

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

**March 24, 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 Sayle opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the February 25, 2020 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Trustee Hargett 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 February 2020. The Board reviewed the statistics and questions were asked and answered.

Mr. Brunson presented the report of the Finance Committee for the February 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 February, 2020. Questions were asked and answered concerning the quality metrics for the month.

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

## **Administrator's Comments – Meeting of March 24, 2020**

**Nursing Home Census** – We have 94 residents in the nursing home, with one bed open on the general care side and three on the special care side.

**ACO and Population Health Initiatives** – Growth continues in our Accountable Care Organization and Population Health programs. We currently have 525 active Chronic Care Management patients (up from 350 in February), and we have conducted approximately 100 Medicare Annual Wellness Visits year to date. We have also conducted 85 Blue Cross Color Me Healthy exams.

**TGH Discount Pharmacy** – We filled 5,482 prescriptions in February, down from 6,484 in January. Training is ongoing with our staff and software provider to enable us to sync prescriptions. Our software is also in the process of being updated so that we can send text message notifications, and/or automated phone calls, notifying customers when their prescriptions are ready to be picked up.

**Cost Report and Audit** – As we reported last month, we were required to pay back more than we anticipated on the cost report this year. We had estimated a \$950,000 payback, which we carried on the books the whole fiscal year. Our final payback was \$1.3 million. The increase is attributed to higher than anticipated volumes in both IOP and swing-bed. As you know, we have been setting aside money throughout the year to cover the anticipated payback. The payment has been and has resulted in a reduction in our cash on hand. However, our cash remains at a satisfactory level for operations.

We have not yet scheduled the presentation of the Audit, and given current travel and meeting restrictions, I do not anticipate the presentation before May. However, I do want to share a few anticipated takeaways. After our cost report payable, we anticipate our year-end loss to be approximately the same as it was last year (\$600,000). The cost report had a partial impact on this number, but other factors include a reduction in the amount of money received from the nursing home UPL (\$500,000) and a change in

the GASB rules that required us to carry contractual allowances at approximately \$200,000 less than we did in the prior fiscal year. Had these latter two developments not transpired, we would have reached a break-even point, even after the cost report payable.

We are in the process of planning additional strategic adjustments for the current fiscal year, which are expected to include an interim internal cost report and additional cost containment efforts in the nursing home, particularly as it relates to use of agency nursing and overtime.

**COVID-19** – Along with the rest of the country, we are taking significant preventive precautions in response to the coronavirus epidemic. These precautions are summarized as follows:

- We have disallowed all visitors to the hospital or ECF.
- We closed the front entrance to the hospital and re-routed all hospital traffic through the entrance on the east end of the hospital.
- ECF employees have been instructed to only use the main A wing entrance or the B wing parking lot entrance.
- We have set up a pre-screening station in front of the east entrance to prevent anyone demonstrating symptoms from entering the hospital until they can be assessed by the emergency room physician.
- We have set up a similar pre-screening station at the front entrance to the clinic.
- We are taking the temperatures of all employees when they report to work.
- Patients who suspect they have been exposed, but are experiencing mild symptoms, are being asked to call before coming to the clinic.
- Customers of TGH Discount Pharmacy are being encouraged to use the drive-through instead of coming inside.
- Except for designated personnel, hospital and ECF employees must confine themselves to where they work (i.e., hospital employees may not go into, or pass through, the ECF, and vice versa).

- IOP has been discontinued until further notice.
- All non-essential ancillary services (labs, x-rays, etc.) have been postponed.
- The Wellness Center has been closed to the public.

We are in the process of implementing a system to allow patients to access the clinics by telephone or through telemedicine. We are monitoring ongoing waivers and changes to our billing regulations that will allow us to bill for these services.

**Meeting Time Reminder** – As a reminder, our finance committee meeting will begin at 10:00. Our regular board meeting will begin at 10:30.

**Legal Matters:**

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

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