

HUNT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

April 27, 2021

The Hunt Memorial Hospital District Board of Directors conducted a meeting on Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. at Hunt Regional Medical Center, sixth floor Homer Horton, Jr. Boardroom, 4215 Joe Ramsey Blvd., E., Greenville, Texas.

Dr. Pierce, Chairman, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

Mrs. Sarah Alderman

Dr. James Barr

Mrs. Deborah Clack

Mr. John C. Nelson, Jr.

Mrs. Janet Peek

Dr. Scott Pierce

Mr. William Rutherford

Mr. Michael Taylor

Mrs. Julia Wensel (Absent)

comprising a quorum of the Board; also,

Mr. Richard Carter, President/CEO

Mr. Lee Boles, Vice President/CFO

Mr. Reese Hurley, MSN-Adm., RN, Vice President/CNO

Mr. John Heatherly, Vice President Operations/Support Services

Ms. Emily Sundeen, DNP, FNP-BC, Vice President Quality & Clinical Integration

James Sandin, MD, Vice President Medical Staff Affairs

Ms. Leah Curtis, Hospital Counsel

Ms. Gail Grace, Regional Director of Operations, Milestone Healthcare

Ms. Lana Buley, Vice President, Operations Milestone Healthcare

Mr. Tim Roberts, Robins & Morton

Mr. John Cane, Robins & Morton

Mr. Jeffrey Constantino, Facilities Management Director

Mr. Pete Harrell, Assistant Facilities Management Director

Ms. Lisa Hill, Foundation Development Marketing Communications Director

Ms. Rose Hayden, Assistant Director Development & Communications

Ms. Kelli Jones, Outpatient Clinical Service Line Director

Ms. Katie McKenna, Assistant Director Hunt Regional Healthcare Foundation

Mr. Andrew Lawrence, Senior Financial Analyst

Ms. Jamie Morgan, Accountant

Ms. Mary Pattberg, Decision Support Director

HRMC Medical

There was no medical staff report.

Staff Report

**Approval of
Minutes**

Mrs. Alderman moved, seconded by Dr. Barr, to approve the March 23, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Citizens To
Be Heard**

There were no citizens to be heard on non-agenda items.

**Public
Testimony**

There were no members of the public present to address the Board of Directors regarding any item on the agenda before or during the Board's consideration of said items.

**Unfinished
Business
Belltown
Power Texas
Signal Ranch
Solar Farm
Tax Abatement**

Ms. Curtis reported Belltown Power is requesting a tax abatement with Hunt Memorial Hospital District similar to the Hunt County abatement. She presented a proposed tax abatement agreement and reported if the Hospital District is considering granting any type of tax abatement, a public hearing will be required with a 30 day notice. Since there are not 30 days between now and the next Board meeting, the public hearing will be in June. Mr. Taylor discussed the Payment in Lieu of Taxation (PILOT) to be \$362 per 50MW totaling \$18,100 Belltown would pay annually to the Hospital District versus paying property taxes of \$121,900 annually (calculated at \$50M investment at the current Hospital District tax rate of \$0.2438 totaling \$121,900); which is over \$1M for the ten-year period being requested. Mr. Carter reported our current policy is for a seven-year abatement and this request is a variance from our policy. Following discussion on options, Mr. Taylor moved, seconded by Mr. Rutherford, to table the Belltown Power abatement request until the June Board meeting so Administration may further research the proposal. The motion carried unanimously.

**Annual
CEO
Evaluation**

The annual CEO evaluation may be considered following the Executive Session.

**New
Business
Consent
Agenda**

Mr. Rutherford moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to approve the following consent agenda items.

To approve the recommendations for appointments, requests to change staff status, requests to change staff category, a request for additional clinical privileges, reappointments, request for a medical leave of absence, and resignations for the Hunt Regional Medical Center Medical Staff and the Allied Health Professional Staff upon recommendation of the Credentials Review.

To approve the following Hunt County resale properties as recommended by the Finance/Budget Committee.

R70109 1808 Washington St., Commerce, TX, \$10,060

R106624 Booker St., (Lot 20-21), Commerce, TX, \$1,500

R79496 Booker St., (Lot 11-12), Commerce, TX, \$2,100

R79495 Booker St. (Lot 9-10), Commerce, TX, \$2,100

R113326 Mosley St. (Lot 19-20), Commerce, TX, \$1,500

R113325 S. Mosley St. (Lot 15-16), Commerce, TX, \$1,500

R70325 O'Neal St., (Lot 5), Commerce, TX, \$2,000

R70326 O'Neal St., (Lot 6), Commerce, TX, \$2,000

To approve \$62,061 for the purchase of an Exacq Vision Camera System for Hunt Regional Medical Center and the Hunt Regional Medical Centers in Quinlan and Commerce as recommended by the Finance/Budget Committee.

To approve \$57,200 for the purchase of Arctic Sun hypothermia equipment for ICU as recommended by the Finance/Budget Committee.

To approve \$20,189.46 for the purchase of an EMG machine for Hunt Regional Medical Partners upon recommendation of the Finance/Budget Committee.

To approve \$128,415 for the purchase of a portable X-ray unit for Hunt Regional Medical Center upon recommendation of the Finance/Budget Committee.

To approve \$84,827 for the purchase of a Retcam for NICU screening upon recommendation of the Finance/Budget Committee.

To approve the Infection Control Authority Statement upon recommendation of the Quality Council.

ACTION ITEMS
Milestone
Presentation

Ms. Sundeen reported the hospital has been evaluating our home health service line to determine how to make it sustainable. As health care evolves, home care will be important as evidenced by CMS now rolling out a program that is expanding health care in the home. Ms. Grace presented a proposal for Milestone to provide a 120-day comprehensive evaluation consultation on home health for \$8,000 per month. The proposal includes a dedicated regional team

to provide comprehensive evaluation and program development including herself and Wendy Ingram, Regional Clinical with over 20 years of Home Health experience. She reported after the 120-day evaluation Milestone would like to negotiate a management contract for Home Health. She noted they will focus on organizing the transition to the PDGM which is a new model introduced in 2020 which changed home health documentation, coding, billing and reimbursement. They will continue to refine the coding and billing process, make sure staff understands and implements compliant treatment plans, that appropriate documentation is developed, renegotiate payor contracts with current rates, educate the staff and upskilling to meet the increasing acuity and provide marketing and community outreach. Following the presentation and discussion of corporate management being onsite to manage and evaluate during the 120 days, Mr. Rutherford moved, seconded by Mrs. Clack, to approve the proposal as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**Legal
Services**

Dr. Pierce reported the legal services ad hoc committee met over the past month and Mrs. Peek reported the committee has learned and will continue to do so until May 15 in which they will be submitting a recommendation to the Board. She reported Debby Clack, Julia Wensel and herself have enjoyed their service.

**Financial
Statements**

Mr. Boles presented the March 2021 financial statements and statistical data. He reported CMS rescinded the ten-year extension given to Texas on the Medicaid waiver, thus our current waiver will go through September 2022. Approximately \$18M to \$20M flows through this waiver program. A financial quarterly report on the Commerce and Quinlan Emergency Medical Centers (EMC) was presented. The EMC in Commerce has a \$1,030,000 loss for six months with an annual loss budgeted at \$2M, with volumes increasing since COVID. The EMC in Quinlan has a loss of \$642,000 for six months with an annual loss of \$1.2M with volumes slowly increasing. Mrs. Alderman inquired if evaluation of the Emergency Medical Centers and could be done and Mr. Carter reported here are companies available to provide a comprehensive evaluation but the opportunities would be focused more on revenue and reimbursement instead of expense and staffing. Dr. Pierce requested a review of the Emergency Medical Centers be presented next month as was done on the peripheral clinics several months ago. Following the presentation and discussion, Mr. Rutherford moved, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to accept the statements subject to audit. The motion carried unanimously.

**Employee
Incentives**

Mr. Carter reported last November the Board approved a financial incentive for all full time and part time employees to express appreciation and gratitude for their work during COVID through the end of September 2020. Since September, the COVID storm increased over the winter months and began slowing down in February. Thus, he is proposing a second incentive for all full time and part time staff employed through the end of March 2021 at \$500 for full time and \$300 for part time for a total of \$650,000 using COVID funds. Following discussion on the length of time COVID funds will be available, staffing and retention, Mrs. Alderman moved, seconded by Mr. Taylor, to double the proposal to \$1,000 for each full time employee and \$600 for each part employee employed through the end of March 2021. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

**Strategic
Initiatives**

There was no action taken.

**Chairman's
Report**

The Administrative Team members, Richard Carter, Lee Boles, John Heatherly, Reese Hurley and Emily Sundeen were presented with plaques recognizing their extraordinary efforts during the February 2021 winter storm. Dr. Pierce reported a 16x20 three dimensional plaque on a rosewood background will be prominently displayed in the front lobby recognizing the Administrative Team.

**President/CEO
Report**

Mr. Carter reported the following:

Hospital Week events include: Employee Service Awards on Monday, May 10 from 12-1:30 pm with a lunch grab and go; the night shift Picnic will be in the Café Thursday, May 13 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm and the Hospital Week picnic will be in the Café Friday, May 14 from 11 am to 1 pm.

The Texas Healthcare Trustees Conference will be in San Antonio July 22-23, 2021. Those interested should contact Sherie.

The vaccination distribution program is winding down and he expressed appreciation to Emily Sundeen, Heather Rochford, Travis Potter and Jennifer Padilla for a superb job in leadership and coordination of the vaccination clinics. The vaccine is available through the Urgent Care and those interested may register on the Hunt Regional Medical Partners website.

Viet Phuong, MD, General Surgery, is resigning effective July 16, 2021 to relocate to Houston to be with his family.

All the winter weather damage in all Hunt Regional locations have been repaired.

The hospital received a CMS inspection approximately six months ago and CMS returned last Thursday to re-survey the hospital. Following their inspection, Mr. Hurley reported the hospital was cleared of deficiencies cited for COVID screening and Nursing Services.

The hospital continues to follow CDC guidelines with respect to wearing masks and will reevaluate every two weeks.

**EMC
Update**

The financial information on each of the Emergency Medical Centers was previously reported under the Financial Statement report.

**Physician
Recruitment**

Physician recruitment continues for GI, General Surgery, and OB/GYN. He reported they will be hiring a retained firm for the General Surgeon.

**Patient
Services
Environment**

To be discussed in Executive Session.

**Expansion
Project
Update**

Mr. Roberts reported Robins & Morton appreciates the opportunity to meet with the staff and their willingness to share information and have open communication. Mr. Cane reported Robins & Morton brought in a consultant to provide a refresher to their team on Infection Control and invited some of the hospital staff to attend. The hospital staff that attended has the opportunity to become certified if they so choose. He reported the new sanitary sewer manhole was installed, the new water line and vault and storm lines completed, brick demo at existing physical therapy completed, temporary waterproofing at physical therapy roof and walls done (weather permitting), elevator equipment removed, temporary relocation of existing standpipe and sprinkler floor control valves and assessed the confined space controls for the crawlspace. Next week they are expected to complete the drywall and acoustical ceiling

demo, stair demo, complete the elevator demo on Monday, shoring begins, testing and tie-in of the new water line, temporary wall construction in OR/GI, surgery brick demo is scheduled to begin Thursday, temporary waterproofing at completed brick demo, site cleanup and organization upon completion of underground and mobilization of equipment for excavation of crawlspace. Mr. Roberts noted they have had a few obstacles and the team has helped them get through it.

**Quality
Performance
Report**

There was no report.

**Customer
Service
Report**

There was no report.

**Compliance
Report**

Mr. Heatherly presented the Compliance Report for January through March 2021. A total of 916 employees completed compliance training; sanction checks for the quarter totaled 252 and were completed prior to start dates and were negative. Under investigations/hotline reports: there were no investigation or hotline reports received in the quarter; there was one exit interview question with concern in January that was investigated and addressed, no exit interviews in February and one exit questions with concern in March that is still under investigation; and there were no physician compensation agreements approved during the quarter. Following the overview, the report was accepted.

**Executive
Session**

An Executive Session was held under Texas Government Code §551.071, and §551.085. Following the Executive Session, the following was reported.

**Annual
CEO
Evaluation**

The Board of Directors will conduct a special meeting to consider the annual evaluation of the CEO on Friday, May 7, 2021 at 1 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

James Barr, PhD
Secretary