



July 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 July 28, 2021 at 7:02 p.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 Karen Dahlkoetter, Loren Wiedel via phone, Laura Tuma, Connie Lichty, and Mike Long. Others in attendance: Scott Cook, Jamie Koch, Marie Knedler, Peggy Hamilton, Lori Grummert, Michael Logsdon, and Madeleine Koenig. Recorder: Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant.

**Approval of Agenda & Approval of June 2021 Board Meeting Minutes: Laura motioned to approve the agenda along with June 2021 Board Meeting Minutes as amended. Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.**

**Preliminary Financial Statements- June 2021:**

Lori Grummert, Controller reviewed the financial statement packet for the Twelve Months Ended June 30, 2021 and 2020 with the Board:

Month: Results are preliminary as this is also year end subject to final audit. Operating gain of \$644,716 or 23.2% and an EBIDA of \$766,342 or 27.8%. Several factors have contributed to this strong result, including: significantly favorable activity in Specialty Clinic, ER, Outpatient MRI and Pharmacy, total approximately \$354,000 favorable to budget, increase in other revenue for Grants/Donations/Contributions, approximately \$290,000 favorable to budget, and a one-off favorable adjustment for the CHI Management fee, approximately \$303,000 favorable to budget. The single noticeable unfavorable variance was in Contract Services at -\$507,797 that includes \$226,000 expense reclassification for RCLS McCarthy. Cash and equivalents increased by \$147,806 to \$11,665,390 from May. Days cash on hand remains strong at 182. Reducing the available cash balance by \$3.5M in recognition of the likely COVID refund reduces the available days cash on hand to 127 and compares favorably to the 115 days cash on hand in April 2020 prior to receiving most of the CARES relief funds.

Year to Date: Operating Income was \$1,810,434 or 6.7%, with a total margin of \$1,867,035 or 6.9%, and an EBIDA of \$3,712,841 or 13.7%. AR Days at the end of June were 50.1. 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. The reporting details and requirements have been published and finance staff have attended several web conferences. It has been made clear that funds not spent on prevention, preparation or responding to COVID must be returned. The first report is due the end of September and covers the initial 18 month period from January 2020 through June 2021. Refunds for unspent cash is due 30 days later. As of now, TCHS received approximately \$6.9M in both CAREs Act Funding and PPP Loan in total. Our preliminary estimates are that approximately \$3.5M will need to be returned. Critical Access Hospitals with a June year end are in a challenging position as the report is due prior to the audit and Medicare Cost Report being finalized. Accommodations for revisions must be made, but the specifics are unknown at this time.

Discussion: There were discussions regarding CAREs Act Funding and write off expenses.

**Laura made a motion to approve the June 2021 Preliminary Financial Statements, Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.**

## Officers Reports:

### Chief Executive Officer Report- Scott Cook

- a. **Consent Agenda (July) – Mike made a motion to approve the July consent agenda as written; Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Discussion before approval: There was a discussion regarding patient falls as TCHS has recently experienced one fall after being almost 60 days without a fall. Scott reassured the board that the Fall Committee is making strides in improving fall prevention.
- b. **Engineering Firm Search:** Scott reported that Carol McCormick of CHI Health visited Thayer County Health Services on Wednesday, July 14<sup>th</sup> to assess the facility air handler and processes. Following assessment of the facility, Carol recommended that TCHS contracts with an engineering firm. As a result, this firm will help with future capital investments by providing project designs.
- c. **Facilities Update:** Scott reported TCHS has a finalized bid from Daikin to repair the air handler. During this time, Scott explained that the chiller components and piping have been delayed due to subcontracting. This delay is reasonable as the replacement of the chiller components and piping will not be able to occur until November.
- d. **Maggie Johnson:** Scott announced that Maggie Johnson, PA-C, has tendered her resignation with TCHS. Scott reassured the board that this decision was made after a long conversation as the timing felt right. Maggie has made the decision to leave family practice and pursue a new concentration as an Orthopedic PA-C at Fillmore County Hospital. Maggie is honored to continue providing patient's healthcare needs until her last day and plans to work together with TCHS to make this transition as smooth as possible to continue the great service provided at TCHS. At this time, Scott recognized that it has been a privilege to have Maggie Johnson, PA-C, with the organization and serving TCHS patients for the past 20 years.
- e. **PA Search:** Scott reported that TCHS has a PA Search Agreement with Pacific Companies. In result, the recruiter has informed Scott that there has been a lot of interested candidates. TCHS will conduct their first onsite interview for the position tomorrow.
- f. **New Hires:** Scott reported that there were three new hires in the month of July. These individuals include: Megan Lukert, Pharmacy Clerk, Amanda Grant, Triage RN, and Ann Vodicka, Pharmacy Clerk. Scott announced that TCHS has hired Mike DeFoe as Chief Financial Officer, Amanda Vandervoort as Clinical Operations Executive, and Jeremy Pearson, as Marketing Director. Therefore, senior leadership positions have been filled with all new hires scheduled to start in August. In closing, Scott thanked Peggy Hamilton, Interim CFO for her efforts with the budget and transition plan with TCHS.

### 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. Mike seconded. Roll call vote, discussion prior to approval:** none.
- b. **Quality Scorecard:** Jamie reviewed the Quality Improvement Scorecard that has been created by the TCHS Quality Department. This various data involves: Infection Prevention, COVID-19, Readmissions, Risk Management, Patient Safety, Environmental Safety, and Falls. Overall, TCHS is doing well. Although, data shows that there has been a decline in COVID-19 vaccinations over the last two months. TCHS continues to host monthly COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics. This information led into the discussion of COVID-19 Testing and the Delta Variant. Jamie reported that TCHS Fall Committee strives to decrease the fall count. Lastly, there was discussion of the HCAHPS data as TCHS works with Press Ganey to continue increasing the amount of patient surveys returned.

### Chief Financial Officer Report- Lori Grummert

- a. **Budget Updates for Operations and Capital:** Lori presented the Budget Updates for Operational and Capital Budgets. First, Lori reviewed the updated Operational Budget with the board. Following this information, there was discussion of directors understanding and being held more accountable for budget management. **Laura motioned to approve the revised Operational Budget. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Additionally, Lori reviewed the updated Capital Budget with the board. These capital items include: AHU 1 replacement, repair ambulance garage door, Nutanix Node- add 4<sup>th</sup> node to cluster, Hgb A1C Testing, isolation rooms, bariatric bed, ceiling lift, infant warmer, IV hood, Biodex balance platform, Retail Pharmacy Updating, vital signs monitor with telemetry, ECG machine, ortho drills and saws, sterilization containers, cautery machine, anesthesia machine monitor, CO2 unit

lift, infant warmer, IV hood, Biodex balance platform, Retail Pharmacy Updating, vital signs monitor with telemetry, ECG machine, ortho drills and saws, sterilization containers, cautery machine, anesthesia machine monitor, CO2 unit for scopes, and vital signs monitor with telemetry. Lori reported that TCHS has a finalize bid from Daikin to repair the air handler. **Mike motioned to approve the Capital Budget and add the AHU 1 Replacement for \$351,700 to the signature page. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.**

- b. **Status Update for FY 2021 Audit, Medicare Cost Report, & COVID Provider Relief Funding Reporting:** Lori reported the Fiscal Year 2021 Cost Report Audit will be done the first week in September. At this time, TCHS does not anticipate any problems even with the pharmacy and COVID-19 items. Lori concluded her report by informing the board that there has been a portal created to register for COVID-19 Provider Relief Funding.

**Vice President of Clinic Services-**

- a. None.

**Old Business for The Board:** *none.*

**Miscellaneous/New Business for the Board:** Laura thanked everyone for their efforts as there has been a lot of work done with the budget and it is appreciated. Following this statement, Mike reported that upon completion of the chiller and air handler, the parking lot will need to be addressed. In response, Scott added that the noise level of the HVAC System in Rehab will need addressed as well. Karen thanked Loren and Mike for their time with the Capital Budget Project.

**Visitor Comments:** *none.*

**Executive Session:** *none.*

**Loren made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm, Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.**

  
Bridget Behrens  
Executive Assistant

  
Scott Cook  
Interim Chief Executive Officer