HASKELL COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 28, 2025

Haskell County Hospital District Board held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on April 28th at 6:00 PM in the Haskell Hospital Education Building at 1 Avenue N, Haskell, Texas, per the Open Meetings Act.

Attending: President Robbie Peiser, Vice President Amy Martin, Secretary Darlene Hopkins, Member Elna Camacho, Member Lynn Dale Dudensing, Member Reida Penman, CEO Michelle Stevens, CNO Meghan Shelton, COO Mary Belle Olson, CFO Elizabeth Miller, and Controller Crystal Molina.

Absent: ACNO Dana Myers.

General Public: Ryder Cude with First State Bank.

Invited Guests: Chastity Werner and Clayton Jobe with Senex via Zoom, Brent Fuller, CPA with D & Co.

1. **Call to Order and Invocation.** Robbie Peiser called the meeting to order at 6:16 PM and certified a quorum. Robbie opened with the invocation.
2. **Swearing in of re-appointed board members.** Michelle swore in Robbie Peiser as a re-appointed board member. Robbie as the president then swore in Amy Martin and Lynn Dale Dudensing as board members.
3. **Senex Quarterly Revenue Cycle Presentation.** Chastity Werner and Clayton Jobe gave the quarterly revenue cycle presentation. The average daily revenue of $51K is the highest in our records back to 2022, and the AR days metric is trending down which shows that our general AR health has improved signficantly. March 2025 charges totaled $1.4M. The chart deficiencies metric has decreased again to a much better level based on historical metrics. DNFB days are at 19 as of Friday, April 25, 2025.
4. **FYE 9/30/24 Audit Presentation from Brent Fuller, CPA with D & Co, LLP.** Brent presented the slides regarding the 9/30/24 audit and cost report. It was an unmodified opinion for the 9/30/24 financial statements. Cash increased $2.4M from 2023 due to UC, ERTC, and improved collections. The cost report payable increased significantly compared to 2023. The cost report payable is $1M for 2024. The combined net loss is $359K. Expenses decreased by $500K. Cash flow changes increased $2.5M from 2023 to 2024. Lynn Dale Dudensing asked if healthcare accounting is the same as school district accounting. Brent explained that the obligated capital concept does not apply in healthcare accounting as it did in the past (2010). Brent reviewed key ratios, the required management and government letters. Brent reviewed the cost report settlement, specifically the $1.8M OP payable (observation reclass). MC expenses increased and MC days increased in 2024. Ancillary services for both OP and IP are reimbursed based on the cost to charge ratio. Our cost to charge ratio decreased and triggered the OP payable. OP charges increased 158%, and the cost decreased 5%. The RHC cost per visit decreased from $299 to $260.
5. **Review minutes from the March 25, 2025 meeting.** Accepted as written.
6. **Public Comment.** None.
7. **Review the patient census.** Michelle summarized the stats for March 2025 compared to February 2025 and March 2024. Inpatient and swing bed stats looked great. ER visits were up, and clinic visits decreased slightly. We did have 1 death.
8. **Review and approve the financial report including the employee census and AP check registers.** Elizabeth reviewed the March 2025 financials. Cash continues to be higher compared to the prior year, but it is stabilizing. Our AP has stabilized to where we pay our vendors by their due dates. The extended repayment schedule requests for 2024 of $1.5M and 2023 of $1M were approved over 60 months by Novitas. Elna made the motion to approve the financial reports, and Reida seconded. All voted to approve the financial reports except Lynn Dale voted not to approve.
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
10. **Review and approve the audit report.** There were no additional questions. Amy made the motion to approve, and Darlene seconded. All approved.
11. **Review and approve the Haskell EMS transfer and support agreement.** Melissa, the EMS director, discussed the EMS transfer agreement. Haskell County Hospital District pays $6K per month. The retired CEO Fran McCown provided a statement from 2014 that the county, city, and hospital district needed to pay

an equal amount each month to maintain EMS services. There weren't and aren't enough employees to provide a transfer service. There has been a subsidy prior to 2014. The subsidies pay one payroll per month currently. It is difficult to get patients and payers to pay. Melissa stated that she thinks the insurance payer contracts were re-negotiated in the last year or two. The agreement is for the hospital district to pay the cost for any transfers that are denied, or the patient doesn't pay. Amy requested the estimated percentage of denied or unpaid claims. It seems to be low. The EMS accountant Tammy stated 2 encounters were not paid in the last 6 months. The EMS employees haven't had raises in 3 years. Robbie served on the EMS board and recently retired. Meghan Shelton, CNO, replaced him. Reida made the motion to accept the transfer agreement. Lynn Dale seconded. Robbie, Reida, Amy and Lynn Dale voted. Darlene as a PT EMS employee and Elna as an employee of the firm that provides accounting services to the EMS recused themselves.

12. **Review and approve policies and procedures.** No policies or procedures to approve, but Michelle reported that the $100 per diem recommended by Elna was added to the employee expense reimbursement policy.
13. **Review and approve the medical staff credentials.** There weren't any medical staff credentials.
14. **Chief Nursing Officer Report.** Meghan reported that we are short 4 FT RNs and 4 FT LVNs – 2 each on days and nights. We are using traveling nurses. We have 3 LVNs who are in school and 1 student who will graduate soon as an RN. She hired a FT night C N A. We hired Meri Combs to help with quality and compliance and employee health. Meghan and Dana are going to a rural health nurse conference at the end of May.
15. **Chief Operating Officer Report.** Mary Belle reported that the Foundation gala is Thursday. RHC open house is scheduled for May 22nd, 4-6 PM. The social media posts created by Groundswell are performing very well.
16. **Chief Executive Officer Report.** Michelle reported that the admin team attended the TORCH conference last week. Michelle will be attending the Nashville Coalition conference and serving on a panel about the employee 340B pharmacy set up process and savings.
17. **Executive Session** – We adjourned at 8:27 and entered into the executive session at 8:30. We adjourned out of the executive session at 8:58 and back into regular session at 8:59.
    Pursuant to Texas Government Code §§ 551.074, 551.085 and 551.071, the Board of Directors shall meet in Executive Session to deliberate personnel matters, certain proposed new service or product lines of the hospital and to consult with its attorney, either in person or by video or telephone, matters which require confidential discussion under the attorney client privilege.
18. **Review and approve the recommendation by Charles Self regarding the Stamford Hospital District OTA termination.** Lynn Dale made the motion to discuss with Charlie about offering the release of liability if we can get our OTA patient records. All voted in favor except Darlene voted no.
19. **Adjourn** - President Peiser adjourned the meeting at 9:00 PM. The next regular board meeting is May 20, 2025.

Darlene Hopkins — 5-22-25

Board Secretary — Date

Robbie Peiser — 5-22-25

Board President — Date

Michelle Stus — 5-21-25

CEO — Date