

Johnson County Hospital District

BOARD MINUTES

October 26, 2022

The Board of Trustees of Johnson County Hospital District met for its October Board Meeting on Wednesday, October 26, 2022, at 5:32 P.M. in the Lake Angeline Conference Room. The following members were present:

Mark Schueler, M.D., President
Tom Holt, Board Member
Tom Berry, DVM, Board Member
Cristy Kinghorn, Secretary
Alecia Kozisek, Board Member – via phone

Those Absent:

Others Present:

Luke Senden - CEO
Becky Rodriguez – Finance Director
Dr. Ludwig – Chief of Staff
Laurie Hansen – Director of Administration
Mary Litzel – JCHC DON
Brenda Gorm – AHCC DON
Miranda Camino – FMC Manager
Alex Hargrave – Buffalo Bulletin
Kate Harness – 307 Net Radio

Dr. Schueler called the meeting to order. Tom Berry made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2022 board meeting. Cristy Kinghorn seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Dr. Ludwig, Chief of Staff, stated that the hospital and clinic volume numbers have been good. The nursing home continues to face staffing issues but they continue to work through it. There has been an increase in the number of COVID cases again so they have seen an increase in inpatient numbers due to that spike. Dr. Schueler asked about the provider compensation model changes, and Dr. Ludwig stated that it seems to be a good change overall.

Mary Litzel, RN, said that the nursing service has been busy with the increased number of inpatients. The construction has been challenging especially with the increased volume but everyone seems to be working through it. She informed the board that she will be losing four nurses for various reasons but she will continue to work through staffing issues. Tom Holt asked for more specific details on the impact of the construction project and asked if it is manageable. Mary stated that it is disruptive but still manageable. The construction crew has been good to work with and they are mindful of what the facility has going on.

Laurie Hansen, RN, stated that she had nothing further to add to her written report included in the board packet.

Miranda Camino RN, discussed the decreased clinic numbers and explained that visiting specialists have an impact on patient numbers as well. She also let the board know that our providers have been working with outside facilities to help accommodate them when COVID cases have increased. Our providers have gone to the other facilities to see patients and help out as much as they can.

Luke Senden talked about the meeting with the Sheridan VA, they discussed the issues we have been seeing as well as the issues being seen at the VA that are contributing to the communication problems. Dr. Schueler stated that there was discussion about our providers having access to speak to the doctor at the VA so that should help resolve some of the concerns.

Dale Hall, the new HR manager has started and provided a lot of assistance to everyone already, he will be a great addition to the facility. Erica Wallover, the OR manager has resigned and will be working at Public Health, interviews for her position have already started. We continue to look for a lab manager and have started working with a staffing company to help cover shifts until a new manager can be hired.

Luke discussed the status of the grants that we applied for. The SLIB board is preparing to review the applications soon. He hasn't heard anything back on the rest of the applications that were submitted. Luke also provided a construction update, there has been a change to the bathroom flooring due to an issue with the floors. He also talked about the disruptions throughout the facility as construction continues to progress.

Luke briefly talked about the Dementia training that was held at the facility, both days of training were well attended and the information was very well received. We are currently working on a community health needs assessment and will bring a report to the next meeting for approval.

The new retirement plan design has been completed with an implementation date set for December. We are planning to do a matching contribution and have a vesting schedule built into the plan. Luke stated that the new vendor has been great to work with. Luke talked about the health insurance renewal numbers, it is expected that there will be ten percent inflation, however, the hard costs for the plan have stayed flat. We don't need to make any plan changes and open enrollment will take place soon to roll the plan to a calendar year renewal going forward.

Luke informed the board that Dr. Carlsen signed an agreement last week and will be joining us in October 2023. We are excited to have him join the facility and Dr. Carlsen and his wife are both excited to be coming here. Luke let the board know that there is potential for an early payout on his sign-on bonus so they can purchase land or a house.

The new facility at the Veterans Home had a ribbon cutting last week, the new buildings look amazing, however, there is no news on when they will start accepting patients. They have staffing issues now so they will need to hire a number of employees before they can accept patients.

Luke let the board know that the CDC made changes that affect the masking policy. Masking is now based on community transmission so it will be monitored weekly and changed as needed. He also stated that the Ladies' Night Out was again successful and we had a record high of women receiving exams at the event.

Tom Holt asked about the new retirement plan, he asked how the vesting period would impact current employees. He also asked about the retainage account for the construction project. Both questions were addressed.

Becky Rodriguez provided the credentialing report. The board reviewed applications for appointment/reappointment to the Medical Staff. Following the review, Tom Holt made a motion to appoint/reappoint and grant privileges to the following applicants. Alecia Kozisek seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Initial Appointment:

- None

Reappointment:

- Kinner, AmberDO Family Medicine
- Gillian, ManjoriMD Teleradiology
- Vrdoljak, JakeMD Teleradiology

Becky Rodriguez presented the Board with September 2022 month-end and FY2023 year-end financial performance results.

Luke Senden talked about a Deed transfer for land next to the hospital where Northern Wyoming Mental Health is located. He discussed a provision in the title work and stated that he has been discussing it with the attorneys. He would like feedback from the board about keeping the provision in the agreement. Luke said that all of this came about due to the VOA taking over Northern Wyoming Mental Health. There was a discussion about cleaning up the agreement and the board agreed to continue pursuing the issue.

Tom Holt made a motion to go into Executive Session. Cristy Kinghorn seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Tom Berry made a motion to end the Executive Session at 7:05 P.M. Tom Holt seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Tom Holt made a motion to adjourn the regular Board meeting. Cristy Kinghorn seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cristy Kinghorn, Secretary