

- Members Present:** Kristin Anderson, Vice Chair; Myrtis Wynn, Secretary; David Harris MD; Patrick Conrad, MD; William Zester
- Members Absent:** Duffie Harrison, Chair; Dolores Croom
- Staff Present:** David Walker, CEO; Susan Daniels, CFO; Susie Buskirk, Practice Manager; Ginny Griner, HR / Med Staff Coordinator; Craig Gibson, Plant Ops Director; Heather Huron, Admin Assistant
- Guests Present:** Bert Boldt, Franklin County Commissioner; David Bowling, VP Finance Alliant
- Zoom Attendees:** Michael Moron, County Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER / VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00am. Board quorum was confirmed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- No public comment was made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- The 4/28/2022 minutes were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Wynn to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Zester. The motion was carried unanimously.

CFO FINANCIAL REPORT

Susan Daniels, CFO

Financial reports for the month ending April 2022 were presented and reviewed in detail:

- Financial Summary
- Operating Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Financial Ratios
- Statistics
- Revenue by Level of Care and Financial Class YTD
- Mobile Dialysis program is pending pricing. Due to shipping and other order delays, suppliers are having trouble obtaining pricing for equipment that could be delivered within 18 months. Once pricing is secured, a proforma will be provided for mobile versus on-site dialysis services.

- AR is expected to climb with transition from Athena to CPSI Electronic Health Record System. This is expected and normal during such a transition. TruBridge (CPSI) will perform coding and billing.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Patrick Conrad, MD

- Increased volume is expected with tourist season, which may lead to increased admissions. However, staffing issues in nursing department may have an adverse effect on admissions. Walker confirmed recruitment efforts via local health institutions, as well as advertisements through Indeed, FNA, radio stations, etc. Pay rates, which have been a past barrier to recruitment, are reviewed routinely. In October 2021, shift differentials were changed to benefit and encourage night and weekend staff. The need for salary parity continues. New FHA salary data will be out in July. Staffing was a problem before COVID-19 and continues to be a challenge. Housing remains the biggest barrier to employee recruitment.

CLINICAL SERVICES REPORT

David Walker, CEO

- Interviews are pending for the swing bed coordinator position. Alford met recently with a candidate for the radiology manager position.
- TMH has revised their masking policy and distributed it to regional hospitals. Following the new TMH policy, Weems has likewise updated the masking policy. Masking requirements will be based on CDC levels of low, medium, and high. Policy will be introduced following CPSI on-site training.

WEEMS MEDICAL CENTERS REPORT

Susie Buskirk, Practice Manager

- Phan Anderson, Physician Assistant, has been hired to supplement staffing on Mondays and Fridays. She is a resident of SGI and has experience in rural medicine.
- Clinical staff will be training on Bexa device in June. Bexa is screening tool used to detect breast abnormalities with an emphasis on younger, ethnic patients.
- Geri Psych program will begin soon. Currently recruiting providers and staff. There will be a strong marketing campaign following recruitment.
- Free COVID kits will be distributed at West clinic next Friday.

EMS REPORT

David Walker, CEO

- EMS has been granted funds at 100% for the purchase of a second Quick Response Vehicle (QRV). The QRV is equipped for Advanced Life Support and can perform all functions except transportation of patients. Funding was provided by the FL DOH, Division of EMS.

HR REPORT

Ginny Griner, HR Director / Medical Staff Coordinator

- Griner has been tasked with overseeing HR at the Calhoun Liberty Hospital.
- April Statistics
 - 127 roster
 - 16 participants on retirement plan
 - 18 applications received
 - No resignations
 - 2 new hires, PRN (lab and nursing).
 - 3 travel assignments in nursing and 2 travel assignments in lab
- There will be a 15% increase in group health premiums beginning in June. Employee cost share will increase from \$1 per pay period to \$14 per pay period.
- Standard (dental, vision, basic term life insurance, voluntary), Aflac, and Colonial plans were changed to coincide with the new fiscal year, effective October 1st. Standard plan rates are locked in for 3 years.
- Vesta is the new radiology group, effective 6/1/2022. Eighteen (18) teleradiology providers must be credentialed.
- Dr. Newton is now adjunct professor at FSU College of Medicine. He and TMH physician partners have a medical student to rotate through clinics. Elaine with FSU College of Medicine has been in contact with Griner for the purpose of establishing an affiliation agreement between Weems and FSU. This would promote rotation of FSU medical students in both the rural health clinics and hospital. Molly Hill, a former FSU College of Medicine employee, has voluntarily housed the current year med student (TMH rotation).

PLANT OPERATIONS UPDATE

Craig Gibson, Plant Ops Director

- Radiology room remodel should be complete at the end of July. New x-ray equipment will be installed at end of July. CT Scan and Mammogram purchases are pending.
- Facility will be participating in a Medical Surge Exercise beginning Monday in collaboration with the Big Bend Health Care Coalition.
- Gibson will be attending American Health Care Environment course in September. This course will certify Gibson to be a trainer, which in turn will enable better education for EVS staff. This weeklong course is fully funded through AHA.

ALLIANT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

David Bowling, VP Finance

Growth and Planning

- Primary Care
 - Focus on continued clinic growth in Carrabelle and Apalachicola
 - Chronic Care Management
- Swing Bed Utilization
- Various service lines currently being evaluated include:
 - Physical & Occupational Therapy
 - Imaging: Mammography, CT, Ultrasound
 - IOP

Alliant CEO continues to hold biweekly calls to discuss opportunities

Finance

- Government Reimbursement
 - Square footage study to be completed on 5/12/22 during an onsite visit by Shawn Adams
- Medicaid Eligibility
 - Two vendors currently under consideration (CRS and HIS) Decision will be made after the conversion to CPSI is complete
- Revenue Cycle Dashboard
 - Collection metrics are starting to show positive improvements with Medicare and Commercial AR leading the way
 - Net AR days dropped to 71 days in April
 - Patient cash collections the past 3 months have been the highest 3 months since tracking began.
- Retail Pharmacy
 - Next step is to meet with BOCC for a workshop on June 21st at 1:30pm
- E.H.R. Conversion

- Currently training department “super users”
- On track for a June 1st go-live

Clinical & Quality

- Emergency Department
 - ER patient experience
 - ER admission opportunities (reviewing Level 5 visits)
- Other areas of focus
 - Patient rounding
 - Post-visit follow-up calls
- Clinical Group Calls
 - Holding group calls with all Alliant facilities for Case Management, CNOs, Imaging, Infection Control, and Quality

TMH MEDICAL PRACTICE UPDATE

David Newton, MD

- New TMH practice manager, Tamara, is doing great.
- FSU student has been rotating with Dr. Newton.
- Mid-level provider education is continuing.

CEO REPORT

David Walker, CEO

Action Item

- No action items were presented.

Informational Items

- TMH Public Relations will be providing a position to work with rural hospitals. The person will be assigned to work a week in each hospital. This person will take the lead in social media, local advertising, in-house messaging, etc.
- Swing Bed mailers have been distributed to all Franklin County voter addresses.
- National Hospital Week celebration was held 2nd week in May. During the week, Lillie Mills was recognized for 50 years of service at Weems.
- Each year, FL Rural Health Office’s Medicare FLEX program focuses on operational, financial improvement, and quality improvement for Critical Access Hospitals. Financial improvements and quality reporting improvements were recognized. The FLEX program also provides annual grants for various improvement needs.
- Community Involvement:
 - Minority Health Fair (Susie Buskirk)
 - Carrabelle Riverfront Festival (Richard Lewis, Craig Gibson)
 - Franklin County Senior Recognition (Three (3) Doug Creamer Health Care Scholarships were distributed.)

- Walker recently met with Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) representative to discuss funding opportunities for a new facility.

OTHER BUSINESS

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- Zester requested Board action to improve relations with Weems Foundation. Zester volunteered to serve as liaison between the Weems Governing Board and the Foundation.

A motion was made by Zester to take action to improve relations with George E Weems Health Care Foundation; seconded by Wynn. The motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- The meeting was adjourned at 10:15am.

