

**WMH GOVERNING BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**August 31, 2017**

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**Members Present:** Jim Bachrach, Chairman; Duffie Harrison, Secretary; Doug Creamer; Hank Kozlowsky; Robert Davis (via phone)

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

**Staff Present:** Michael Cooper, CEO; Ginny Griner, HR/Med Staff; Jordan Fulkerson, CFO; Heather Huron, Administrative Assistant

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**CALL TO ORDER**  
**APPROVAL OF**  
**MINUTES**

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Huron confirmed that appropriate notice had been given for the public meeting.
- The 6/29/2017 minutes were presented for approval.
  - Harrison confirmed that he had reviewed the proposed policy for EMS cameras and expected to have something to Cooper soon. Harrison stated Sherriff Smith had agreed to provide other facility policies for comparison.

**A motion was made by Creamer to approve the June 29, 2017 minutes as presented; seconded by Harrison. The motion was carried unanimously.**

**CEO REPORT**

*Digital Radiography*

- Per Cooper, proposals from three medical radiology vendors had been received and reviewed. Each company provided two to three different options. The proposals have been forwarded to the county commissioners for their review. Cooper recommends upgrade of the software at a cost of \$175,000. The software upgrade would meet the CMS requirements for transition to digital radiography. Cooper stated he would request approval for the software at the next BOCC meeting. The new radiology software is available through the GPO.
- Following construction of the new facility, Cooper will recommend purchase of new radiology equipment. If purchased prior to construction completion, it would be necessary to move the new equipment following completion. This move would expose the new equipment to unnecessary wear and tear. Cooper estimated the cost for new equipment would range from \$100,000 to \$175,000. Cooper stated the current CT equipment was digital and would not require an upgrade. *Section 502(a)(1) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016, entitled "Medicare Payment Incentive for the Transition from Traditional X-*

*Ray Imaging to Digital Radiography and Other Medicare Imaging Payment Provision”, amends the Social Security Act (SSA) by reducing the payment amounts under the Physician Fee Schedule by 20 percent for the technical component (and the technical component of the global fee) of imaging services that are X-rays taken using film, effective January 1, 2017, and after.*

*Clinic Update*

- An additional mid-level provider has been secured through a 30 day locum tenens assignment. The provider, Nickole Saulsberry, has expressed an interest in full-time employment. If a permanent position is offered to Saulsberry, the mid-level providers will likely rotate on an alternating schedule through both clinics.
- Responding to Bachrach, Cooper stated the clinics were now fully staffed; however, following the CHC partnership, Cooper would like to employ an additional physician and establish another clinic.
- Responding to Creamer, Cooper stated it would be possible to extend the clinic hours with a full staff on board.
- Creamer questioned the possibility of using a mobile clinic on St. George Island. Moron discussed feasibility with locations as the County owns a block in middle of the island.

*Generator*

- BOCC approval was given for the purchase of a new generator; however, a full engineering review in Tallahassee will be required by AHCA. The review will cost an additional \$2,000. Purchase of the new generator will be made following AHCA approval. Harrison suggested the hurricane season should expedite the process.
- On August 25<sup>th</sup>; the facility experienced a power loss, in which, two out of three power phases were lost. Cooper explained an upgrade had been performed by the power company in 2012, but the upgrade had been wired incorrectly. The electric company will return soon to fix the problem.

*2017-18 LIP / DSH*

- Fulkerson and Cooper met with Florida Hospital Association representatives yesterday. During the meeting, 2017-18 LIP / DSH disbursements were discussed. While a 5 year waiver and federal match had been approved, the continued problem is the state match. Cooper stated he was told that it could be April 2018 before the next payment is made to Weems.

- On August 16<sup>th</sup>, Cooper attended an AHCA meeting for the purpose of reviewing the 2017-18 LIP program. Two potential disbursement models showed Weems receiving \$750,000. To fund the required match, the State is considering a provider tax, but would like to exempt rural hospitals from the tax. Bachrach emphasized the need to inform the public of financials. Harrison asked if small counties had a legislative lobby. Moron stated Franklin County was a member of the Small County Coalition of Florida. Moron recommended Cooper request legislative assistance from County Commissioners at the next BOCC meeting. Moron agreed that the commissioners needed to be educated on the current financial events.
- Cooper noted that because the hospital is a government entity, money spent is credited as contribution to the state match.

### *CHC Partnership*

- Jim Coleman, SE Regional Vice-President of CHC, has met three times with each County Commissioner individually. All meetings went well. Two issues of concern expressed from Coleman are financial clean-up and new facility. For these reasons, Cooper expects that CHC will propose a short term, three to six month management agreement prior to a long term lease. Per Moron, CHC is asking for a 24 month maximum management agreement. Cooper noted that Coleman spoke highly of Fulkerson.
- Moron met with Mary Gavin and Sheneena Forbes from the USDA yesterday. Gavin will be retiring from her position shortly and Forbes will be the USDA contact who sees the loan through. The county has 5 years from 8/2015 to complete the project. Moron reported it was a good meeting. Gavin and Forbes were pleased with the increased sales tax. Moron expressed confidence that unless major changes are proposed to the project's cost, the USDA will not require a new application.
- Moron shared that he sat in on all the meetings between Coleman and the commissioners. He stated all commissioners were on board with the proposed partnership; however, all have individual concerns. Coleman informed Moron that the cost of the management agreement could go on the MCR Cost Report. Moron shared his opinion that construction could begin by next summer.

### **CFO REPORT**

- Cooper prefaced the financial report by stating there would be odd numbers in the reports for next 3 months due to account clean-up. He emphasized that the clean-up was not affecting cash or ability to pay bills. Moron strongly recommended a financial summary from Fulkerson to be given to the commissioners.

Fulkerson reviewed the following financial statements ending July 31, 2017:

1. Year to Date Income Statement
2. Year to Date Balance Sheet
3. Income Statements by Unit
4. Collections Trend Graph

- Fulkerson stated that accounts are being reconciled from last year forward. Fulkerson gave reassurance that CHC was aware of all he is doing to clean up accounts.
- Insurance expense increased due to a correction.
- 35 days cash on hand / Ratio 2.8
- Collections are above benchmarks. Fulkerson has engaged additional assistance with receivables and he expects collections to improve.
- Fulkerson has been working with North Highlands for benchmarks. Weems is doing well in comparison with other rural FL hospitals and national Critical Access Hospitals.
- Moron addressed the AHCA fines for late submission of audit. Moron, Cooper, Fulkerson, and Ralph Roberson met to discuss. Fulkerson has had additional meetings with Ralph Roberson and Ben Vance. A request was made that a draft audit be provided to the Board in January.

**DIRECTOR OF  
NURSING  
REPORT**

- The following reports were provided for individual review.
  1. Quality Assessment / Performance Improvement
  2. Risk Management Summary 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2017
  3. Infection Control Summary 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2017

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Harrison complimented and thanked Moron for his participation.
- The meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.