

TRMC Board of Managers

Minutes

November 27, 2023

The Titus County Hospital District Board of Managers met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 27, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. in the Williams Conference Room on the 3rd Floor of Titus Regional Medical Center in Mt. Pleasant, TX.

ATTENDEES: Don Lowry, Tony Rundles, Rob Holliday, Trent Abbott, Kevin Rose, Royce Carr, Ricky Baker, Terry Scoggin (CEO) (remote), Dr. James Bove (COS), Dr. Milan Sekulic (TCOT Chief Physician Executive), and Dr. Will Hooks (CMO).

ADMINISTRATION: Dr. Colton Bradshaw, Patty Boeckmann, Kathy Griffis, Andy Fortenberry and Jeff Drummond (legal)

VISITORS: Karl Garcia, Mona Parks, Dr. Michael Henry, Angela Moore, Gena Matheson and Josh Spalding (remote)

CALL TO ORDER: Don Lowry called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m., welcomed everyone and certified a quorum.

Opening prayer was officiated by Pastor Ricky Williams.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andy Fortenberry.

Employee Recognition:

The IT Informatics team was recognized for achieving a Level 9 for CHIME (College of Healthcare Information Management Executives). This achievement recognizes TRMC's commitment to digital technology and measures how well we use technology for our patients.

Josh Spalding was recognized for his leadership and role in the network conversion upgrade of our PACS system. The new software will allow images to be transferred timely which is critical for our patients.

2024 MEC Election Slate of Nominees

Discussion, Consideration and approval of 2024 MEC Election Ballots.

Dr. Michael Henry, Chair of the Nominating Committee presented results for the 2024 MEC Election Ballots for the positions of Chief of Staff and Department Chief Hospital & Emergency Medicine. The Majority Election confirmed by the nominating committee were:

- ✚ Chief of Staff – Dr. James Bove
- ✚ Department Chief Hospital & Emergency Medicine – Dr. Stephen Sigal

Don Lowry asked for a motion to approve the 2024 MEC Election Ballots as presented by Dr. Michael Henry.

- ❖ **Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Rundles and seconded by Royce Carr to approve the 2024 MEC Election Ballots. The motion carried with unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Recommendations:

- I. Approval of minutes of the TCHD Regular Board Meeting – 10.30.23.23
- II. Approval of minutes of the TCHD Proposed Property Tax Consideration/Special Meeting – 10.26.23
- III. Approval of TRMC Sensitive Exam Policy

Reports

- I. Executive Reports
- II. Current Month Hospital Stats

Don Lowry asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda listed items above.

- ❖ **Motion:** A motion was made by Rob Holliday and seconded by Kevin Rose to approve the listed Consent Agenda items. The motion carried with unanimous vote.

Approval of Chain of Command Policy

The Chain of Command Policy was removed from the Consent Agenda and discuss separately. Discussion and clarification on the Code of Conduct and HR policies related to Chain of Command proposed policy.

Don Lowry asked for a motion to approve the Chain of Command Policy as presented with amendment to add paragraph addressing retaliation.

- ❖ **Motion:** A motion was made by Trent Abbott and seconded by Tony Rundles to approve the Chain of Command Policy as presented and amended. The motion carried with unanimous vote.

RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS:

Medical Staff Update

Dr. Bove reviewed the MEC Matrix

- 📌 Communication is the theme based on input mentioned at the annual medical staff meeting
- 📌 Two editions of the Newsletter have been distributed and the 3rd Holiday Edition in process
- 📌 Physician engagement will be a focus for the Medical Staff in 2024

Medical Executive Committee (MEC) Recommendation for Medical Staff Appointments and Reappointments:

Dr. James Bove presented the November, 2023 Medical Staff Appointments and Reappointments to the Board. There was no further discussion. Recommendation unanimously approved by the Board of Managers.

TRMC Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement Update:

CNO Quality Update:

Kathy provided a verbal report

- 📌 Staffing
 - Continuing to balance staffing and agency costs
 - Difficulty recruiting ICU nurses. International nurses being pursued to address need.
 - Currently working with NTCC with their grant for a Preceptor Program

- ✚ Simulation Lab
 - NTCC now has opened a very impressive SIM lab. TRMC pursuing opportunities to collaborate with NTCC in their lab.
- ✚ Utilization Management
 - Continuing to work with Dr. Sigal on the Hospital Emergency Medicine / Clinical Dyad partnership for improved quality and safety initiatives.
- ✚ Patient Experience team (Kathy, Mona Parks, Tiffani Hester, Suzanne Magee and Lindsay Hutchings) preparing to launch initiative in December.

CMO Quality Update

Dr. Hooks provided a verbal report:

- ✚ Pediatric Readiness Hospital Initiative program is being pursued. Goal is to build program to include readiness score above 87%.
 - ✚ 22% of patients at TRMC ED are pediatric
 - ✚ Dr. Rice will serve as Physician Coordinator
 - ✚ Dr. Henry – assuming NICU Medical Director on 1/1/24 allowing Dr Rice to focus on readiness
 - ✚ Tara Gray – NICU NP hired in November
- ✚ Mary Anderson has assumed active role with the Cath Lab procedural services quality, patient safety and day:day activities.

Patient Experience

Slides of the current patient experience data were presented, reviewed and discussions held on HCAHPS scores

Don Lowry asked for a motion to approve the TRMC Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement Update

- ❖ **Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Rundles and seconded by Trent Abbott to approve the TRMC Quality Assurance/Performance Improvement update. The motion carried with unanimous vote.

FINANCE REPORT:

Financial Report as of October 2023:

- ✚ The October 2023 Financials were presented by Andy Fortenberry.
- ✚ Gross revenue charges of \$31.6 MM were over budget by \$1.9MM and exceeded prior year by \$3.5 MM. Net Operating Revenue of \$9.6 MM was \$461K more than budget and \$1.1 MM more than prior year. Total Operating Expenses of \$10.6 MM exceeded budget \$359K and increased \$1.2MM from prior year.
- ✚ Days Cash on Hand were constant for the month of October at 54 days.
- ✚ Finance Committee Update:
 - Meeting date for December was approved to move to 12.18.23 at 11:30 a.m. due to the Christmas holiday.

Don Lowry asked for a vote to approve the recommendation of the Board Finance Committee for the October 2023 Financials. The vote carried unanimously.

Health Equity Update

A Trustee Insights article on Quality Oversight, Health Equity and the Community Board's Role was shared with the Board and included in the Board Effect packet. Board members asked to review article.

CEO Update

- ✈ UT Health / Ardent is experiencing a cyber attack of their systems and are on paper across whole system.
- ✈ The Office of Inspector General has notified TRMC for return of Medicare contract payments based on charges from 2016 – 2021 related to specific charge codes in the Emergency Department. Estimate of payments approximately \$275K. TRMC joining several rural hospitals fighting the recoupment request and will be represented by TORCH counsel.
- ✈ TRMC team member appointments to THA Committees will be reported next month.

NEW BUSINESS**Discussion of Future Agenda items**

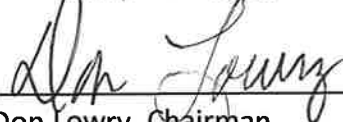
Don Lowry asked if there were any future items to be posted on the December Board Agenda. None were noted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board convened to Executive Session at 6:37 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION: Regular session reconvened at 7:21 p.m. with a unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT:

Don Lowry adjourned at 7:22 p.m. with a unanimous vote.


Don Lowry, Chairman
Tony Rundles, Secretary