

October 27, 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 October 27, 2021 at 6:59 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, Laura Tuma via Zoom, Connie Lichty, and Mike Long. Others in attendance: Scott Cook, Jamie Koch, Marie Knedler, Mike DeFoe, Amanda Vandervoort, Lori Grummert, Paul Traczek (Auditor), Andrew McCabe (Auditor), Rita Luongo, and Cheryl Dougherty. Recorder: Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant.

Approval of Agenda & Approval of September 29, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes & September 2021 Board Meeting Minutes & September 30, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes: Loren motioned to approve the agenda along with September 29, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes & September 2021 Board Meeting Minutes & September 30, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. Connie seconded. Laura abstained due to absence from September's meeting. Roll call votes, all yes. Motion carried.

Annual Audit Report (WIPFLI): Paul Traczek and Andrew McCabe from Wipfli reviewed the audit results for the year ended June 30, 2021 with the board. The auditors reviewed the required communications, financial analysis, ratio analysis, industry updates, and healthcare trends. Following the review of these results, there were discussions regarding the retail pharmacy, loan forgiveness, and Provider Relief Funds Updates. Overall, the audit went well with no findings. Paul Traczek thanked the TCHS team for their efforts during the audit. **Connie moved to accept the results for the year ended June 30, 2021 as written, Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried.**

Financial Statements- September 2021:

Mike DeFoe, Chief Financial Officer reviewed the financial statement packet for the Three Months Ended September 30, 2021 and 2020 with the Board:

Month of September: Overview of the September 3, 2021 financial statements for the third month of fiscal year 2022. Operating gain of \$109,972 or 4.4% and an EBIDA of \$263,444 or 10.3%. The month was favorable due to bringing in quarterly grant funding of \$139,000. Clinic and outpatient revenue were up 7.8% and 13.6% respectively but inpatient was under budget (17.5%) with no births during the month. Some of the factors having an impact for the month include: Lab held the reduced price event, Surgery up 12.9%, Specialty Clinic up 33.5%, Clinic up 5% and ER up 10%. SWB 40%, Nursery 100%, and Observation 34.5% admits were all under budget. There were 37 hospital admits, a 20% decrease to the budget, resulting in an average daily census of 4.00, unfavorable to budget by 25%. Total expenses were over budget 11.0% or \$236,759 and are mainly attributed to lab and pharmacy. Lab had increased COVID testing supplies and pharmacy had influenza vaccine and an expensive new chemo drug. Cash and equivalents decreased by \$161,721 to \$11,503,669 from June. Days cash on hand are at 168.7.

Year to Date: Operating Income was \$354,977 or 4.9%, total margin of \$370,243 or 5.1%, and an EBIDA of \$833,161 or 11.5%. AR Days at the end of August were 48.9 (gross) and 46.2 (net). Through the first three months of FY22, TCHS revenues are being guided by outpatient and clinic services. AR days increased are being reviewed with the return of the HIM manager. The Outpatient Rev to Total Rev line on the key ratios sheet has been updated and had been tracking Clinic Rev.

Additional Information: TCHS is still planning on operational and financial review of Pharmacy areas. This review will occur at the end of the first quarter of FY2022 when we have a contribution from the auditors and several more months actual results.

Discussion: There were discussions regarding the continuous review of the cost report and grant funding.

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

Officers Reports:

Chief Executive Officer Report- Scott Cook

- a. **Consent Agenda (October) – Loren made a motion to approve the October consent agenda as written; Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Discussion before approval: TCHS was able to provide 664 flu vaccinations during the drive-thru flu vaccination clinics, a 35% increase over last year.
- b. **Engineering Firm Search:** Scott announced that TCHS has agreed to partner with Alvine and Associates, Inc. to design capital projects for TCHS. Alvine and Associates Inc. offers all engineering needs with a focus on Critical Access Hospitals. Following this announcement, there were discussions of the annual budget for contracting with Alvine. Additionally, discussion was had regarding the capital construction Air Handler 1 and Chiller Components for the hospital.
- c. **Recruitment Update:** Scott began his recruitment update by thanking everyone for their planning and coordination as TCHS conducted an On-Site Physician Candidate Interview with Dr. Myers. Dr. Myers plans to seek out another opportunity in South Dakota before making her decision. Although, the recruiter has shared that Dr. Myers is pleased to see the work and life balance that TCHS has to offer.
- d. **Housing:** Scott discussed the potential for TCHS to invest in new housing around Thayer County. This is in conjunction for finding homes for new TCHS employees.
- e. **New Hires:** Scott reported that there was one new hire for the month of October. This individual is Josh Hemphill, Ambulance EMT/Driver.

Chief Nursing Officer Report- Jamie Koch

- a. **Physician Credentialing: Loren motioned to approve the initial appointments and re-appointments as recommended by the Medical Staff. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, discussion prior to approval:** none.
- b. **COVID-19 Update:** Jamie reported that TCHS has experienced a plateau trend in positive COVID-19 cases over the last couple weeks. Although, TCHS continues to see a couple inpatient admissions and provide antibody infusions each week. Additionally, Jamie reported that within the last month, TCHS conducted their own COVID-19 Audit related to positive cases and criteria of patients receiving the antibody infusion. Overall, TCHS was pleased with the results of this audit as the importance of education and documentation is stressed. Following this information, there were discussions regarding patient education, improvement in discharge planning, patient discharge list, ER patient follow-up calls, Cerner training process, and the current status of the TCHS Isolation Rooms. Lastly, Jamie reported that as vaccine boosters have been approved, individuals have been inquiring about receiving their COVID-19 Vaccine Booster. TCHS will begin administering COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters starting next week at the weekly TCHS Vaccine Clinics.
- c. **Quality Scorecard:** Jamie reviewed the TCHS Quality Scorecard with the board. Recently, TCHS celebrated the success of being 100 days without a fall. Following this information, there were discussions of the utilization of the ocuvera cameras to prevent patient falls along with influenza immunization screening. Lastly, Jamie reviewed the HCAHPS scores showing improvement in Press Ganey surveys returned.

Chief Financial Officer Report- Mike DeFoe

- a. Mike reported that the COVID-19 Mitigation Retention Bonus and Vaccine Bonus has been shared with all TCHS employees. This mitigation strategy is in hopes to get individuals on the fence and share a year of appreciation.

Chief Operations Officer- Amanda Vandervoort

- a. **Provider Update:** Amanda reported that Dr. Blatny has accepted a position at TCHS. Dr. Blatny plans to help with locum coverage for the month of November with his potential start date depending on credentialing. Next, Amanda explained that TCHS has signed a PRN Agreement with Jarie as she is willing pick up shift opportunities. In closing,

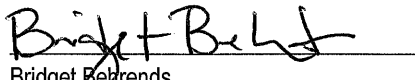
Amanda reported that TCHS has offered the Behavioral Health Therapist position to Jenna Harris. Jenna would be a great addition as she currently has her own practice in town. TCHS hopes to have more provider announcements in the near future.

Old Business for The Board: *none.*

Miscellaneous/New Business for the Board:

Visitor Comments: *none.*

Executive Session: Mike moved to go into Executive Session at 8:36 pm, Laura seconded. Roll call votes, all yes. Motion Carried. (See Executive Session minutes attached).


Bridget Behrens
Executive Assistant


Scott Cook
Interim Chief Executive Officer

Minutes for Executive Session

Thayer County Health Services Board of Directors

Bruning Conference Room

October 27, 2021

Mike moved to go into executive session. Laura seconded. The motion carried. The board entered executive session at 8:36 p.m.

The board ended executive session at 9:27 p.m.

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting. Laura seconded. The motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Lichty, Secretary