

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
BOARD MEETING
Meeting Location: MCMH Conference Center
Zoom option available.
March 29, 2024**

ROLL CALL

Trustees	Kevin Cabbage, Chair	Jill Bergstrom, Vice Chair	James Norris, Treasurer (Zoom)
	Ann Carder, Secretary	Roger Ehmke, Trustee	Lorin Petersen, Trustee
	Jason Poston, Trustee (Zoom, arrived at 9:01 AM)		

Administration	Ron Kloewer, Chief Executive Officer	Bryant Blay, Chief Financial Officer
	Krystalle Fada, chief Nurse Executive	Kylie Bowen, Administrative Services Manager

Staff	Pete Wemhoff, Admin Director of Support Services		
	Phyllis Drake, Admin Director of Patient Diagnostics & Ancillary Care (Zoom)		
	Tim Werges, Controller (Zoom)		
	Shauna Bozwell, Nurse Manager (Zoom)		
	Sherstin Willyerd, Pharmacy Dept. Manager (Zoom)		

Medical Staff	Dr. Grass, Chief of Staff
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Public Visitors	N/A
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Montgomery County Board of Supervisors	Charla Schmid (Zoom)
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Absent	Mike O'Neal, Chief Operating Officer
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CALL TO ORDER

Kevin Cabbage, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM at Montgomery County Memorial Hospital (MCMH) in the Conference Center. A Zoom option was available for those who wished to attend virtually.

RECOGNITION OF QUORUM

Kevin Cabbage recognized that all trustees were present except Jason Poston who arrived later in the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda was presented for consideration by the Board of Trustees. It consisted of the minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on February 28, 2024 and the following provider appointments; Alexa Paley, PA-C; Jessica Prescott, PA-C; Ann Porter, PA-C, Margaret Kinney, ARNP and inactivations Sean Takeuchi, MD; Juanita Alvarez-Hall, ARNP and Thomas Schmidt, PA-C. There were no policies this month.

A motion by Roger Ehmke, seconded by Lorin Petersen, to approve the consent agenda as presented was passed unanimously.

VISITOR COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORTS

Dr. Eduard Grass complimented the work that is being done to improve the transfer issues.

Dr. Grass noted on how nice the Doctors Day luncheon was.

Trustee Jill Bergstrom thanked all MCMH physicians and providers as we celebrate Doctors Day.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief Executive Officer – Ron Kloewer

Report printed in the Meeting Book.

To address the patient transfer situation, Ron reported that MCMH has been in discussions with a company called Pioneer Ambulance Service. This company would park a unit at MCMH and would be first call when a transfer is needed. A draft agreement is being reviewed. It would essentially be a no-cost agreement as Pioneer Ambulance would bill the patient for services. MCMH has continued to seek an agreement that would be suitable for both MCMH and the City of Red Oak but no mutually-beneficial agreement could be found. Due to the political nature of the situation, Chair Kevin Cabbage requested that the Board of Trustees consider their support of an agreement with Pioneer Ambulance. The Board is in support of pursuing an agreement with this company.

Ron reported that the Outpatient Specialty Clinic, along with the primary care clinics, will now come together under the management of Shauna Bozwell, Administrative Director of Clinic Operations. This will help to streamline referral patterns, workflows and communication.

Additionally, the Risk Manager position will be reintroduced. Phyllis Drake has accepted this position. This opens up the Administrative Director of Patient Diagnostics and Ancillary Care. This position will be posted.

Cathi Brown, Outpatient Specialty Clinic Manager, is retiring. She has strong connections to the Omaha metro medical community. We will be looking to find an individual to continue those relationships.

Chief Operating Officer – Mike O’Neal

Report printed in the Meeting Book.

Ron Kloewer reported on Mike’s behalf that the Retail Pharmacy operations are going well. The team is beginning to move into Community Benefit program implementation.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Chief Financial Officer – Bryant Blay

Report printed in the Meeting Book.

Bryant Blay reported the first quarter payment for the Medicaid Directed Payment Program has been received (\$945,436).

Bryant noted that February is typically a slow month, however it was very busy this year.

Bryant reported on the 340B program. MCMH is beginning to recognize savings from the program and the average discount is a margin of 70%. He noted that the team made an additional visit to Wayne County Hospital, who completed a similar retail pharmacy project, and was able to gain helpful accounting and operational tips.

The MCMH primary care clinics have launched the Phreesia patient engagement platform. The team is working to streamline the various functions of the platform.

Chief Nurse Executive-Krystalle Fada

Report printed in the Meeting Book.

Krystalle Fada reported that there were zero medication errors in February and fall rates have been trending well.

Trustee Roger Ehmke noted that he appreciates all the information provided by Department Managers.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Information Security:

The Information Security report is included in the Meeting Book.

The group discussed artificial intelligence (AI).

STRATEGIC DISCUSSION

Ron Kloewer led a discussion on MCMH's role in supporting area child care centers. Ron noted that many employees are working parents and daycare is essential to staffing. MCMH has established a legal framework to support this service. MCMH is considering how to support the sustainability of local centers, beyond an initial capital campaign donation.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Cash Disbursements

A motion by James Norris, seconded by Lorin Petersen, to approve the accounts payable cash disbursements in the amount of \$2,099,134, which excludes any potential conflict of interest payments, was passed unanimously.

A motion by James Norris, seconded by Lorin Petersen, to approve the potential conflict of interest payment to FMTC in the amount of \$7,049, was unanimously approved, with Kevin Cabbage abstaining.

Daycare Center Support for Malvern

Ron discussed the new daycare center that is opening in Malvern, Iowa. The new center will be housed in a remodeled building located in town. Ron is requesting MCMH donate \$25,000 to the new center's capital campaign. The donation will take place over a three year period.

Jill Bergstrom made a motion to approve the \$25,000 capital campaign donation to the Malvern child care center, to be paid over a three year period. Lorin Petersen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Daycare Center Support for Villisca

Ron discussed the daycare center in Villisca, Iowa. The center is currently operational but is in need of replacing several pieces of equipment that have reached end of life. Ron is requesting MCMH donate \$25,000 to the center's project campaign. The donation will take place over a three year period.

Ann Carder made a motion to approve the \$25,000 project campaign donation to the Villisca child care center, to be paid over a three year period. Jill Bergstrom seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Retail Pharmacy Capital Project

Pete Wemhoff, Administrative Director of Support Services, reported that a new HVAC unit is needed at the MCMH retail pharmacy. The current unit has reached end of life and a replacement system must be installed to maintain pharmacy drugs that must be kept at a specific temperature. Pete proposed adding a mini-split in addition to the new replacement unit. MCMH sought two local bids for the project. Pete recommends awarding the project to Jones Mechanical who submitted a bid of \$22,730.

A motion by Roger Ehmke, seconded by Lorin Petersen, to approve the project in the amount of \$22,730 passed unanimously.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Committee Reports

Critical Access Hospital Review – (Roger Ehmke & Jill Bergstrom)-N/A

Foundation – (Ann Carder & James Norris)-N/A

IHA Legislative – (Roger Ehmke)-Roger Ehmke is monitoring the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2024. It is a \$4M pilot program to stabilize rural hospitals. Roger will report back as he learns more.

IT Governance – (Kevin Cabbage)-Reported earlier in the meeting.

Patient Experience – (Lorin Petersen & Jason Poston)-N/A

Quality Patient Safety – (Jill Bergstrom & Roger Ehmke)-The committee reviewed their standard reports.

Community Relations Governance – (Ann Carder & Jill Bergstrom)-N/A

Pharmacy Governance – (Ann Carder)-Reported earlier in the meeting.

Infection Prevention Risk Assessment Plan

The Board of Trustees reviewed the plan which was included in the Meeting Book.

CEO Performance Evaluation

Ron Kloewer, CEO requested to go into Closed Session for the annual CEO Performance Evaluation, under Iowa Code 21.5(1)(i), "to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session".

A motion was made by Jill Bergstrom, and seconded by Roger Ehmke, to go into Closed Session. The motion passed unanimously under a roll call vote: Ann Carder, yes; Lorin Petersen, yes; James Norris, yes; Jason Poston, yes; Jill Bergstrom, yes; Roger Ehmke, yes and Kevin Cabbage, yes.

At 10:02 AM, the group took a short restroom break and began the Closed Session upon return. The Board of Trustees, Ron Kloewer and Kylie Bowen participated in the Closed Session.

Action Items As A Result Of Closed Session

The meeting was returned to Open Session at 11:20 AM. Ann Carder made the following motion, "After a year of excellent leadership and resulting from a very favorable Board evaluation, I motion to approve the compensation adjustment for Ronald Kloewer, CEO as recommended by the Board Chair, Chief Financial Officer, and Chair of the Finance Committee that coincides within the parameters as evidenced in the Iowa Hospital Association's Annual Executive Salary Survey." The motion was seconded by Jill Bergstrom. Motion passed unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next Board Meeting will take place on April 24, 2024.

ADJOURN

Roger Ehmke made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chair Kevin Cabbage adjourned the meeting at 11:23 AM.

Respectfully submitted,


Ann Carder, Sec.