

WMH GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MARCH 30, 2017

Members Present: Jim Bachrach, Chairman; Doug Creamer; Robert Davis via phone; Hank Kozlowsky

Members Absent: Anne Wilson; Duffie Harrison; Patrick Conrad, M.D.

Staff Present: Michael Cooper, CEO; Becky Gibson, DON; Ginny Griner, HR/Med Staff; Jordan Fulkerson, Interim CFO; Heather Huron, Recording Secretary

Guests Present: Michael Moron, County Liaison; Mel Kelley; David Adlerstein, Apalachicola Times

Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Huron confirmed that appropriate notice had been given for the public meeting. The 2/23/2017 minutes were presented for approval.

Approval of Minutes

ACTION

A motion was made by Creamer to approve the February 23, 2017 minutes as presented; seconded by Kozlowsky. The motion was carried unanimously.

County Report

Moron gave a summary on the 3/21/17 county commission meeting. At the meeting, introductory presentations were given by Community Hospital Corporation (CHC) and Vestra. No actions were taken by the Board.

C.E.O. Report

Cash Flow

- Per Cooper, the February Income Statement and Balance Sheet were not yet available. The January financials had been prepared by Graham. He explained that Graham's process for preparing financial reports was mostly manual. Fulkerson has been working to make the process automatic through the Athena accounting software. Fulkerson stated he would email the February financials as soon as they were completed.
- Cooper announced that ½ of the DSH funds due to Weems had been released 3 weeks ago in the amount of \$250,000. Confirmation had been received the previous evening that the full LIP payment, \$800,000, would be received in the next couple of days. All LIP & DSH funds had been in abeyance since July 2016. Despite the lack of funding, making up 17% of budget, WMH had been able to maintain function without requesting additional money from the HCTF. Cooper gave Fulkerson credit, pointing to the collection rate as being the best in 10 to 15 years. Cooper stated he would be working with Fulkerson to determine how to allocate the \$800,000.

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Partnership Update

- Cooper shared that it had been difficult to coordinate meetings between CHC, Vestra and TMH. To date, Cooper and CHC representatives have had 4 conversations. Additional conversations have occurred between CHC and Moron. Cooper stated it would take a little longer for CHC to create a proposal, because they customize according to individual hospital needs. Vestra, on the other hand, uses a standard agreement for all clients. CHC is expected to have a conversation with Moron today regarding the HCTF, building/renovation program, etc. Cooper requested a “term sheet” from CHC to provide to county commissioners at the April 18th meeting.
- Cooper stated the process to lease the hospital operations would entail extensive legal review. Cooper further explained that when Governor Scott took office, a statute was passed on the sale and/or lease of a county, district, or municipal hospital. The statute is 23 pages long, outlining a specific process required for the lease of a hospital. The statute does not place limitations on who may own / lease a hospital; it simply outlines the process. Part of the process would include an independent valuation of the hospital’s fair market value. Cooper noted that there was a provision in the statute allowing exemption for some hospitals. Atty. Shuler believes WMH may qualify for the exemption. If not, the entire process will require months to complete.

Clinics

- Cooper discussed Whaley’s departure from her full-time position. Cooper noted that Whaley remains with Weems as a PRN clinic provider. Regarding provider recruitment, Cooper shared that 3 mid-level providers had expressed interest in employment. One provider had already accepted a position with Weems clinics to begin May 1, 2017. Additionally, the interim provider, Mario Rankin, had expressed possible interest in a full time clinic position. Rankin was expected to make a decision within the next week. Creamer shared that public feedback on Rankin had been great. Creamer also noted that Rankin seemed to have good rapport with other providers.
- In addition to the mid-level practitioners contacting Weems, two physicians had expressed interest in part-time employment. Since the initial contacts, one physician had accepted a position in Panacea. Cooper stated his hope to hire a part-time physician who will take over supervisory position with some presence in the clinics, as needed.
- Cooper discussed the clinic support staff. Another employee resignation had been received due to the lack of retirement benefits. A second staff issue is on a disciplinary level. Creamer stated his hope that the staffing issues would resolve when the partnership went through.
- Cooper shared details of letter recently received which praised the continuity of care received through several departments.

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C.F.O. Report

- Fulkerson gave a brief update on the revenue cycle. In February, there was a slight increase in collections. Revenue also showed an increase in January and February. He noted collections continued to trend above historical benchmarks.

D.O.N. Report

Risk Management

- B. Gibson provided and reviewed the Risk Management & Regulatory Board Summary Report for 2016 4th quarter.

Notification of incidents to RM within 3 days	100%
ER patients leaving prior to triage, medical screening, treatment completion or AMA	<1% of total patients
Falls	5 (includes ER, observation, in-patient, and swingbed)
Employee incidents	3 (1 back strain, 1 fall, and 1 needle stick)
Medication incidents	4
Equipment / Interruption of business	2 (telemetry & CT scanner)

Infection Control

- In conjunction with quarterly Risk Management reports, B. Gibson stated she would be providing Infection Control reports. Information to be provided will include the following:
 - Total # of infections
 - Types of infection
 - Source of infections
 - Reportable diseases
 - ER & In-Patient infections
 - Community and health care associated infections
- Gibson discussed community acquired versus health care associated infections. She explained that health care associated infections typically occurred in ICUs or with longer in-patient admissions.
- For comparative purposes, national standards would be included with the next reports.

Public Comments

- Mel Kelley questioned who owned and/or funded the health department. Moron responded that the state and

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county contracted annually to determine services provided and funding for the services. Moron offered to provide specifics to Kelley following the meeting.

- Kelly asked Cooper why he had not been in attendance at recent county commission meetings. Moron explained that over last few months, he, Cooper, and Atty. Shuler had been working with TMH on the partnership project. Many times, Cooper's reports had been delayed until the next meeting, pending progress on the project. Moron stated the delayed reports continued longer than anticipated. Bachrach pointed out that the delays had not been made over negative circumstances.
- David Adlerstein asked if Cooper anticipated bringing any other companies to the county as potential partners. Cooper stated he had been in discussions with 2 companies and had followed up on inquiries from other companies. Moron noted that the BOCC had only authorized Atty. Shuler and himself to negotiate with 2 specific companies, CHC & Vestra.
- Adlerstein asked if the 2 potential partners were interested in a new facility. Cooper responded that TMH had set very clear requirements for their participation, which included the following:
 - County provision of surety bonds for a new facility
 - Hospital governance to be removed from the county
 - Distribution of the sales tax proceeds from the Health Care Trust Fund to continue as established by County Ordinance No. 2007-28.
- Kelley questioned how the county could be removed from governance but continue to provide subsidy. Moron responded that the HCTF was created specifically for the county health system.
- Kelley asked if a planning committee had been established to handle legislative changes. Cooper stated he and Bachrach work closely with the FL Hospital Association (FHA) in regards to legislative health care issues.
- Kelley questioned if a committee had been established to address the opioid abuse epidemic. Cooper responded that when Pam Bondi took the office of Attorney General in 2010, Florida led the nation in prescription drug abuse. In 2011, the anti-pill mill bill (HB 7095) was passed. As a result, Florida now ranks at the extreme opposite end. From Weems position, a firm stand was made that it would not be a chronic pain management prescribing entity. A lot of patient complaints were received because providers did not prescribe narcotics. Dr. Conrad published an article in the local paper regarding state legislations on pain medication.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.