

**Wilson County Memorial Hospital District dba
Connally Memorial Medical Center
District Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2024**

Present Tom Miller, Board President
Marcelo Laijas
Larry Richardson
Justin Cook
Allison Lamberth
Steve Browning
Nick Janysek
Randy Bruett

Absent Don Finley

Also Present Bob Gillespie, CEO
Kyle Klein, CFO
Brandon McDowell, COO
Olivia Flores, Exe. Clinic Director
Gary Williams, CNO
Karl Hittle, Endeavor
Curtis Rojas, Endeavor
WCN Representative
Barbara Meza, Accounting Director
Katelyn Hogg, Marketing Associate
Kimberly Jones, Executive Assistant

Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Tom Miller - Board President called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance / Texas Pledge / Reflection

Roll Call of Board

The Board President called roll of the Board of Directors and a quorum was present.

Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2024

Mr. Miller presented the January 18, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes for approval.

Action Taken

Motion made by Justin Cook and seconded by Steve Browning to approve the January 18, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion Carried.

Citizen Input – None

Review, consider and take action regarding any of the following issues:

Board of Director Business

Order of Elections: Ordering of election to be held May 4, 2024 for the purpose of electing four (4) directors to the Hospital District's Board of Directors.

Action Taken

Motion made by Allison Lamberth and seconded by Marcelo Laijas to accept the Order of Election as presented. Motion carried.

Review, consider and take action regarding Finance Committee Items:

January Summary and Financial Analysis

Mr. Kyle Klein reviewed the financial information for the month of January. The Board held a discussion and asked questions regarding the information provided in the Summary and Financial Analysis.

Action Taken

Motion made by Marcelo Laijas and seconded by Nick Janysek to approve the January Summary and Financial Analysis as presented. Motion carried.

Sonic Firewall (Sophos)

Mr. Brandon McDowell requested \$18,000.00 for a 250-user license to Sophos XGS 3300 advanced edition and security appliance. This firewall would give us the capability for future growth in both VPN users and Bandwidth increases. Board discussion ensued.

Action Taken

Motion made by Marcelo Laijas and seconded by Randy Bruett to approve the Sonic Firewall (Sophos) as presented. Motion carried.

Annual/Quarterly/Monthly Reports

Annual Compliance Plan – Kyle Klein

Mr. Kyle Klein overviewed the Compliance Program Plan to include the following

- The Compliance Officer's main duties include coordination of and communication regarding the Compliance Program, which includes planning, implementing, and monitoring.
- Compliance Hotline
 - Confidentiality, unless government authorities are involved
 - Report hotline information to the Board and CEO
 - No retaliation policy
- Employee Code of Conduct
 - Comply with all Federal and State laws
 - Rules and regulation
 - Sets forth the expectation
- Compliance Plan Benefits
 - Demonstrate to employees, and the community at large the strong commitment to honest and responsible provider conduct of CMMC
 - Provide a more accurate view of employee and contractor behavior relating to fraud and abuse
 - Identify and prevent criminal and unethical conduct
 - Improve the quality of patient care
 - Create a centralized source for distributing information on health care statutes, regulations, and other program directives as they relate to fraud and abuse and other such issues
 - Develop a culture and methodologies that encourage employees to report potential problems
 - Initiate immediate and appropriate corrective action and
 - Through early detection and reporting minimize the loss to the government from false claims, as well as reduce the exposure of CMMC to civil damages and penalties, criminal sanctions, and administrative remedies such as program exclusion.

- **Compliance Plan – Areas of Concern**
 - Billing for items or services not actually rendered
 - Proving medically unnecessary services
 - Up coding
 - DRG Creep
 - Outpatient services rendered in connection with inpatient stays
 - Duplicate billing
 - False cost reports
 - Unbundling
 - Billing for discharge in lieu of transfer
 - Patients' freedom of choice
 - Credit balance – Failure to refund
 - Hospital incentives that violate the anti-kickback statute or other similar federal or state statutes or regulations
 - Joint ventures
 - Financial arrangements between hospitals and hospital-based Physicians
 - Stark Physician Self-Referral Law
 - Knowing failure to provide covered services or necessary care to members of a health maintenance organization
 - Patient Dumping

Action Taken

Motion made by Allison Lamberth and seconded by Larry Richardson to approve the Annual Compliance Plan as presented. Motion carried

Quarterly Compliance Report – Kyle Klein

Mr. Kyle Klein stated that there were no compliance issues at this time

Quarterly Investment Report- Kyle Klein

Mr. Kyle Klein reviewed the current financial investments, stating that rates are increasing and the average rate is 4.6% for WellsFargo and 5.4% for TexStar. Mr. Klein stated that both accounts are doing well and asked the Board if they would like to discuss investing more money. Board discussion ensued.

Action Taken

Motion made by Allison Lamberth and seconded by Nick Janysek to increase the available dollars for investment up to 20 Million. Motion carried.

Annual Security/Safety/Risk Assessment Plan 2024 – Brandon McDowell

Mr. Brandon McDowell reviewed the following with the Board

- **Annual Security/Safety/Risk Assessment**
 - Vulnerability Assessment – Q1 Scan – 30% reduction in high alerts since last February; overall reduction in priority alerts
- **Safety/Threat/Performance Management**
 - Disabled Public access to webmail, now secured by two factor authentication - Completed
 - VPN improvements – now requires multi factor authentication to remote into our networks - Completed
 - Improve physical network security with additional port security on devices - Completed
 - New backup software (veeam)l off site storage and redundancy – Completed
 - Quarterly health checks with Sophos – Current
 - Expansion of NAS for additional storage capacity for backups
- **Current Protections**

- Web security gateway
- Email security gateway
- Mobile device management
- Monthly security updates
- Software for vulnerability scans
- Endpoint protection
- **Upcoming Plans**
 - Continue to clean up on Shared drive and removing data that should be located in the department drive
 - Updated Safer guidelines
 - HHS proposed cybersecurity performance goals for the healthcare sector (DHS, CISA, HHS)
 - Removal of generic logins and use appropriate access modeling for staff access
 - Explore opportunity for redundant fiber path into Floresville through secondary fiber lines

Annual Quality Clinic Report – Olivia Flores

Ms. Olivia Flores reviewed the following

- Quality Programs – Goal, keep costs down
 - RAPPS – Rural Access to Primary and Preventive Services
 - Increase in Medicaid payments for RHC's
 - Report twice a year
 - MIPPS – Merit Based Incentive Payment System (PQRS, VBM, and MU)
 - Quality (30% of score)
 - Promoting Interoperability (25% of score)
 - Improvement Activities (15% of score)
 - Cist (30% of score)
 - Report at end of the year
 - Composite core determines payment adjustment
 - HEDIS – Healthcare Effectiveness Data Information Set
 - Used by health plans to measure performance
 - Managed Care Contracts
 - WellMed
 - United Health Care
 - Humana
 - Aetna
 - Superior
 - Medicare
 - Medicaid – CHIP
 - METICS
 - Outcome Measures
 - What are the outcomes of patient treatments>?
 - Patient Survey Measure
 - CHAPS/HOS
 - Process Measures
 - Preventative
 - Tracking Measures
 - 16 Med review, fall risk assessment
 - Hierarchical Coding Category
 - How sick is the patient?
 - Utilization Management

- Referrals out
- Keep patients out of the Hospital and ER
- Decrease unnecessary surgery
- Shared Pool Fun – where all services are paid from
 - Specialists
 - Lab, Radiology, Diagnostics
 - Hospitals, ER, Skilled Nursing Care
 - Home Health and DME
- WellMed – Gold Tier
 - Star Rating Overview
- United Health Care
 - Star Rating Overview
- RAPPS
 - Passed Reporting Measures Overview
- MIPPS
 - Results are not in for 2023
- 2024 Quality Initiatives
 - Continue to work on increasing STAR rating per plan
 - Begin monitoring quality metrics for all managed care plans
 - Decrease utilization to increase by increasing preventative care

Quarterly Patient Service Center Report – Olivia Flores

Ms. Olivia Flores reviewed the following

- Percentage of Calls Handled
- Family Practice Calls Handled
- Average Handled Time
- Average Speed of Answer
- 2023 Accomplishments
 - Cross Training
 - Healow Portal
 - Provider Access
 - Calling day of patient who didn't not confirm appt to help decrease no shows
- 2024 Initiatives
 - Real Time Insurance Eligibility Training
 - Quality Calls
 - Radiology Scheduling
 - Import Demographics from Online Check in's

CEO Report – Bob Gillespie

Mr. Gillespie reviewed the following with the Board of Directors:

- Celebrating 3D Mammography System
- Wilson County Retired School Personnel Presentation
- Annual Cowboy Breakfast
- Consolata Golf Tournament
- Updates
 - Business Offices
 - Foundational Processes
 - Automations
- Contract Negotiations with Payors

- Analysis
- Central Scheduling Department
 - Working with our PSC
 - Upfront Collections
- Quality Department
 - 5 Star Measures
 - Bi-Weekly Leadership
 - Focus Groups
 - Monthly CEO Reporting
- Home Health
 - Annual Report in March
 - Beginning the Process of evaluating Hospice Care
- Physician Interviews
 - 3 Varying Specialists
 - 1 Family Practice
 - 3 Ortho Candidates
 - 2 Urologists
- Onsite Interview
 - Urologist – April
- Building Update
 - February 7th
 - Attended the City of Floresville Planning and Zoning meeting
 - Preliminary Plat approved
 - Approval for Site Permit
 - February 8th
 - Attended City of Floresville City Council Meeting
 - Preliminary Plat has been approved
 - Approval for Site Permit
 - Zoning will go through a 15 days notification process
 - February 26th
 - Mobilization of Equipment and Earthwork
 - March 6th
 - Public Meeting for Zoning change with Planning and Zoning
 - March 14th
 - Final Hearing and Zoning Approval City Council (Final Plat could add to this agenda)
 - Ground Breaking – March; TBD

Executive Session

The Board President called for a Closed Session.

The Board Members convened into Closed Session at 6:17 pm on 02-15-2024.

Reconvene to Open Session

The Board President called for an Open Session.

The Board Members convened into Open Session at 6:18 pm on 02-15-2024.

Section Texas 161.032 Medical & Safety Code

Medical Staff Credentials

Action Taken

No credentials presented

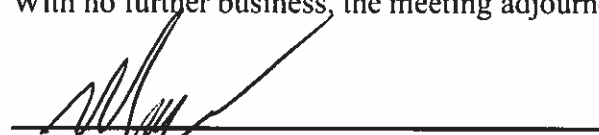
Section Texas 551.072 Deliberations Regarding Property

No Action Taken

Section Texas 551.085 Deliberation of Governing Board of Certain Providers of Health Care Services.

No Action Taken

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Marcelo Laijas, Board Secretary

