

DECATUR COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEETING MINUTES

December 01, 2021 – 5:30pm

PRESENT: Denise Elefson, Guy Clark, Sheri Frost, Linda Chastain, Teri Foster, Larry Griffin, and Rebekah Mendenhall

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Johnston (CEO), Tara Spidle (CFO), Kelly Barker (CNO), Jo Beth Smith (CHRO), Shannon Erb (Director of Marketing and Business Development), Dr. Ed. Wehling (Chief of the Medical Staff), and Candy Jordan (MercyOne).

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Denise Elefson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**II. AGENDA APPROVAL**

The following Medical Staff appointments, reappointments etc. were added to the previously published meeting agenda:

**Appointments:**

Tawnya Bauch, ARNP (Oncology)  
Neza Bharucha, MD (ITP)  
Heidi Close, MD (ENT)  
Dana Hatwig, ARNP (ITP)  
Scott Hoffman, DO (ED)  
Shehada Homedan, MD (Orthopedics)  
Kristel Howell, ARNP (Oncology)  
Amanda McKinley, CRNA  
Muhammed Puri, MD (ITP)  
Shana Wright, ARNP (ITP)

**Re-Appointments:**

Ryan Brimeyer, DO (Pulmonology)  
Ashley Brown, ARNP (Dermatology)  
Daniel Dodge, DO (Pulmonology)  
Melissa Friedrich, CRNA  
Brian Gallagher, MD (Urology)  
Malori Khalil, CRNA  
Constance Morrison, ARNP (ITP)  
Ed Wehling, DO (General/ Vascular Surgery)

**From Provisional to Full Status:**

Brian Dumstorff, CRNA

Item 9 on the published agenda, “Clinical and Quality Improvement Initiatives”, was removed and will be rescheduled for the January 2022 regular meeting of the Board.

Teri Foster made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and Guy Clark made the second. Motion carried unanimously.

### **III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Several items of comment were received as follows:

- Linda Chastain discussed a billing question;
- Guy Clark described an acquaintance living in Mt. Ayr who chose Decatur County Hospital for their healthcare services; and
- Rebekah Mendenhall reported on a very positive surgical experience of which she was aware at DCH with special mention of Dr. Wehling and the staff.

### **IV. CONSENT AGENDA**

Sheri Frost made a motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items with a second by Larry Griffin (1) Regular Meeting Minutes October 2021 (2) October 2021 Accounts Payable (AP): \$1,242,560.90. (3) October 2021 Payroll: \$511,895 (4) Accounts Receivable Write-Offs October 2021: \$35,585.28. Motion carried unanimously.

### **V. MERCYONE REPORT**

Candy Jordan presented the MercyOne Report.

### **VI. MEDICAL STAFF REPORT**

Dr. Wehling gave the Medical Staff Report with information as follows:

- The Medical Staff held its regular meeting on November 17, 2021.
- Dr. Wehling reported the recommendations of the Active Medical Staff with respect to the appointments and reappointments of various providers and physicians as detailed on the revised Board meeting agenda. The Active Medical Staff of Decatur County Hospital approved each one at their regular meeting in November 2021 as described above and made the recommendation to the Board of Trustees that they grant final approval of the appointments et al as presented.
- The focus of the medical and clinical hospital staff continues to be on staff preparedness and proficiencies in the care of critically ill patients. Practical exercises for training and education are ongoing.
- A brief discussion was held as to the current state of COVID-19 cases related to hospital volumes as well as the ongoing difficulties that remain in patient transfers to tertiary centers of care.

#### **ACTION ITEM(S):**

**Approval of Medical Staff Appointments et al:** Larry Griffin made a motion to approve and Linda Chastain made the second. Motion carried unanimously.

### **VII. CEO UPDATE**

Mike Johnston presented the CEO Update to the Board of Trustees as below:

- The annual review and adoption of the Board Bylaws will be at the January 2022 regular meeting. The only change presented to date was to extend committee assignment terms from the one (1) year to two (2) running concurrently with the officer election cycle.

- The annual Board Self-Evaluation survey as required by the bylaws is now available via SurveyMonkey. The applicable link has been sent via email to the Board members.
- Mike Johnston discussed the projected schedule for a Board representative to attend each meeting of the Medical Staff in calendar year (CY) 2022. A draft schedule was presented with certain changes made to produce the final list.
- The Series 2021 Revenue Bonds for the new Outpatient Clinic Building and Operating Room Expansion closed as of November 30, 2021. Funds in the amount of \$4.4 million are now available for use.
- Dr. Jawa returns to his schedule of three (3) clinic days per month effective in December of 2021.
- A brief discussion was held as to the current state of the CMS mandate for healthcare workers to receive the COVID-19 vaccine and the status of litigation before the federal courts related thereto.

#### **ACTION ITEM(S):**

**Approval of Board Regular Meeting Schedule for CY 2022:** The following dates were proposed as the dates for the regular meetings of the Decatur County Hospital Board of Trustees in calendar year 2022:

- January 26, 2022;
- February 23, 2022;
- March 23, 2022;
- April 27, 2022;
- May 25, 2022;
- June 22, 2022;
- July 27, 2022;
- August 24, 2022;
- September 28, 2022;
- October 26, 2022; and
- November 30, 2022.

All meetings will be held in the main conference room of the hospital beginning at 5:30pm on the date indicated. There is no regular meeting scheduled for December 2022. This list is subject to change. Sheri Frost made a motion to approve the regular meeting schedule as presented with a second made by Teri Foster. Motion carried unanimously.

**COVID Hazard Bonus for Hospital Employees:** Mike Johnston proposed to the Board of Trustees that a COVID Hazard Bonus be paid to all hospital employees with the exception of the CEO who would be exempt. This bonus would be substantially the same as the one previously approved by the Board in October of 2020 and is in recognition of the service provided by the staff of Decatur County Hospital under the extremely trying circumstances of the previous year. Under prescribed conditions discussed with the Board, full-time employees would be eligible for a one-time, gross bonus of up to \$1,000, part-time employees for up to \$500, and PRN employees of up to \$250. The commitment and loyalty of the DCH employees to their community and to their hospital throughout the previous year is deserving of tangible appreciation. The estimated cost of paying the bonus as described (including the tax expense) is a rounded \$95,000. Linda Chastain made a motion to approve the COVID Hazard Bonus with a second from Rebekah Mendenhall. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **VIII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Tara Spidle presented the financial report for October 2021:

Total gross revenue was \$3.2 million in October. October had an operating loss of \$17,739 with a net gain of \$85,825. Linda Chastain made a motion to approve the financial report for October 2021 with a second from Sheri Frost. Motion carried unanimously.

## **IX. HR UPDATES**

Jo Beth Smith provided the HR Update as follows:

- Welcome to Kelly Barker (CNO), Aaron Keeney (RN), Marcey Bell (RN), Alexis Thomsen (Lab - Phlebotomist), Tara Shields (Business Office), and Katie Keeney (RN – Infusion).
- Congratulations to Nick Horney for obtaining his Paramedic certification.
- Thelma Saxton will cater the annual employee holiday meal at DCH on Tuesday, December 14, 2021.
- The hospital Auxiliary is hosting their “Holiday Bazaar” on Friday on December 17, 2021 beginning at 10am.
- Decatur County Hospital is participating in the Leon Chamber of Commerce Christmas Tree Display. Our decorated tree has been placed at the SCIT theater. Thanks to Alayna Link for undertaking this project for the hospital.
- Discussed several activities planned by the Activity Committee to celebrate the upcoming holiday season.
- The Angel Tree is up in the main lobby and ready for the adoption of angels to begin.

## **XII. MARKETING REPORT**

Shannon Erb presented the marketing report to the DCH Board of Trustees. She provided the Board with an overview of current and planned marketing efforts as well as the results of previous campaigns.

## **XIII. CLOSED SESSION**

At approximately 6:30pm, a roll call vote was called for the Board to go into closed session to discuss the following:

- Iowa Code 21.5(1)(j)

The vote results were: Denise Elefson – aye; Sheri Frost – aye; Guy Clark – aye; Linda Chastain – aye; Teri Foster – aye; Larry Griffin – aye; and Rebekah Mendenhall – aye. Those present in addition to the Board members were Mike Johnston, Tara Spidle, Kelly Barker, Jo Beth Smith, Shannon Erb, and Candy Jordan.

With a consensus of the Board members obtained to do so, the Board returned to open session at approximately 6:36pm. The Board members present when the open session reconvened were Denise Elefson, Sheri Frost, Linda Chastain, Guy Clark, Teri Foster, Larry Griffin, and Rebekah Mendenhall. Others present were the same as listed above when the closed session convened. No action was taken by or required of the Board of Trustees following the return to open session.

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.