



February 23, 2022, 2022

Welcome Announcement of Open Meeting Law Posting

Karen Dahlkoetter called the Meeting of the Thayer County Health Services Board of Trustees to order on February 23, 2022 at 7:00 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, Connie Lichty, and Mike Long. Others in attendance: Brian Rokusek, Scott Cook, Jamie Koch, Mike DeFoe, Amanda Vandervoort, Lori Grummert, Audra Hergott, Michael Logsdon, and Dean Krueger. Recorder: Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant.

Approval of Agenda & Approval of January 26, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes & February 2, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes: Mike motioned to approve the agenda along with January 26, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes & February 2, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes as written. Loren seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.

Financial Statements- January 2022:

Mike reviewed the financial statement packet for the Seven Months Ended January 31, 2022 and 2021 with the Board:

Month of December: Overview of the January 31, 2022 financial statements for the seventh month of fiscal year 2022. There was an operating gain of \$328,305 or 13.4% and an EBIDA of \$475,434 or 19.4%. Clinic revenue was up 10.2%. Inpatient and outpatient revenues were under budget 13.3% and 7.4% respectively due to IP days being 32 under budget and the surgeries & scopes being under 25 procedures due mainly to the departure of pain management provider. Other income continues to be above budget due mainly to deferred revenue for FY21 adjustments. These funds do not have an EBIDA impact on our CHI management contract. Some of the departmental factors having an impact for the month, include: Specialty Clinic visits up 12.9%, Lab tests up 26.8%, total Pharmacy scripts up 15.0% and Rehab visits up 43.4%. There were 24 hospital admits, resulting in an average daily census of 4.32, unfavorable to budget by 16.2% but our third consecutive month above 4.0. Total expenses were under budget 4.8% or \$106,481 and were slightly decreased across all categories for the month. For the month total cash and investments increased by \$490,959 due to payments towards construction in progress for the air handler unit, chiller and isolation rooms. Day's cash on hand decreased 4.5 days and were at 153.0 days.

Year to Date: Operating Income was \$1,838,496 or 10.2%, total margin of \$1,873,818 or 10.4%, and an EBIDA of \$2,936,396 or 16.3%. AR Days at the end of January were 49.9 gross and 47.9 net. Through the first seven months of FY22, TCHS revenues were being guided by outpatient and clinic services that were driven by the continued COVID positivity rates in the region.

Additional Information: With the cost report submitted we complete a monthly template supplied by Wipfli that estimates our current Medicare rates. For the month our rates were: IP \$4,292, OP 66.05% and SWB \$3,386. Prior year rates were IP \$3,366, OP 66% and SWB \$2,967. With the addition of Dr. Birthi starting in March, pain management and outpatient surgeries will start to return to budgeted figures.

Discussion: Mike discussed the Thayer County Health Services Retail Pharmacy is currently sitting around \$120,000 in net income. In response, there were questions of the salaries being over budget which were due in part to under budgeting one pharmacist and one half pharmacy tech.

Loren made a motion to approve the January 2022 Financial Statements, Laura seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.

Officers Reports:**Chief Executive Officer Report- Brian Rokusek**

- a. **Consent Agenda (February) – Loren made a motion to approve the February consent agenda as written; Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Discussion before approval: There were discussions regarding the blood shortage and transition to Ever-Bridge. In response, Jamie reported that there is a bare minimum of blood for traumas as the Red Cross is experiencing an all-time low. This blood shortage is due to various reasons such as precautions at blood drives and staffing limitations. Jamie reassured the board that the guidelines to give blood are evaluated by the providers and TCHS has worked with other facilities to develop a plan to help each other. TCHS will host their next blood drive on Thursday, March 10th. Please contact Ranae Vorderstrasse, Nursing Supervisor if you would like to donate. Jamie reported that TCHS has chosen to remain with Alert Sense instead of transitioning to Ever-Bridge as a mass notification system. This decision was made as remaining with Alert Sense will allow TCHS to have control of the system for adjustments as needed.
- b. **House Update:** Brian reported that the property at 322 Duffield Avenue, Hebron, NE has been purchased. Although, TCHS is waiting for the determination of the property taxable status. Following this statement, there were discussions regarding renting and future utilization of this property. Brian shared an update of the expansion and remodel of the Clinic, Specialty Clinic, and Cardiopulmonary areas. Currently, TCHS is waiting on a finalized proposal from McCarthy along with two offices in the Wellness Center being combined to create space for cardiopulmonary and cardiac rehabilitation. Loren suggested that the building committee meets regarding this information prior to the next board meeting. TCHS plans to review these preliminary designs with the board and providers.
- c. **Employee Engagement Improvement Plan:** Brian reported that Senior Leadership has identified three items for improvement following the employee engagement. TCHS plans to develop a standardized process to help the organization moving forward and to improve these scores year after year.
- d. **LDI Plan Update:** Brian reported that TCHS will host their next Leadership Development Institute on April 22, 2022 at the Stastny Conference Center. Topics will include: leadership team vision for moving TCHS forward in leadership development and sessions from John Roberts on how to effectively apply the results of the PPI in leadership and management.
- e. **New Hires:** Brian reported that there was one new hire for the month of February. This individual is Sarah Wiseman, HIM Specialist. During this time, Brian thanked Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant for her efforts at TCHS. The TCHS Board of Trustees, Senior Leadership, and Scott Cook thanked Bridget for her time at TCHS and wishes her the best in her future endeavors. Bridget thanked everyone at TCHS for allowing her to be a part of the organization.

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. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, discussion prior to approval:** none.
- b. **COVID-19 Update:** Jamie reported that there has been a significant decrease in the number of COVID-19 testing and positive COVID-19 cases. In result of this decrease, TCHS is happy to announce that the HICS team recently evaluated the current COVID-19 restrictions. Based on the currently available data, the HICS team has recommended relaxing some of the restrictions at TCHS facilities. Effective March 1, 2022, patients will no longer have limitations on the number of visitors. In addition, the Little Blue Bistro will be open to the public for dining in or carrying out. Lastly, Jamie reminded the board that the CMS Vaccine Mandate will take effect on March 15, 2022. Therefore, TCHS will continue the Reasonable Accommodation Process along with individuals being able to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine if they choose to do so. TCHS will still ask that all patients and visitors be screened for COVID-19 symptoms at the entrances and face coverings will still be required while inside the hospital and clinics.

Chief Financial Officer Report- Mike DeFoe

- a. **Cost Report Template Education:** Mike discussed the 2021 CHI Home Office Cost Allocation related part costs and how these costs effect the Medicare and Medicaid Settlement. Since 2016, year over year related party costs have increased from approximately \$1 million to \$1.75 million in 2021. The cost based reimbursement methodology resulted in an additional \$894,000 to the Medicare and Medicaid Cost Settlements for 2021. Mike and Brian plan to further



discuss the Cost Allocations with CHI Health. Following this discussion, Mike reviewed the Cost Report Template provided by Wipfli with the board. By doing so, Mike changed template trial balance amounts to show the impact of the Medicare and Medicaid settlement amounts.

Chief Operations Officer- Amanda Vandervoort

- a. **Provider Update:** Amanda reported that JennaLee Harris, Behavioral Health Therapist will start planning patient schedules at TCHS in the future upon insurance enrollment. JennaLee will move into Jan's office and Jan will move into the clinic. Next, Amanda reported that Dr. Birthi will start on Monday, March 7th. Dr. Birthi will be at TCHS two Mondays a month with his PA-C onsite the opposite two Mondays of the month to provide pain management services for TCHS. In closing, Amanda announced that Dr. Harbert would like to proceed with a contract. Dr. Harbert is open to performing a wide variety of orthopedic procedures such a total hips at TCHS. The onsite visit with Dr. Myers and her family went well as they look forward to her starting at TCHS in May of 2022.

Old Business for the Board: none.

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

Visitor Comments: Michael Logsdon, Director of Pharmacy reported that construction on the retail pharmacy will start in the end of March. This construction project will be communicated out to the public. Following this statement, there was discussion of the details of this remodel. In addition, Scott Cook, Market Director of Network Development and Rural Healthcare for CHI Health reported that a replacement for his previous position has been hired as another resource for TCHS from CHI Health.

Executive Session: The Thayer County Health Services Board of Trustees entered Executive session following the Open Session meeting on February 23 2022 at 8:15p.m. Present were Karen Dahlkoetter, Loren Wiedel , Laura Tuma, Mike Long, Connie Lichty, Amanda Vandervoort, Mike DeFoe, Brian Rokusek and Jamie Koch.

Laura Tuma made a motion to go into Executive Session, seconded by Connie Lichty. Roll call taken. All yes. Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding a management and affiliation agreement with CHI.

Loren Wiedel moved, Mike Long seconded to exit Executive Session at 9:05p.m and return to Open Session. Roll call taken. All yes. Motion carried.

Laura Tuma moved, Loren Wiedel seconded to adjourn the Board of Trustees Open Session meeting at 9:06. Roll call taken. All yes. Motion carried.

Bridget Behrends
Executive Assistant

Brian Rokusek
Chief Executive Officer