



January 31, 2024

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 31, 2024, 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 the roll call were Mike Long, Loren Wiedel, Karen Dahlkoetter, Connie Lichty, and Laura Tuma. Others in attendance: Brian Rokusek, Amanda Vandervoort, Jamie Koch, Andy Novotny, Lori Grummert, and Mike DeFoe. Recorder: Heidi Leners, Executive Assistant/HR Assistant.

Approval of Agenda & Approval of December 27, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes:

Loren motioned to approve the agenda along with December 27, 2023 Board Meeting as written. Mike seconded. Roll call vote: Loren yes, Mike yes, and Karen yes. Motion carried.

Election of Officers:

1. **President:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Board President. Loren nominated Karen, Laura seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote: Karen yes, Connie yes, Laura yes, Mike yes, and Loren 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: Mike yes, Laura yes, Connie yes, Loren yes, and Karen yes. Motion Carried.
3. **Treasurer:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Treasurer. Connie nominated Mike, Laura seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote: Karen yes, Mike yes, Laura yes, Connie yes, and Loren yes. Motion Carried.
4. **Secretary:** Karen opened the floor for nominations for the position of Secretary. Loren nominated Connie, Laura seconded. No other nominations were voiced. Roll call vote: Mike yes, Loren yes, Laura yes, Connie yes and Karen yes. Motion Carried.
5. **Member at Large:** Karen named Laura, Member at Large. Connie made the motion to have Laura as the Foundation Representative. Mike seconded. Roll call vote: Mike yes, Loren yes, Laura yes, Connie yes and Karen yes. Motion Carried.

Financial Statements – December 2023:

Mike reviewed the financial statement packet for the Sixth Month Ending December 31, 2023, and 2022 with the Board:

Month of December: Overview of the December 31, 2023, financial statements for the sixth month of fiscal year 2024. MTD had an operating gain of \$103,000 and an EBIDA of \$271,000. Total patient revenues were under budget (3%) and above the prior year 14%. Inpatient revenue was under budget (55%), with outpatient and professional services revenue above budget by 2% and 3%, respectively. The average daily census for the floor was 3.2 with one birth in the month. Outpatient stats for December were above budget in all areas except rehab units (1%). Clinic visits were under budget (7%) and under the prior year (0.3%). Total expenses were under budget (5%). For the month total cash and investments increased by \$356,000. The days cash on hand ended at 79 days.

Year to Date: The YTD operating loss was (\$749,000), total margin (\$633,000) and an EBIDA of \$61,000. The YTD total patient revenue was under budget (12%) and prior YTD (5%). The net patient revenue is under budget (15%) and the prior year (8%). The December financials were prepared using the updated cost report template with the TCHS FY23 audited data. AR Days were 56 days net. We continue working with our revenue cycle team on coding and have increased billing hours for submission.

Additional Information: Per the cost report monthly template supplied by Wipfli, our current estimated Medicare monthly rates were IP \$5,900, OP 75%, and SWB \$5,600. Prior year rates were IP \$5,631, OP 72%, and SWB \$4,395.

Discussion: There were discussions regarding the pay in full discount, operating expenses, contract services expenses, and operating revenue for the pharmacy.

Mike made a motion to approve the December 2023 Financial Statements, and Connie seconded. Roll call vote. Mike yes, Laura yes, Connie yes, Karen yes, and Loren yes. Motion Carried.

Officers Reports:

Chief Executive Officer Report - Brian Rokusek

- a. **Consent Agenda (December) – Loren made a motion to approve the December consent agenda as written: Mike seconded. Roll call vote, Mike yes, Laura yes, Connie yes, Loren yes, and Karen yes. Motion Carried.**
- b. **Administration Update:** Brian gave an update on Scott Cook and the rural health services division with CHI. Brian stated that CHI Health has dropped the rural health services division with the leadership change and is now circling back to see if they can get one or two staff back. Brian stated that Scott wanted to thank the board and team at TCHS. Brian added that Karen will meet with Dave Jones (Brian's boss) and Alex Burhop. Brian stated that TCHS will still have CHI Health Partners, but he may look into Heartland Health Alliance for additional support. Brian added that in legislation, LB1087 is a Nebraska provider assessment program that will benefit TCHS by increasing our rates. If passed, it could go into effect this summer. Jamie added that she and Brian have been negotiating with HHS. HHS wants TCHS to sign an addendum to the agreement. Still, TCHS doesn't want to sign. More information will come following a meeting on Friday, February 2. Additionally, Brian added that the website is being cleaned up and updated, and TCHS is working to figure out changes due to Molina Health taking over for Healthy Blue. The employee recognition banquet is this Saturday, February 3, at 5:30 pm at the Stasiny and the Gala, which will now be the Casino Night Fundraiser, on March 16.
- c. **Resolution Authorizing CEO to TCEDA- Mike made a motion as the board of trustees for Thayer County Health Services authorize Brian Rokusek, CEO, to serve on the board for Thayer County Economic Development Alliance; Laura seconded. Roll call vote, Mike yes, Laura yes, Connie yes, Loren yes, and Karen yes. Motion Carried.**
- d. **New Hires:** Brian reported three new hires for the month, which includes: Tommy Navarro, EVS Tech; Branden Navarro, Patient Access Representative; and Robert Lindsey, IT Intern.

Chief Nursing Officer Report - Jamie Koch

- a. **Physician Credentialing: Loren motioned to approve the initial appointments and re-appointments except for i.) Laura Baxa as recommended by the Medical Staff. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, Mike yes, Loren yes, Karen yes, Laura yes, and Connie yes. Motion carried.**
- b. **Quality Scorecard:** Jamie stated that the quality scorecard is in the board packet, and there are no concerns to point out.
- c. **Annual Program Evaluation:** Jamie provided the board with a handout and a brief overview of the annual program evaluation and stated she plans to keep it in the same format each year so TCHS can compare the two fiscal year numbers. **Laura motioned to approve the annual program evaluation. Connie seconded. Roll call vote, Mike yes, Loren yes, Karen yes, Laura yes, and Connie yes. Motion carried.**

Chief Financial Officer Report - Mike DeFoe

- a. **Ni2:** Mike gave an update on Ni2, which will do a review of the revenue cycle, billing processes, and coding. Mike stated that Ni2 estimated to help us find about 700,000 dollars of missed revenue. Mike added that TCHS will be submitting data to NHA Data Bank to help update all information at the state level. Additionally, Mike gave an update on the roof bids. The board and senior leadership team agreed it would make the most sense to use the same company that did the rest of the roof, Ziemba, out of Hastings. Mike added that it would be on the capital budget for next year but could start the process of getting the company lined up.

Chief Operations Officer – Amanda Vandervoort

- a. **Provider Update:** Amanda stated that Christy is continually doing well in the onboarding process, and the medical staff has agreed that once she is fully credentialed, she will be on her own. Amanda added that she will be going on FMLA soon and will start seeing patients once she returns. Additionally, Dr. Todd Roberts, who covered the ER over Christmas weekend, will return a few times this spring to cover a few weekends while we have planned FMLA.
- b. **Compliance Update:** Amanda gave an update on the compliance program, which included the cyber security training, the EMTALA journey for all clinical nursing staff and providers, and a new focus on pharmacy waste modifiers.

- c. **2023 Wellness365 Report Summary:** Amanda shared the 2023 Wellness365 program key statistics, including program education, metabolic screenings, incentives, and employee participation. Amanda stated that the program showcases the value of our employees and their health; it shows that we care.

Old Business for the Board: n/a.

Miscellaneous/New Business for the Board: n/a.

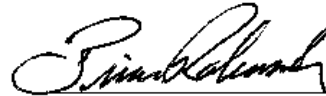
Visitor Comments: n/a.

Executive Session: n/a.

Mike moved, and Laura seconded to adjourn the Board of Trustees meeting at 8:38 pm. Roll call taken. Loren yes, Laura yes, Connie yes, Mike yes, and Karen yes. Motion carried.



Heidi Leners
Executive Assistant/HR Assistant



Brian Rokusek
Chief Executive Officer