

A regular meeting of the North Wheeler County Hospital District Board was held at the hospital at 6 p.m. on June 17, 2024.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pam Hibler, Chairman
Janie VanZandt, Secretary
Ken Daughtry, Member

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marla Ford, Vice-chairman
Meghan Reid, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Cecil Gaither, CEO; Jace Henderson, CFO; Skye Lane, EMS; Mandy Meadows, DON; Missy Oltmanns, Physical Therapy Department Head

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER:** Pam Hibler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a prayer offered by Jace Henderson.
2. **PHYSICAL THERAPY REPORT:** Missy Oltmanns stated that the department has seen 3750 patients in the past year. In 2018-2019, they had 1896 patients. Shelby Terry is the Physical Therapist supported by Missy and Kinley (both PTA's) and Char (PTA). Autumn and Chancey are PRN. Missy indicated that her department may be starting to do wound care as of August 1, stating that they may use ER5 if it is not in use.
3. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - a. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** May 20, 2024
 - b. **Payment of bills**
 - c. **Investments**
 - d. **QAPI**
 - e. **Date of next meeting: July 15, 2024**
Ken Daughtry made a motion to accept the items on the Consent Agenda. Janie VanZandt seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.
4. **EMS REPORT:** Skye Lane stated that all three ambulances are fully stocked and in service. The team continues to train in-house and online. She is currently looking for more PRN, and she is trying to fill shifts as employees are setting vacation times. The department has been involved in community service activities with Wheeler and Kelton schools, and they participated in extrication training with the Wheeler VFD. They responded to nineteen calls in May.
5. **CNO REPORT:**
 - a. **Nurse Staffing:** Mandy Meadows' report stated that the hospital is fully staffed. One full-time RN switched to PRN for personal reasons. One RN from the night shift will transition to an available day shift. She will be advertising for a nighttime RN. One night shift RN is going to NP school. One nurse aide is going part-time for a full-time job elsewhere.
6. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND STATISTICS:** Jace and the board reviewed the balance sheet and the operating/income statement with the board. Questions were asked by the board.
 - a. **Palo Duro G&P Suit Update** – The court date has been set for October 21, 2024, here in Wheeler.

- b. **FY2025 Budget** - Jace Henderson presented the Budget to the board which was reviewed and discussed. It was noted that the purchase of a new CT machine (\$430K) is on hold since Cecil and Jace found out that the temperature in the CT room has not been maintained properly. The current machine will continue to be used and maintained until they can determine if replacement is necessary. Capital funding for a new CT will remain in the budget but may not be utilized if the current machine can be operated without showing signs of increased heat levels. The purchase cost for the new sonogram machine is listed in the new budget. The hospital is applying for a Rural Broadband grant (\$132,000) to buy new servers and a couple of carts (\$50,000) to have computers on wheels. The grant will also include work force development and training on mannequins. Janie VanZandt made a motion to approve the new budget. Ken Daughtry seconded the motion; vote was unanimous.
- c. **Employee Insurance** - We will have to change to another group due to the issues. HealthSure has CHIC (community health insurance coalition) which is a coop of insurance companies with forty-two hospitals in the coalition. If we join, it will disperse the risk across forty-three hospitals and will return dividends. Jace and Cecil are currently investigating options to see how patients' accounts are being paid.
- d. **Wheeler Co. Appraisal District proposed budget and budget allocations:** Kimberly Morgan, Chief Appraiser, submitted the 2025 budget for the appraisal district. The total budget is \$949,082 of which the north hospital district will owe \$162,411.98 (17.11% of the budget).

7. **APPROVE BAD DEBT** - No report.

8. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Dr. Paul Elangwe payments** - Dr. Elangwe has paid \$30,000 and still owes \$20,000. His June payment had not been received as of the June meeting.
- b. **Update on Physician recruitment** - Dr. Edrissi will be coming to Wheeler to begin working at the hospital on July 1, 2024. There was discussion of other candidates.

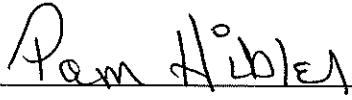
9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Dietary Policies:** Board signatures were secured for the Dietary Policy and Procedures Handbook.
- b. **Vestra (rev cycle)** - Jace and Cecil are investigating Vestra, which specializes in Critical Access Hospitals (CAH). There was a Panhandle Coalition Meeting in Amarillo.
- c. **Board Education Webinars** – Cecil will review past seminar training completed by board members and recommend those that different board members need.
- d. **AL/RHC Survey Report** - The administration and board members reviewed the survey. Cecil stated that all corrections have been completed.

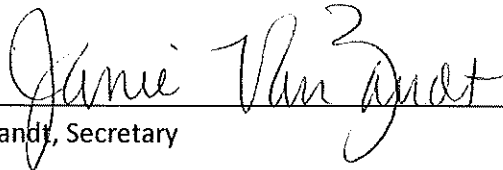
10. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on Monday, July 15, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Hibler".

Pam Hibler, Chairman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jamie VanZandt".

Jamie VanZandt, Secretary