

## HASKELL COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

Haskell County Hospital District Board held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on September 17<sup>th</sup> 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 via Zoom, Member Reida Penman, Member Elna Camacho, Member Lynn Dale Dudensing, CEO Michelle Stevens, COO Mary Belle Olson, CFO Elizabeth Miller, Controller Crystal Molina, and CNO Meghan Shelton.

**Absent:** ACNO Dana Myers

**General Public:** None.

**Invited Guests:** None.

1. **Call to Order and Invocation.** Robbie Peiser called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and certified a quorum. Lynn Dale opened with the invocation.
2. **Review minutes from the August 27, 2024 meeting.** Lynn Dale voiced a correction for item 12. The tax rate is above the NNR rate; therefore, a public hearing is required. The 9/17/24 board meeting serves as the public hearing. Also corrected the spelling of Pain Management CRNA Jon Ponder's name. There was discussion about the deadline for posting the agenda and emailing out the packet ASAP. Elna made the motion to accept the minutes with the noted correction. Reida seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.
3. **Public Comment.** None.
4. **OLD BUSINESS**
5. **Senior Life Solutions Geri Psych Agreement.** Tabled until the October 2024 board meeting due to receiving the cost report analysis from Durbin a couple of hours before the board meeting.
6. **Review the patient census.** Michelle summarized the stats for August compared to July 2024 and August 2023. The stats are slightly down from July 2024, but up from August 2023. MRIs are down, but sleep studies are up. Elna's mom had a great experience when she had her sleep study completed. Stephanie the sleep tech was amazing. Elna mentioned that Hendrick put pressure on them to have the sleep study completed at Hendrick, but Haskell is much more convenient for Haskell residents.
7. **Review and approve the financial report including the employee census and AP check registers.** Elizabeth reported that the metrics continue to be trending in the right direction. Cash is up and AP is down. We will receive a large uncompensated care deposit of around \$1M in late September or early October. The revenue has been accrued to match the IGT that settled the end of August. A debt repayment recommendation will be presented at the October meeting for the board to review, revise, and approve. All the Cerner metrics are trending in the right direction. Our stats continue to be solid, which leads to steady cash flow and consistent payments to vendors. Lynn Dale expressed concern about the operating loss and the ability to repay the line of credit. He noted that we cannot count on the ERTC for Q22021 and Q32021. Amy made the motion to approve the financial reports, and Darlene seconded. All voted to approve the financial reports except Lynn Dale voted not to approve.
8. **NEW BUSINESS**
9. **Approve the operating budget for FYE 9/30/25.** Elizabeth reviewed the budget notes and assumptions. These addressed Lynn Dale's concerns about depending on the ERTC money. The budget does not consider any ERTC money because we do not know when the appeals will be approved or rejected. Lynn Dale asked about the new abatement, so we will email the board the detailed abatement schedule. Reida made the motion to approve the 9/30/25 operating budget as presented, and Elna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
10. **Approve the 2024 tax rate.** Elna made the motion to increase the tax rate by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.194119, which is effectively a 1.8% increase. Amy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

11. **Review and if necessary, approve the First State Bank Line of Credit renewal.** The board discussed the interest staying at 10.5% and that there isn't a prepayment penalty. The attorney for First State Bank prepared the renewal documents, and Robert Spurck, the attorney for the district, reviewed them without any concerns. Elna made the motion to accept the First State Bank line of credit renewal. Darlene seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
12. **Review and approve policies and procedures.** Meghan presented the workplace violence policy that is required by the Senate Bill. A workplace violence committee has been formed and met to draft the recommended policy. Meghan noted that the policy focuses on de-escalation techniques and delineates protocol for workplace violence incidents which will be reviewed by the committee. Reida made the motion to accept the policy as presented, and Amy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
13. **Review and approve the medical staff credentials.** There weren't any medical staff credentials for the board to review and approve.
14. **Chief Nursing Officer Report.** Meghan reported that the pharmacy state board stopped by and surveyed us. There were no deficiencies. One sign was required, and Leah posted it that day. Unfortunately, nurse staffing continues to be an issue.
15. **Chief Operating Officer Report.** Mary Belle reported on the Cadenhead clinic renovations including the electricity work and flooring and painting and the concrete work on the ramp. Louis will have them start tomorrow or early next week. The preliminary total for the repairs is \$42K, and we have \$50K in grants. The RHC survey is due in January 2025, so we plan to move into the Cadenhead clinic for the survey. She also reminded the board to register for the September 24<sup>th</sup> suicide awareness lunch event. We partnered with the Laura Bush Institute to provide these complimentary lunch and learns. We also have the October 2<sup>nd</sup> wellness expo. The CHNA focus group is meeting September 24<sup>th</sup> 4-5 PM in the library. Bunco financials were presented. Net income for Bunco was \$9K which was good considering it was the second fundraiser of the fiscal year.
16. **Chief Executive Officer Report.** Michelle reported that the admin team will be at TORCH next week. Michelle is starting a rural hospital CEO certification through NARHC. She was selected to participate, and the program is paid for by Texas A&M. It is a 10-month program. Lynn Dale asked about the pain management clinic and Dr. Carpenter's approach to opioids. The admin team continues to work with Charlie Self and Scott Kennedy on the Stamford clinic lawsuit.
17. **Executive Session** – No executive session needed.  
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. **Adjourn** - President Peiser adjourned the meeting at 7:19 PM. The next regular board meeting is October 22, 2024.

Darlene Hopkins  
Board Secretary

10-22-24  
Date

Robbie Peiser  
Board President

10-22-24  
Date

Michelle Spivey  
CEO

10-22-24  
Date