

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF  
TALLAHATCHIE GENERAL HOSPITAL**

**February 22, 2022**

On this date at the hour of 10:30 a.m., the Board of Trustees and Board of Trustees Executive Committee met in regular session in the Multipurpose Room at the James C. Kennedy Wellness Center with the following trustees and personnel, to wit:

David Hargett, Trustee District One  
Isaac W. Sayle, Trustee District Two  
Gerry Speir, Trustee District Three  
Morris Murphey, Trustee District Four  
Willie Lockett, Trustee District Five (via Zoom)  
Jim Blackwood, Administrator  
Buddy McRae, Chief Operating Officer  
Joey Brunson, Chief Financial Officer  
Rani Richard, Finance Department

Trustee Hargett opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the January 25, 2022 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Trustee Hargett to approve the minutes from the last meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphey with all Trustees voting “Aye” in favor of the motion.

Mr. Brunson gave the Board copies of the statistics for the providers showing their production in the hospital and the clinic for the month of January, 2022. The Board reviewed the statistics and questions were asked and answered.

Mr. Brunson presented the report of the Finance Committee for January, 2022 financials to the Board. Questions were asked and answered about this report. A motion was made by Trustee Sayle to approve the report of the Finance Committee for January, 2022. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphey with all Trustees voting “Aye” in favor of the motion.

Mr. Blackwood circulated the Administrator's comments, a copy of which appears as Exhibit 1 hereto and is incorporated herein by reference. Questions were asked and answered concerning the Administrator's comments.

Mr. Blackwood requested that the Board enter into executive session to discuss personnel matters. A motion was made by Trustee Sayle that the Board enter into executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lockett with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of the motion. After discussing the personnel matters, a motion was made by Trustee Sayle to exit executive session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hargett with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of exiting executive session.

Mr. McRae circulated the Quality Report and HCAHPS Report for January, 2022. Questions were asked and answered concerning the quality metrics for the month.

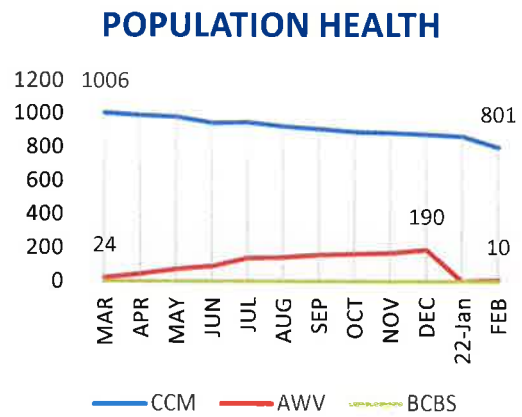
Mr. McRae also presented a Statement of Authority – Infection Control and explained to the Board why we were having to implement this policy. A motion was made by Trustee Hargett to approve this Statement of Authority. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sayle with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of the motion.

There being no further matters for discussion, the Board adjourned.

**Administrator’s Comments – Meeting of February 22, 2022**

**Nursing Home Census:** We have 76 residents in the nursing home, up from 74 last month. The census actually rose to 77 during the month, but fell to 76 after a resident death. We have 8 beds open on the general care side and 14 on the special care side. A trend of slowly-increasing referrals seems to be continuing.

**ACO and Population Health Initiatives:** We have 801 participants enrolled in our Chronic Care Management program. We hope that this trend will reverse soon, helped by changes to Humana’s payment for CCM, which will allow us to begin accepting it. We have conducted 10 Medicare Annual Wellness Visits in 2022 (this number resets at zero at the beginning of every year).



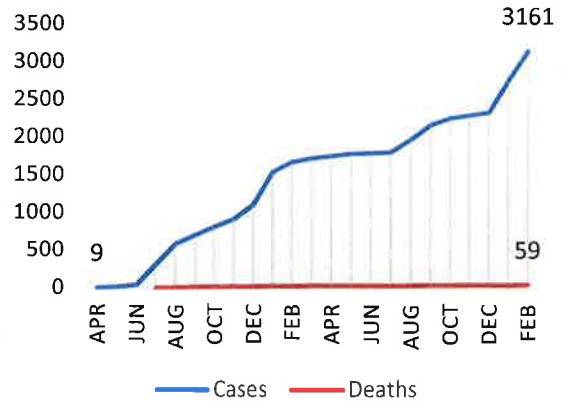
**TGH Discount Pharmacy:** We filled 4,960 prescriptions in January, up from 4,944 prescriptions in December. We made 211 deliveries in January, down slightly from 217 in December. We have delivery data dating back to November of last year, and will begin reporting that figure every month.



**COVID-19:** Tallahatchie County’s number of COVID-19 cases increased to 3,161, up from 2,772 last month. The county’s total number of fatalities climbed from 53 to 59.

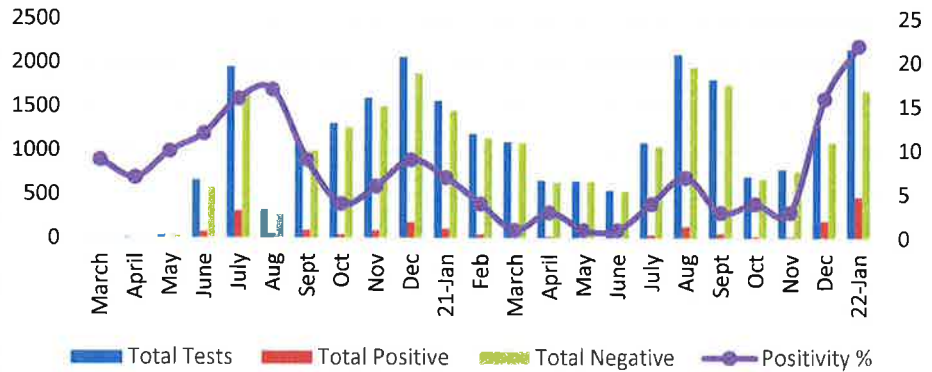
We currently have 3 ECF residents who have tested positive with a rapid test; we are awaiting results of PCR (“send off”) tests for these residents. We currently have no positive patients on the hospital floor. The omicron variant infected a higher number of TGH employees than any variant to date, leading to some difficulties with staffing. Fortunately, most of these employees suffered minor symptoms and were able to quickly return to work.

**COUNTY COVID CASES**



Demand for the vaccine at the clinic rose, especially for booster shots, during the height of omicron variant

**TGH COVID TEST RESULTS**



infections. As omicron has receded, so has demand for the vaccine. The clinic has now returned to giving an average of 10 – 25 vaccines per week.

**CMS Vaccine Mandate:** We received 17 requests for medical or religious exemptions to the CMS vaccine mandate. An exemptions committee has now processed all of the requests, either by granting or denying the request, or asking the employee for additional information. Only a small number of requests was denied. Though the final deadline for vaccination is not until March 15, we anticipate losing only a handful of employees to the mandate (likely less than 10).

**ECF Survey:** From January 24-26, the Mississippi Department of Health conducted its first comprehensive, on-site survey since the advent of Covid. A total of 11 surveyors, including surveyors, supervising surveyors and surveyors in training, were on-site over a 3-day period. The unusually large number of surveyors, and unusually thorough survey, were attributed to the state's desire 1) to make up for limited surveys during Covid, and 2) provide surveyors an opportunity to reacclimate themselves. After this exhaustive survey, we received only one deficiency tag, related to a food storage issue in the kitchen, which has already been corrected.

**ECF Courtyard:** I have learned that the Foundation is now trying to identify suitable contractors for the courtyard project. It is my understanding that one has not yet been selected.

**Tutwiler Clinic:** I am told that the Foundation has finalized the purchase of a location for a new clinic building, and that a meeting of key stakeholders is being organized to finalize plans for the new building.

**Legal Matters – Victoria Sturdivant:** The defendants' motions to dismiss are still under advisement by the court. No other updates.