

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

**May 26, 2020**

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 boardroom at the Administration House with the following trustees and personnel, to wit:

David Hargett, Trustee District One  
Ike Sayle, Trustee District Two  
Gerry Speir, Trustee District Three  
Morris Murphey, Trustee District Four  
Willie Lockett, Trustee District Five  
Jim Blackwood, Administrator  
Joey Brunson, Chief Financial Officer  
Buddy McRae, Chief Operating Officer  
Rani Richard, Finance

Trustee Lockett opened the meeting with prayer.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Anita Goodrum with the accounting firm of Watkins Ward & Stafford, PLLC presented the audit for the 2019 fiscal year via Zoom meeting. Questions were asked and answered. A motion was made by Trustee Sayle to approve the audit for the 2019 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Trustee Lockett with all Trustees voting "Aye" approving the audit.

The minutes of the April 28, 2020 meeting and the resolution as to the special Zoom meeting held on May 3, 2020 were presented. A motion was made by Trustee Lockett to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sayle 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 April 2020. The Board reviewed the statistics and questions were asked and answered.

Mr. Brunson presented the report of the Finance Committee for the April 2020 financials. Questions were asked and answered about the report. A motion was made by Trustee Sayle to approve the summary report of the Finance Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Hargett 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. McRae circulated the Quality Report and HCAHPS for April, 2020. Questions were asked and answered concerning the quality metrics for the month.

Mr. McRae presented a new policy, Infectious Disease. After a discussion of the policy, a motion was made by Trustee Hargett to approve this policy. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sayle with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of the motion. Also the Infection Control Manual for the nursing home was presented for annual review. A motion was made by Trustee Hargett to approve this manual. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphey 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 May 26, 2020**

**Nursing Home Census** – We have 91 residents in the nursing home, with four beds open on the general care side and three on the special care side. Referrals have been limited since the onset of COVID-19, and we are applying heightened scrutiny to what referrals we are getting.

**ACO and Population Health Initiatives** – We continue to enjoy growth in our Accountable Care Organization and Population Health programs. We currently have 830 active Chronic Care Management patients (up from 735 in April and 505 in March). We have not conducted any additional Medicare Annual Wellness Visits or Blue Cross Color Me Healthy exams in the past month, due to the clinic's restricted access. Our ACO group, Caravan Health, recently featured TGH in its nationwide online newsletter, chronicling the success of our population health programs.

**TGH Discount Pharmacy** – We filled 5,043 prescriptions in April, down from 5,537 in March. Since prescription syncing became available, a growing number of customers have begun to use the service, meaning that their prescriptions will be filled less often. Our software vendor also recently upgraded our system to make text messaging notifications available, alerting customers when their prescriptions are ready to be picked up. We are working to publicize these new services in social media and other advertising.

**Cost Report and Audit** – I have previously advised the board on the adjustments that have been made to some of our recent cost reports and, in turn, the effects of those adjustments on TGH's financial statements. A representative of Watkins, Ward and Stafford will be presenting 2019's audit report to the board today.

**COVID-19** – We have made no changes in the past month to the policies we put in place in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including no visitors in the hospital or ECF, employee screenings, restricted access to the clinics, suspension of IOP activities, closing of the wellness center, etc. I have learned that the Wellness Center intends to reopen this week, once

it complies with all the requirements of the governor's latest order regarding cleaning and the availability of personal protective equipment for its staff. I anticipate that group activities will be limited, and maximum occupancy will be restricted.

As of this writing, there have been 21 confirmed cases and 1 death in Tallahatchie County; last month there were 9 confirmed cases and 1 death. Of the new Tallahatchie County cases, only 2 have been tested at TGH, and we still have not yet had a positive hospital patient or ECF resident. We were recently notified by the Mississippi Department of Health that it was going to conduct mandatory, state-wide tests of all extended care facility residents and employees. We are cooperating to schedule TGH's testing, and I anticipate that it will have been done before this meeting.

Financially, we have received two large COVID-related payments since last month. First, we received a grant of approximately \$3.9 million from the Department of Health and Human Services. This was not a grant that we requested; HHS was allocated a large pool of funds to distribute to hospitals by one of the CARES acts passed by Congress, and this was TGH's share as determined by HHS. It does not have to be repaid. Second, we were approved for our Paycheck Protection Program loan, and received \$3.2 million to cover our payroll costs for 2 months. After 2 months, we will submit proof that the loan's proceeds were used for payroll costs and ask for it to be forgiven.

These funds are in addition to the ones we discussed last month, specifically a \$1 million grant from the Department of Health and Human Services, and approximately \$5 million in accelerated payments from CMS (which will be recouped with no interest).

**Employee Health Insurance Plan Renewal:** Over the past few years, our group health insurance rates have increased markedly. Blue Cross has informed us that usage of the plan decreased last year, and some rate relief may be available. We are working with Ms. Linda Rowland to see what options, if any, are available to us to reduce deductibles or other employee costs.

**Legal Matters:**

**Network Services Solutions – No new developments.**

**The Estate of William Brewer, Sr. – No new developments.**