

A regular meeting of the North Wheeler County Hospital District Board was held at the hospital at 6 p.m. on July 15, 2024.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pam Hibler, Chairman
Marla Ford, Vice-Chairman
Janie VanZandt, Secretary
Ken Daughtry, Member
Meghan Reid, Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Cecil Gaither, CEO; Jace Henderson, CFO; Angela Howard, Pharmacy Department Head; Pat McDowell, County Judge; Dr. Scott Evans, M.D.

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PRAYER:** Pam Hibler, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with a prayer offered by Ken Daughtry.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** County Judge Pat McDowell stated that he is working on the proposed county budget which the commissioners will receive on August 5th. They will have three weeks to review it and make revisions. The budget will have to be approved on August 26th. He hinted at budget cuts for our hospital district related to the ambulance stipend that the county contributes to the ambulance budget, per the interlocal agreement the county initiated with the hospital districts beginning in 2003. The interlocal agreement, started by County Judge Hefley, is an agreement between the commissioners' court and the hospital district for the hospital to operate the ambulance service.
3. **PHARMACY REPORT:** Angela Howard heads up the pharmacy department. She deals with medication shortages/supplies and makes sure medications are up to date (not expired). She orders medications for the clinic, EMS, hospital, and ER. Crystal McEntire, our consulting pharmacist, reviews orders and signs off.
4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
 - a. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting:** August 19, 2024
 - b. **Payment of bills**
 - c. **Investments**
 - d. **QAPI**
 - e. **Date of next meeting: September 16 , 2024**
Marla Ford made a motion to accept the items on the Consent Agenda. Ken Daughtry seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.
5. **EMS REPORT:** Skye Lane's report stated that Medic 1 is in Elk City due to leaking transmission fluid. The team continues to train in-house and online and will do hands-on training in July. The ambulance service is fully staffed, and she may hire one person for PRN. They responded to twenty-three calls.
6. **CNO REPORT:** No report.
7. **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. **CDs:** Wellington State Bank is paying us 5.35%, averaging 5.5% APY. Monies invested in CDs in Austin are earning 5.53% APY. Jace is getting information on bonds and may consider buying bonds.
- c. **Employee Insurance** - There are not enough claims to cover what is out there. 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.
- d. **Audit:** The hospital audit is underway, and they will be in-house on August 5th.
- e. **Tax rate:** Currently, the no new revenue rate is 43 cents/\$100 of valuation. If we adopt the no new revenue rate this year, our tax rate will be 51 cents/\$100 of valuation, including the hospital bond.

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

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **Dr. Paul Elangwe payments** - Dr. Elangwe is late with his payment this month.
- b. **Update on Physician recruitment** - We are still searching.
- c. **Vestra (rev cycle):** Vestra is a billing company, charging 5% of collections. TruBridge, our current billing company, charges \$8500/month. The board and administration decided to table the decision until we talk to Pampa hospital, find out the contract length, and the dollar amount (return on investment).
- d. **Dietary policies:** Board signatures were secured from Marla Ford and Meghan Reid.

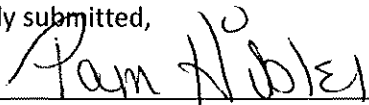
10. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Board Education Webinars** – Board members should individually complete the Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act trainings online through the Attorney General’s Office. At the end of each training will be a code to print off the completion certificate. Cecil stated that the THT (Texas Healthcare Trustees) conference will have an online seminar that board members need to tune into for training on July 25. Kevin Reed, our Austin attorney, will be presenting the new board member training.
- b. **Delineation of Privileges:** Pam Hibler signed the delineation of privileges for Dr. Scott Evans.
- c. **Employee incidents for 2024:** The board reviewed the incident report and had a discussion.

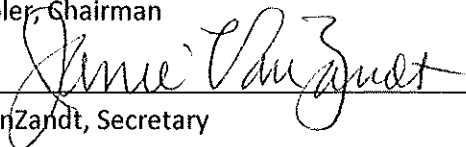
11. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. The next regular board meeting will be on Monday, August 19, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Pam Hibler, Chairman



Janie VanZandt, Secretary