

Johnson County Hospital District

BOARD MINUTES

December 28, 2022

The Board of Trustees of Johnson County Hospital District met for its November Board Meeting on Wednesday, December 28, 2022, at 5:32 P.M. in the Lake Angeline Conference Room. The following members were present:

Mark Schueler, M.D., President
Tom Holt, Treasurer
Cristy Kinghorn, Secretary
Alecia Kozisek, Board Member

Those Absent:

Rich Griffith, Board Member

Others Present:

Luke Senden - CEO
Becky Rodriguez – Finance Director
Laurie Hansen – Director of Administration
Brenda Gorm – AHCC DON
Alex Hargrave – Buffalo Bulletin
Aaron Palmer – Big Horn Mountain Radio

Dr. Schueler called the meeting to order. Cristy Kinghorn made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2022 board meeting. Alecia Kozisek seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

There was discussion about the election of new officers, and how the current officers felt about their positions. After further discussion, Alecia Kozisek moved to keep the current officers as is for the 2023 calendar year. Those officers are Mark Schueler, M.D., President, Cristy Kinghorn, Secretary, and Tom Holt, Treasurer. Tom Holt seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

Dr. Schueler on behalf of Dr. Ludwig, Chief of Staff, stated that he is not aware of any issues with the medical staff or the hospital. The hospital and the ER have been a little slower and the clinic was slightly busier and everyone continues to maintain a stable operation.

Laurie Hansen, RN, had nothing further to add to her written report included in the board packet. Dr. Schueler commented on the HCAP scores, and Alecia asked if the complaints seen in the report are readdressed. Laurie said that unless there is a name included on the complaint there is no way to address them. Cristy also commented on the slips and falls and noted that they are up from last year.

Brenda Gorm, RN, provided information on the culture change project they have been working on in the nursing home. There were some questions from the board about the changes being made. Luke Senden said that Brenda and her staff have done an excellent job with all of the changes and the

progress they have made so far. Alecia Kozisek asked if there is any advertising about what is being done and suggested that there should be if it isn't all ready.

Luke Senden, CEO, talked about the grants for which applications had been submitted. He stated that the hospital did not receive any funds from the final four grants we were waiting on. There is talk that the SLIB funds will be refunded in the next State budget so we may still see funds from those applications. Luke said that operationally the hospital is still funding the construction project so there the hospital will likely have to borrow less than originally thought.

The construction project continues to progress. Concrete was poured for the PT and clinic additions and the inpatient space is getting close to finished. We should be able to take occupancy sometime in January or February.

The new retirement plan was rolled out and there has been good participation so far. Those that have not yet signed up are still encouraged to do so. The VOA accepted the agreement as proposed previously. Dr. Schueler signed off on it so that has been completed.

Luke talked about the new dryer purchase and how that has presented the need for an internal policy for emergent capital purchases. Luke would like a dollar limit to allow us to move quickly on emergent needs and then bring it to the board for final approval after. There was discussion about what that should look like before it was decided that the board would like the policy to have some language in it that states that it has to be to purchase equipment that will replace existing equipment in order to qualify, and they also agreed that \$50,000 was a reasonable limit. Luke will work on the policy and bring it to the board for final approval.

Luke is working on finalizing a contract with Dr. Kinner to make hers more closely match the rest of the provider's contracts. Starting in January they will be moving to a seven-day hospitalist shift instead of the rotation they currently have been working.

There was a discussion about obtaining pricing for a new EMR, there are a couple of different options that Luke was informed about so he has started gathering the information. It is time to start looking at a new system that is more user-friendly and efficient.

Dr. Schueler asked about the timing of the new phone system upgrade. Laurie Hansen said that the phones are being programmed now so we should see the upgrade taking place in the next couple of months.

There was no credentialing for approval.

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

Capital Approval-

The new dryer purchase was \$11,211, the board had previously approved moving forward with the purchase. Tom Holt made a motion for final approval of the dryer purchase. Cristy Kinghorn seconded the motion.

Contract Approval-

Luke discussed what inReach Health does and stated that they would be focusing on the OR, however, we need final approval to move forward with a contract agreement. Dr. Schueler asked what it the contract would entail, and Tom Holt asked if the agreement in physical therapy has been a good one. Cristy asked how they are paid and Luke stated that it is based on a percentage of growth. There were more questions about focusing on OR and if the physicians were in favor of moving forward. The physicians want to be able to approve who comes into our facility with inReach but they are agreeable to moving forward and looking at opportunities to grow. After further discussion, Tom Holt made a motion to move forward with entering into contract negotiations with inReach Health. Alecia Kozisek seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Luke talked about the audit and issues that are coming up from previous audits. The new auditors are looking at just under a \$2 million adjustment to contractuals, and they have stated that they are unable to issue an opinion on the income statement as it is right now. We have had conversations with them and Casey Peterson and have come up with a solution. Casey Peterson can look at last year's audit to make needed adjustments so that our new auditors can confidently issue an opinion and a clean audit. This would require contract approval with Casey Peterson so we can move forward. After more discussion, Tom Holt made a motion to approve the engagement letter with Casey Peterson to analyze and update the previous year's audit. Alecia Kozisek seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

There was information presented about the NHA Consortium and what it encompasses. If we agree to move forward with the contract it could cover a lot of the hospital's IT expenses. The scope of what qualifies for funding is much broader than what we have currently been participating in. The NHA is forming a partnership with the WHA making it possible for us to join and start saving on IT expenses. There were further questions and discussions followed by Alecia Kozisek making a motion to enter into a contract with the NHA Consortium. Cristy Kinghorn seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

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

Alecia Kozisek made a motion to end the Executive Session at 7:26 P.M. Tom Holt seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alecia Kozisek made a motion to adjourn the regular Board meeting. Tom Holt seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Cristy Kinghorn, Secretary