released into operations in March. Cash and equivalents increased by \$362K to \$11.5M, from prior year. Day cash remains strong at 181.8, higher than NE and National benchmarks.

Year to Date: Operating Income was \$1,301,018 or 6.5%, total margin of \$1,363,821 or 6.8%, and an EBIDA of \$2,742,234 or 13.7%. AR Days at the end of March were 45.2 (gross) and 42.9 (net). TCHS AR days are very good and considerably better than comparable benchmarks. Age of plant continues to rise as depreciation expenses continue to drop along with capital investments.

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. The new HR/Payroll system implementation is continuing as is the work on a comprehensive review of the design for building and services expansion. The retail pharmacy that was purchased in December is off to a good start as business operations are improving and expanding. Investment in the employees continues as evidenced by the upcoming employee engagement survey. Management uses this survey to help direct any needed changes for an improved work team.

Loren made a motion to approve the March 2021 Financial Statements, Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.

Presentation on Provider Contract Compliance: The Presentation on Provider Contract Compliance was presented by Dr. Randy Pritza and Cami Syphers of CHI Health.

Officers Reports:

Chief Executive Officer Report- Paul Edwards

- a. **Consent Agenda (March) – Loren made a motion to approve the March consent agenda as written; Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Discussion before approval: *none*.
- b. **Thayer County Pharmacy Update:** Michael Logsdon was in attendance to report on the behalf of Thayer County Pharmacy. Michael reported that there have been a lot of challenges and successes for the month of March by getting all payor contracts on board. Although, there are still remaining outliers. Michael explained that any remaining uncontracted claims were charged and will be rebilled at a later date. Additionally, Thayer County Pharmacy is recognized as a preferred provider for Medicare Plans. For this coming year, TCHS intends to host informational sessions to the public for signup. In closing, Michael provided a staffing and recruitment update. This information led into the discussion of the 3-5 Year Operational Plan. Thayer County Pharmacy data shows March as a difficult operational month. Yet, Thayer County Pharmacy prescription volumes were slightly higher. March has also shown an increase in new patients.
- c. **Facility Expansion Update:** Loren provided an update on the Thayer County Health Services Facility Expansion. During this time, Loren explained that TCHS conducted a Subcommittee Meeting on Wednesday, April 14th with Josh Olsen of CHI Health. Josh Olsen possesses a tremendous amount of experience and is willing to do what needs to be done. Therefore, Josh Olsen will be the point person for discussions with McCarthy and Altus. This has led to the decision of slowing down the process to determine what is needed for the expansion. Loren reported that TCHS has brought in key assets such as Josh Olsen and Thad Mumm to fine tune this project. TCHS believes that the Specialty Clinic has proven to be a driving force of revenue and will offer quality care closer to home. TCHS will continue to look at the expansion of the Specialty Clinic.

Provider Agreement Board Resolution: Marie Knedler of CHI Health reported that it was noted that the pandemic has significantly affected TCHS Rural Health Care Clinics. A Provider Agreement Board Resolution has been provided (see attached).

Loren made a motion to approve the completion of the Board Resolution, Laura seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.

- d. **New Hires:** Bridget reported that there were two new hires in the month of April. These individuals include: Katie Homan, Billing Specialist and Shannon Fox, Chief Financial Officer.

Chief Nursing Officer Report- Jamie Koch

- a. **Physician Credentialing: Loren motioned to approve the initial appointment and re-appointments as recommended by the Medical Staff. Mike seconded. Roll call vote, discussion prior to approval: none.**
- b. **COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic Update:** Jamie reported that Thayer County Health Services held their last big Community COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic on Friday, April 23rd. There were 130 vaccines administered at this vaccination clinic. TCHS will be transitioning to smaller COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics with limited first doses and as many second doses as necessary. Jamie explained that TCHS will conduct Monthly COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics starting in June. As a result, TCHS will offer these monthly vaccine clinics as long as there is a need. Connie asked if many vaccines have been wasted. Jamie explained that very few vaccines have been wasted due to individuals being accommodating of TCHS adjusting appointments. Jamie stressed the importance of organization and having a group of ten individuals to overcome this challenge. Loren asked if vaccinations will be turned over to primary physicians. Jamie reported that TCHS will eventually turn over vaccinations to the primary physicians following administering second doses. Public Health will conduct a Community Vaccine Clinic at the Thayer County Fairgrounds in Deshler on Thursday, April 29th.
- c. **Quality Improvement Board Scorecard:** Jamie reviewed the Quality Improvement Scorecard that 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. This various data involves: Infection Prevention, COVID-19, Readmissions, Risk Management, Patient Safety, Environmental Safety, and Falls. Jamie reported that the TCHS Readmission Rate is still good. Although, TCHS faces the continued challenge of increases in falls for the quarter. These falls have resulted in no significant injuries. Jamie was pleased to report that staff has been engaged and the TCHS Fall Committee has implemented new measures for fall prevention. Lastly, Jamie explained that the HCAHPS data from Press Ganey is not relevant yet. TCHS strives to continue to see an increase in surveys returned.

Chief Financial Officer Report- Pam Gallagher

- a. **Capital Budget:** Lori presented the 2022 Capital Budget on behalf of Pam Gallagher to the Board. Lori stated that TCHS items on the 2022 Capital Budget are based upon the 5 Year Plan. This provided a visual of what TCHS is looking at along with the opportunity for the board to discuss these items. The items of the Capital Budget were divided out by department, description, capital category, request type, and priority. Laura asked for guidance of which areas are a necessity versus a strong wish. This information led to the discussions of various items. These items included: replacement of the Chiller, Air Handler, Isolation Rooms, Hybrid RF Suite, Lower Parking Lot, Upper Parking Lot, Ortho Drills and Saws, and Electrical Generator Upgrade. During this time, it was determined that items would be reviewed for additional information and will be presented back to the Board.
- b. **Vice President of Clinic Services- Shawn Petras**
- a. **Recruitment Update:** Jamie provided a Recruitment Update on behalf of Shawn Petras. Jamie reported that Dr. Moisant's Interview on April 26th was cancelled due to him taking another position elsewhere. Jamie stated that she is not aware of any other recruitment possibilities.

Old Business for The Board: *none.*

Miscellaneous/New Business for the Board: *none.*

Visitor Comments: Rita Luongo, Foundations/Development Director reported that the Chester Clinic Discussion is on the agenda for the Foundation Board Meeting. Rita explained that TCHS has been in contact with Dan Werner and has spoken with Dallen George, President of Western National Bank. There was discussion regarding how this acquisition would be handled. In closing, Rita encouraged people to sign up their teams for the Foundation Golf Tournament on June 11, 2021.

Executive Session: *none.*

Laura made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 pm, Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.



Bridget Behrends
Executive Assistant



Scott Cook
Interim Chief Executive Officer