



January 26, 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 January 26, 2022 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 via Zoom, 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 Blair Miller. Recorder: Bridget Behrends, Executive Assistant.

Approval of Agenda & Approval of January 5, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes (December Meeting) & January 12, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes: Mike motioned to approve the agenda along with January 5, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes (December Meeting) & January 12, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes; Loren seconded. Laura and Karen Abstained. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.

Election of Officers:

1. **President:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board President. Loren nominated Karen, Connie 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. Mike nominated Loren, Laura 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. Connie nominated Laura, Mike 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. Mike nominated Connie, Laura 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 2021:

Mike reviewed the financial statement packet for the Six Months Ended December 31, 2021 and 2020 with the Board:

Month of December: Overview of the December 31, 2021 financial statements for the sixth month of fiscal year 2022. There was an operating gain of \$795,273 or 25.6% and an EBIDA of \$965,798 or 30.9%. Clinic and outpatient revenue were up 15.8% and 13.2% respectively. Inpatient revenue was also above budget 18.6% due to IP days being 14 above budget. The main reason for the TCHS operating increase was due to the rising positivity rates for the Delta and Omicron COVID variants. Other income was also significantly above budget by approximately \$600,000 due mainly to deferred revenue for FY21 government grant revenues and cost report contractual adjustment. 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: Surgeries up 28.2%, ER visits up 36.0%, Specialty Clinic visits up 31.6%, Lab test up 30.0%, total Pharmacy scripts up 17.6%, and Rehab visits up 45.4%. There were 27 hospital admits, resulting in an average daily census of 4.81, unfavorable to budget by 6.8% but our second consecutive month above 4.0. Total expenses were over budget 3.5% or \$77,239 and were mainly attributed to COVID supplies for testing and vaccination as well as some overtime due to increased facility utilization. For the month total cash and investments increased by \$409,332 due to receipt of \$569,000 Phase 4 grant funding but has decreased year to date by \$424,572 due in part to 2021 cost report settlement and repayment of our original governmental grant funding overpayment. Day's cash on hand increased 6.4 days and were at 157.5 days.

Year to Date: Operating Income was \$1,510,190 or 9.7%, total margin of \$1,545,351 or 9.9%, and an EBIDA of \$2,460,960 or 15.8%. AR Days at the end of December were 52.5 gross and 51.7 net. Through the first six months of FY22, TCHS revenues were 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 Wipfli template that estimates our current Medicare rates. For the month rates were: IP \$4,243, OP 66.73%, and SWB \$3,487. Prior year rates were IP \$3,366, OP 66%, and SWB \$2,967.

Discussion: There were discussions regarding the cost report template, outpatient clinic utilization, days cash on hand, swing bed days, and the 340B Program.

Laura made a motion to approve the December 2021 Financial Statements, Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.

Officers Reports:

Chief Executive Officer Report- Brian Rokusek

- a. **Consent Agenda (January) – Loren made a motion to approve the January consent agenda as written; Connie seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.** Discussion before approval: There was a discussion of the antibiotic Orbactiv.
- b. **TCHS Bylaws Review:** Brian is required to review the TCHS Bylaws annually and present recommended changes to the Board. Brian reported that he did not have any changes to recommend.
- c. **TCHS Annual Program Evaluation:** Brian thanked Jamie for preparing the TCHS Annual Program Evaluation as it is a requirement by CMS. Following the review of this annual program evaluation, there were discussions regarding Cardiac Rehab and the new Respiratory Therapist. **Loren motioned to approve the TCHS Annual Program Evaluation; Laura seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion Carried.**
- d. **CMS Vaccine Mandate:** Brian reported that the CMS Vaccine Mandate will be discussed following the COVID-19 Update.
- e. **New Hires:** Brian reported that TCHS has seen that the last two years have taken a toll on TCHS's workforce. Multiple Senior Leader changes, COVID, government mandates, nationwide staffing shortages, finding different ways to socialize, bereavements, and nationwide inflation at its all-time highest since 1982. As a result, Senior Leadership is in the process of developing a way to recognize the staff commitment and loyalty to TCHS, as well as acknowledge the economic strain which the workforce has been subjected. Senior Leadership plans to present this effort to show staff appreciation to the TCHS Board of Trustees.

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 continues to experience an increase in positive COVID-19 cases. Although, there have been a decrease in hospitalizations and transfers as individuals are being discharged to home with the new Delta COVID-19 Variant. This new COVID-19 Variant has changed treatment for individuals due to no longer being able to give antibody infusions. Following this information, there were discussions regarding COVID-19 Vaccinations, antibody infusions, COVID-19 treatment options, state allocation, supplies, patient guidelines, insurance coverage, and hospital transfers. TCHS hopes to see a downward trend in COVID-19 cases in the near future.
- c. **CMS Vaccine Mandate:** Jamie reported that CMS announced updated compliance deadlines for the November 5, 2021 Interim Final Rule (IFR) requiring mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for covered health care staff. As a result, TCHS will be resuming the Reasonable Accommodation Process along with employees being able to receive the COVID-19 Vaccine if they choose to do so. Following this statement, there were discussions regarding the individuals associated with the hospital that will need to be vaccinated or documented, tracking and documentation, details of the reasonable

accommodation process, significant decline and need for the TCHS Weekly COVID-19 Vaccine Clinics, approximate staff vaccination percentage, and the state lab testing sequences for the Omicron COVID-19 Variant based on geographic location. TCHS Senior Leadership reassured the board that a process of tracking individual vaccination status is being created as documentation will be required.

- d. **Quality Scorecard:** Jamie reviewed the TCHS Quality Scorecard and HCAHPS survey data with the board. Following this review, there were discussions regarding the accomplishment of being fall free since July, documentation of influenza, and utilization of the ocuvera cameras to prevent patient falls. Jamie thanked TCHS for their efforts in remaining fall free as there has even been an increase in fall risk patients. TCHS continues to set new goals for fall prevention as each goal is met.

Chief Financial Officer Report- Mike DeFoe

- a. **Capital Budget:** Mike presented the current capital budget summary through December 2021 to the board. Some projects were unable to be started due to the unseasonably warm weather. Therefore, projects were held off until January and the financial impact will be recognized in a shorter timeframe instead of spread out throughout the year.
- b. **Grant Funding:** Mike reported that TCHS received the Phase 4 grant funding. Mike plans to attend CHI Health Finance Connect on February 4, 2022 to learn grant utilization opportunities for TCHS.

Chief Operations Officer- Amanda Vandervoort

- a. **Provider Update:** Amanda began the provider update by reminding the board that Dr. Myers will be onsite for a lunch and visit to the community on Friday, February 4th. Next, Amanda reported that Dr. Birthi has given a tentative target start date of March 1st. Dr. Birthi will provide services four times each month between himself and his PA-C. Then, Amanda explained that Dr. Sood will be working in collaboration with JennaLee Harris to provide services. Lastly, Dr. Bohlen plans to start performing total shoulder procedures at TCHS. Dr. Harbert is open to performing a wide variety of orthopedic procedures.

Old Business for the Board: Loren reported a status of the TCHS house that has been purchased as inspections are being conducted. TCHS plans to close on the house in late February. Following this information, Karen requested the CHI Health Management Agreement to be reviewed. Scott Cook, Market Director of Network Development and Rural Healthcare for CHI Health indicated that he would be willing to discuss the terms of the agreement when the board is ready.


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

Visitor Comments: *none.*

Executive Session: *none.*

Loren made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm, Mike seconded. Roll call vote, all yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.


Bridget Behrends
Executive Assistant


Brian Rokusek
Chief Executive Officer