

DECATUR COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 22, 2026 – 5:30pm

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

ABSENT: Mara Wengryn

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Johnston (CEO), Tara Spidle (CFO), Shannon Erb (COO), and Dr. Ed Wehling (Chief of the Medical Staff)

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. AGENDA APPROVAL**

A minor revision to the meeting agenda was made to add the “COO Report” to follow the “Financial Report”. No action items were added or required as part of this change. Teri Foster made a motion to approve the agenda as revised with a second from Rebekah Mendenhall. Motion carried unanimously.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

Larry Griffin made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with a second by Rebekah Mendenhall. Motion carried unanimously. (1) Meeting Minutes – March 2026; (2) March 2026 Accounts Payable (AP): \$1,691,969.4; (3) March 2026 Payroll: \$684,525.00; and (4) March 2026 Accounts Receivable Write-Offs: \$154,024.00.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**V. MEDICAL STAFF REPORT**

Dr. Wehling provided the Medical Staff Report as follows:

- There was no meeting of the Medical Staff in April 2026;
- The Active Medical Staff held a Morbidity and Mortality (M+M) conference in the previous week to discuss several cases for the purposes of quality improvement; and
- He provided an update and short discussion as to the most recent rural trauma meeting held at Decatur County Hospital.

**VI. CEO REPORT**

Mike Johnston provided the CEO Update as follows:

Patient Transfers – March 2026:

At the Board’s request, the Chief Executive Officer will provide details on patient transfers from Decatur County Hospital at each regular meeting of the Board of Trustees for the previous month. This information includes, but is not necessarily limited to, the number non-psych transfers, transfer destination/ accepting hospital, and monthly transfer rate (total transfers/ total Emergency Department (ED) patients). Out of 280 non-psych patients treated in the ED in March 2026, nine (9) were transferred to tertiary facilities which yields a rounded transfer rate of 3.21% for the month. Four (4) were transferred to MercyOne – Des Moines, three (3) to UnityPoint facilities, one (1) to the University of Iowa, and one (1) to St. Luke’s in Kansas City.

Rural Health Transformation Grants (Equipment) – Update on PET Scanner Implementation:

- The fully executed grant award contract was received from the state on April 14, 2026;
- The Iowa Department of Inspection, Appeals, and Licensing (DIAL) granted a certificate of need (CON) for the proposed project on April 16, 2026;
- The State of Iowa approved a non-competitive bid for the PET unit on April 22, 2026;
- Preliminary engineering drawings received from GE and the lead time for the equipment is estimated at four (4) months from the date the order is signed;
- Shive-Hattery (architects) have begun work on architectural drawings as of April 22, 2026 (the Board members were shown a draft rendering as part of the slide presentation in the meeting); and
- Assuming Board approval, the goal is to have renovations complete and the new PET scanner operational by (or before) the end of calendar year (CY) 2026.

Community Transportation Program:

We have received verbal information from the Decatur County Supervisors that while they will continue to fund their one-third (1/3) of the monthly operational costs associated with the Community Transportation Program, they will NOT reimburse DCH for their one-third (1/3) of the capital cost associated with the replacement/ new vehicle. Decatur County Hospital will cover this expense from its funds such that the program and its benefit to the community will not be negatively impacted.

**Action Item – Revised Organizational Chart:** Teri Foster made a motion, with a second from Larry Griffin, to approve the revised organizational chart as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Action Item – Resolution Ordering the PET/CT Installation and Renovation Project, a Public Hearing on the Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, and Estimated Total Cost of Construction, the Publication of Advertisement for Bids (Notice to Bidders) and Notice of Hearing and Setting the Time and Plan for Receipt of Bids for Same:** Guy Clark made a motion to approve the resolution as presented and Teri Foster made the second. Motion carried unanimously.

**VII. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Tara Spidle presented the financial report for March 2026 as follows:

Total gross revenue was \$4.4 million in March 2026. An operating gain of \$449,595.00 and a net gain of \$755,411.00 were realized after tax revenue and other non-operating income in March 2026.

**Action Item – Approval of March 2026 Financial Report:** Larry Griffin made a motion to approve the March 2026 Financial Report with a second from Teri Foster. Motion carried unanimously.

**VIII. COO REPORT**

Shannon Erb provided the following updates:

Child Care Center Project:

- A director for the center, Destiny Northey, has been hired and the licensing process with the state will commence shortly;
- The project remains on track for opening on or before June 30, 2026;
- Relevant paperwork associated with the incorporation of a new legal entity to run the child care center is under review and discussion with the hospital attorney; and
- The Board reviewed, without objection, a proposed name and logo for the center.

Additional State Grant Opportunities: Upcoming state grant opportunities through the Rural Health Transformation program were reviewed and discussed.

Hospital Week: May 11 to May 15, 2026. At 11:30am on May 15, 2026, free lunch will be provided to employees (including Board and Auxiliary members) as well as the presentation of both the DAISY and the “Helping Hands” awards.

**IX. MERCYONE REPORT**

No MercyOne representative was present at the meeting.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:11pm.

**Written Materials Presented to the Board of Trustees:**

In addition to the meeting agenda, the Board members received the following written documentation prior to the meeting via email and as part of their packets at the meeting itself:

March 2026 Financial Report  
DRAFT Board Minutes –March 2026  
QI Metrics as of March 2026  
DRAFT Resolution Ordering PET Project  
MercyOne Statewide Liaison Report – April 2026

OPC Surveys – Full Packet – March2026  
DRAFT QI Meeting Minutes - March 2026  
Pathology Quality and TAT – March 2026  
Copy of DIAL CON Approval for the PET Project

Attest:

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Sheri Frost, Secretary