

**WESTON COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING  
February 15, 2024**

**Present:** Dorothy Briggs, President; Jamie Farnsworth, Secretary; LeAnn Kenagy, Treasurer; Connie James, Trustee; Karen Drost, Trustee; Nick Johnson, Trustee; Ann Slagle, Trustee (via Zoom)

**Absent:**

**Also Present:** Randy Lindauer, Chief Executive Officer; Piper Allard, Chief Operation Officer; Allison Gee, Lubnau Law Office (via Zoom); Kim Scharf, Quality and Compliance Director; Donalda Bennett, Interim Director of Nursing Acute Care; Melissa Thomas, Director of Long-Term Care (Via Zoom); Keisha Brueggemann, Radiology Manager; Sharla Zerbst, HR Generalist; Jenifer Stulken, AP; Denice Piscioti, Executive Assistant

**Visitors:** Don Taylor; Charles Hall (via Zoom); Stephen Hartz (via Zoom); Thomas Steiner (via Zoom); Wendy Erb (via Zoom), Lane Zerbst (via Zoom); Shannon Ballard, Walter Sprague, NLJ; Sue Mireles, Jana Suazo

**Call to Order:** Dorothy Briggs called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

**Quorum:** Jamie Farnsworth declared a quorum to conduct the business of Weston County Hospital District.

**Honor an Employee:** Keisha Brueggemann leadership skills, manages efficiently, customer service, team leader, fair and supportive.

**Comments:** Earlier this week Karen Drost sent an email to all the board members and the Chief Executive Officer for information the board has been provided in the past. The answer was there was not correct financial information to get the report to her. The board member's point was that not getting the information she asked for showed a lack of transparency and accountability. She had not given an answer as to why she wanted the information when asked by two other board members. The information she was looking for was from the clinic and the reason she wanted the information was to be able to assess if adding another provider at the clinic was feasible. Board members stated they are frustrated that they do not have the data they have had in the past. The need to trust each other, work together and move forward so the community can trust the board was pointed out by Nick Johnson. Ann Slagle mentioned the need to respect each other.

**Additions/Changes to the Agenda-** The sentence about the manor star rating needed clarified.

**LEANN KENAGY MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH AMENDMENTS, CONNIE JAMES SECONDED AND THE MOTION PASSED.**

### **Strategic Initiatives**

- **Financial -**
  - Still to receive the financial assessment from D & Co. LLP
  - Income \$3,388,837.89
  - Operating Expenses \$2,486,572.73
  - Total income after expenses \$581,706.99

#### **FY2023 Financial Report –**

- Utilization up in all areas,
- Overtime was down by 100 hours.

#### **Finance Committee Report –**

- EPIC AR Days 64.2 decrease of 6.3 days
- Hospital Billing AR Days 62
- Hospital Billing for self-pay is 22.5 days.
- Professional Billing for self-pay 57.8 days.

- **Quality**
  - **Medical Staff Credentialing -**

**JAMIE FARNSWORTH MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CREDENTIALING OF CARY BYBEE, MD; ANDREW FERGUSON, MD; DUANE (CHUCK) FRANKLIN, MD; GORDON STEWARD, PA-C; NICK JOHNSON SECONDED. THE MOTION PASSED.**

- **Medical Staff Report –**
  - Dr. White spoke about pediatric radiation exposure.
  - Real Radiology looks at after hours and then Dakota Radiology rereads them and updates the exam in the charts.
  - A pharmacy back-order report was given, education on dosage, gave information on phenobarbital and is tracking usage.
  - Radiology update. Carotid training was completed and no practice on scans. MRI vendor has an increase in numbers. Low dose CT scans & have a cash price.
  - Lab respiratory panel machine for urgent care with a cost of \$50,000 plus a \$12,000 implementation fee and \$4,000 for 30 tests
  - Nursing home has a census of 38 lost 6 in December and admitted 3., hold with COVID, couple of people in swing bed and couple in community waiting to get in, with a goal of 45. 5 temporary staff.

- Home Health is adding extended care Therapy visits for \$75 a visit for patients whose insurance/Medicare doesn't cover.
- The Long-Term Care 5-star quality rating went from 4 to 1 star. if residents go to the ER and don't get admitted affects our quality score. However, if their doctor orders outpatient testing this will help reduce the ER traffic.
- **Quality Report 44**
  - Incidents 27 in January
  - 1,196 Feedtrail patient satisfaction surveys were sent out. 15.8 return rate which was a 3% increase from last month.
  - HCAHPS surveys are still being completed by Survey Solutions, however Feedtrail can do HCAHPS now which is being researched because it would be nice to get all on one platform.
  - Temporary staff - 5 CNAs and 1 RN for acute care
  - Resident anticoagulation medication monitoring
  - Opioid Stewardship monitoring
  - Home Health looking at medication reconciliation every time med boxes are filled. 5 to 6 admissions last week
  - The Clinic surveys return rate was 16.4% in January with a 2% increase from the previous month.
  - Pharmacy is still working on the 340B, and they have a new pharmacist.
  - HR employee file audits were completed to make sure employee education and titles were correct.

**Quality Committee Report** – A lot of people in the community members confused where they could call for help. We will make those numbers more accessible.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- **Radiology Update**
  - Philips did come out and look at the room to assess what we need to do.
  - Some of the items needed we already have, but need to double check on the electrical can support the 80-kilowatt generator.
  - The manager would like to put down new flooring and paint the walls to make it a nice fresh room.
  - Originally adding a Tilting wall space was not in the plan due to space however that has changed and there is room Phillips added that and 16 hours of training and deducted the price by \$1400.
  - Next once they receive the PO looking at 12 to 14 weeks delivery time. This does include the decommissioning of the current room.
  - We are getting a trade in value of the current room and the portable we no longer use.
  - It will be a 2-week deinstall process and construction will start and the equipment will arrive.

- The staging area will be set up outback and then it is a two-week installation process.
- It will take half a day to upload protocols and 3 days of training for techs.
- There will be 14 weeks of down time. Outpatients will go to clinic for x-rays and will utilize portable x-ray when we can - 250-pound weight limit. There are a few procedures we will not be able to do. It will be a team effort.
- The equipment started out at \$680,000 but with negotiations between Keisha and Randy they were able to get it down to \$272,000.
- The wiring will take a step-up transformer which is very minimal at about \$3,600 then we need to level the flooring, add lighting, and paint the room so it will be less than \$10,000.
- We have been working with both banks and Phillips to get the best loan rate. The estimate of the cost per month should be about \$5,395. 83.

**LEANN KENAGY MADE A MOTION TO GO WITH PHILIPS AT 6.5% NICK JOHNSON SECONDED, 2 NAY, MOTION APPROVED.**

- **HVAC Update** – Architect & BSA LifeStructures walk through end of February.
- **340B Update** – Avanti health will include community providers.
- **Clinic Update** – When the architect & BSA LifeStructures are here they will do a walk-through at the clinic to look at the availability of space and what it would take to bring everything up to 2024 standards. We have no space to add on to the facility. I did go talk to several people about purchasing the WayBack Burgers building along with the gas station. We have the opportunity to invest in this land so we can grow.
- **Hospital Heat Exchanger** – was installed. Waiting on the insurance company to see if they will cover it. There was a lot of build up inside the equipment.
- **New Medical Staff Update** – Dr. Haeberly is still interested in coming here and we also have 4 specialists who would like to utilize our Specialty Clinic space.
- **Potential Medicare Seminars** – Will be working with the administrative team and pick dates to talk to the community about Medicare and Medicare Advantage plans.
- **Community Needs Assessment** – Have been in contact with John Wadsworth and REDi Health Analytics. They have been doing community needs assessments throughout Wyoming. They will bid on it, and we have two more proposals coming.
- **PECOS** – Currently the only board member in the system under us is Connie James so it needs to be updated. Maureen and Piper are the only ones listed and Piper only has limited access. There are 48 providers listed in the PECOS system. We will work on getting it updated.
- **Oxygen Upgrade** - We have received \$362, 204.00 through the grant. The estimate is only \$3,504 over what we received. It is in our best interest to go ahead with the bulk oxygen system.
- **Bank** – We have quite a few signatures on the account. The policy will be updated on who needs to be on the account and be brought back to the board to approve.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- **HH LEADERSHIP SOLUTIONS**

- Help organizations improve performance through education and development. We work to help organizations with board education, responsibilities, and duties to board retreats. We can also help with strategic plans and how to implement them for your organization. We work with staff from orientation to operational efficiencies. Our team is made up of hospital CEOs, Nurses, other professionals in healthcare to be able to dive in. Additionally we do a lot with cultural and morale issues. We try to bring everyone to the table and help individuals be the best they can. We help hospital systems nationwide. Typically, when organizations work with us we can do anything from performance improvement, optimization, financial resiliency. Our turn on investment is typically 3 to 6 times what an organization invests in us.

## **OTHER REPORTS**

**A. GOVERNANCE** – Didn't meet.

**B. FOUNDATION** – Looking at fundraising opportunities. March 23<sup>rd</sup> first at WCSC tickets need to be purchased ahead of time limited number. Limousine service, refreshments, VIP parking, Silent Auction contributions. Opportunity available to everyone, no one will be turned away. Tickets are \$25 for a couple with an additional \$10 for daughters. For scholarship fund.

**C. ETHICS** – March

**CONNIE JAMES MADE THE MOTION TO GO INTO AT 7:12 PM EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR AND PERSONNEL- W.S.16-4-405(A)(X) NICK JOHNSON SECONDED AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

The Board rejoined public session at 12:15 a.m. on February 16, 2024.

**IT WAS MOVED BY CONNIE JAMES TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AND SECONDED BY LEANN KENAGY. THE MOTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED, AND THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:15 AM.**

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Dorothy Briggs, President

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Jamie Farnsworth, Secretary