

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

November 23, 2021

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 of the James C. Kennedy Wellness Center 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 (via Zoom)
Jim Blackwood, Administrator
Joey Brunson, Chief Financial Officer
Buddy McRae, Chief Operating Officer
Rani Richard, Finance Department

Trustee Sayle opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of the October 26, 2021 meeting were presented. A motion was made by Trustee Hargett Sayle to approve these minutes. 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 October 2021. The Board reviewed the statistics and questions were asked and answered.

Mr. Brunson presented the report of the Finance Committee for October 2021 financials to the Board. Questions were asked and answered about the statements. A motion was made by Trustee Sayle to approve the report of the Finance Committee as presented for October, 2020. 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. McRae circulated the Quality Report and HCAHPS Report for October, 2021. Questions were asked and answered concerning the quality metrics for the month.

Mr. McRae next presented the Hospital Compliance Questionnaire for the FY 2021. After an explanation as to the certifications contained in this questionnaire, a motion was made by Trustee Murphey to approve this questionnaire and authorizing Trustee Speir and Mr. Blackwood to execute same. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sayle, with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of this motion. A copy of the Hospital Compliance Questionnaire is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

Mr. McRae also presented two policies. The first policy was the Employee COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. After discussion of this policy, Trustee Lockett made a motion that this policy be approved. The motion was seconded by Trustee Sayle, with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of the policy. The second policy was the Employee COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption Policy. After a discussion as to the exemptions, Trustee Sayle made a motion that this policy be approved. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphey, with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of the policy.

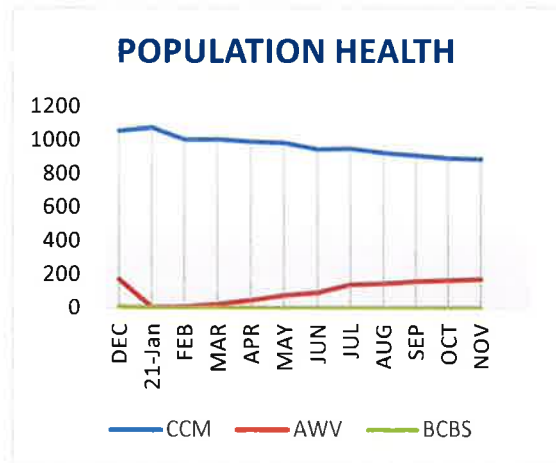
Mr. Blackwood stated that it was time to elect officers for Fiscal Year 2022. Trustee Hargett moved that the president and secretary stand for re-election for Fiscal Year 2021. The motion was seconded by Trustee Murphey, with all Trustees voting "Aye" in favor of the motion.

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

Administrator's Comments – Meeting of November 23, 2021

Nursing Home Census: We have 72 residents in the nursing home, down from 73 last month, due to a death. We have 13 beds open on the general care side and 12 on the special care side. We currently have 4 referrals whose admissions are being reviewed.

ACO and Population Health Initiatives: We have 887 participants enrolled in our Chronic Care Management program. Open enrollment is officially underway again, and we are encouraging current and former participants to retain their traditional Medicare plans. We have now conducted 171 Medicare Annual Wellness Visits, up from 165 last month. BCBS Color Me Healthy exams remain flat.



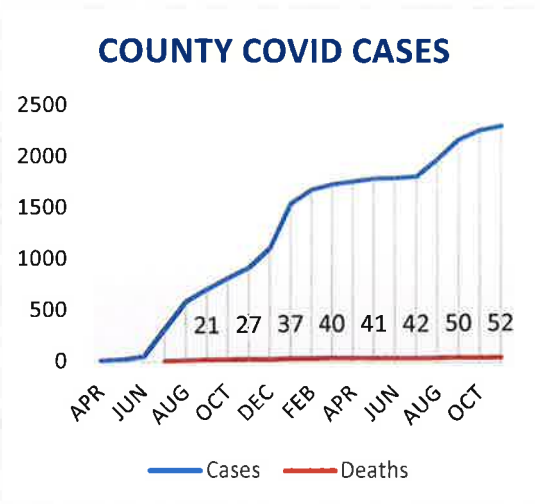
TGH Discount Pharmacy: We filled 4,607 prescriptions in October, down slightly from 4,663 prescriptions in September.



COVID-19: Tallahatchie County's number of COVID-19 cases increased to 2,308, up from 2,268 last month. There was one additional death last month, bringing the county's total number of COVID-19 deaths to 52.

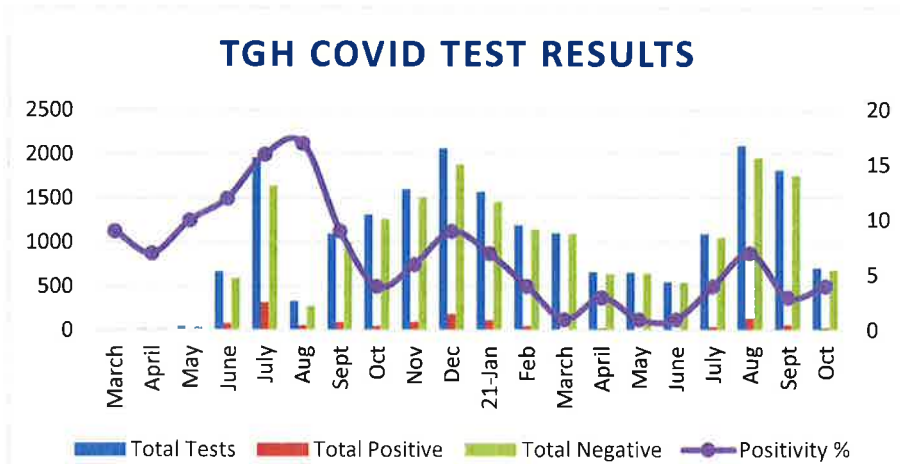
We currently have no positive ECF residents, and no positive patients on the hospital floor. Outbreaks among staff remain relatively rare.

Demand for the vaccine at the clinic remains relatively low, but steady. We are providing 10-20 new vaccinations per week; however, we have seen a significant increase in demand for booster shots. We have ordered the newly-available pediatric vaccine from Pfizer, which may be given to children 5 and older.



CMS Vaccine Mandate: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has announced a new rule requiring all employees of healthcare facilities participating in Medicare or Medicaid to be vaccinated against Covid-19. The rule requires facilities to have policies in place by December 6 requiring employee vaccinations, and for all employees to be fully vaccinated by January 5, 2022. We have drafted the required policies and will be presenting them for board action today.

There are only two possible exemptions, which are for medical and religious reasons, but these exceptions are very narrow. The rule



requires us to have processes to handle these requests, and in keeping with the policy I have appointed a committee that will decide them.

Since the rule was announced, we have stressed to our staff that, since virtually all medical employers participate in Medicare or Medicaid, it will be difficult for any professional staff to find employment elsewhere. We also obtained 100 doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, since it requires one dose and does not use Messenger RNA (which some find objectionable) found in other vaccines. We have asked our non-vaccinated employees to let us know their intentions so that we can begin looking for any needed replacements. I am encouraged by the early response, as many are now indicating that they will be take the vaccine.

ECF Courtyard Project: I have been told by the Foundation that the plans for the courtyard project are now complete, and that funding is in place. My understanding is that construction will hopefully begin in the spring.

DNV Site Visit: Our DNV inspection has still not taken place, and is now somewhat later than usual.

Tutwiler Clinic: I have been told that the Foundation is still working to secure a suitable site to build a new Tutwiler Clinic building. My understanding is that negotiations are ongoing.

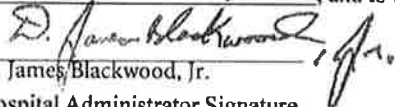
Legal Matters – Victoria Sturdivant: We have been served with process, and have filed a responsive pleading.

TALLAHATCHIE GENERAL HOSPITAL & ECF

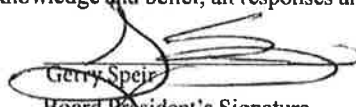
(Name of Hospital)

CERTIFICATION TO MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY HOSPITAL COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE YEAR
ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2021

We have reviewed all questions and responses as contained in the Hospital Compliance Questionnaire for Tallahatchie General Hospital & ECF, and to the best of our knowledge and belief, all responses are accurate.


D. James Blackwood, Jr.
Hospital Administrator Signature

November 23, 2021
Date


Gerry Speir
Board President's Signature

November 23, 2021
Date

Minutes Book Reference
Meeting of November 23, 2021 (Date)

(Minute book references are to be entered when questionnaire is accepted by Board.)

MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY HOSPITAL COMPLIANCE QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Name and address of hospital:
Tallahatchie General Hospital & ECF
141 Dr. T. T. Lewis Circle, Post Office Box 230
Charleston, Mississippi 38921
2. Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of officials (include Board Members, Administrator, Assistant Administrator, and Attorney). Attach sheet.
See Attached.
3. Period of time covered by this questionnaire:
From: October 1, 2020 To: September 30, 2021

Tallahatchie General Hospital & ECF

(Name of Hospital)

Compliance Questionnaire

YES NO N/A

GENERAL

- | | | | | |
|-----|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. | Have actions of the Board of Trustees followed the procedures of the open meetings act Section 25-41-3 and Section 25-41-7 on matters in executive session? | <u> X </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 2. | Have actions of the Hospital Board been approved in its official minutes? | <u> X </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 3. | Have the actions of the Hospital Board followed the exemptions set forth in Section 25-61-9, 25-61-11 and 25-61-12 regarding commercial and financial information of a proprietary nature, federal statutory law and records related to business development? | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 4. | Has each member of the board of trustees continued to meet the qualification of Section 41-13-29? | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 5. | Has the Hospital adopted a policy on officers or employees receiving compensation for outside employment in addition to receiving a salary for full-time hospital employment? (Meeting of <u> 1/22/1985 </u>) | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 6. | Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on recruiting and financially assisting physicians and other health care practitioners in locating in the service area of the Hospital? (Meeting of <u> 1/22/1985 </u>) | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 7. | Has the Hospital Board of Trustees cited statutory authority on charitable contributions which is reflected in its official minutes? | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 8. | Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on paying membership dues to organizations related to hospital business which is reflected in its official minutes? (Meeting of <u> 1/22/1985 </u>) | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 9. | Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy that prohibits filling prescriptions for employees free of charge? (Meeting of <u> 1/22/1985 </u>) | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 10. | Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy that prohibits its individual members from receiving compensation other than that allowed by statutory authority? (Meeting of <u> 1/22/1985 </u>) | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |
| 11. | Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on insurance coverage for all employees? (Meeting of <u> 1/22/1985 </u>) | <u> XX </u> | <u> </u> | <u> </u> |

Tallahatchie General Hospital & ECF

(Name of Hospital)

Compliance Questionnaire

		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>N/A</u>
12.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on education benefits for all employees? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
13.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy describing limitation on the use of Hospital personnel for non-hospital matters during normal work hours? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
14.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on the use of hospital telephones for personal use? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
15.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted procedural policy on disposal of surplus property? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
16.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on expenditures for public relations and advertising? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
17.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy on payment of invoices within the period of time discounts are allowed? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
18.	Has the Hospital adopted a policy prohibiting payment of employee's bonuses or compensation in addition to established employee benefits, statutory incentive programs, and regular compensation? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
19.	Have the Hospital Board Members and officials been properly bonded in accordance with the population requirements under the provisions of Section 41-13-29? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
20.	Has the Hospital adopted a policy prohibiting making payroll advances to employees? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
21.	Has the Hospital adopted a policy prohibiting the purchase of alcoholic beverages with public funds other than for medical purposes? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
22.	Has the Hospital provided the required information in accordance with Section 27-104-155 to its owner for the creation of a transparent and accountable website?	<u>XX</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Tallahatchie General Hospita & ECF

(Name of Hospital)

Compliance Questionnaire

		<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>N/A</u>
23.	Does the Hospital allow public access to records under provisions of Section 25-61-5?	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
24.	Has the Hospital Board of Trustees complied with the nepotism law? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
25.	Were payments to Hospital officers and employees as an expense allowance supported by proper documentation?	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
26.	Are vehicles owned or leased by the Hospital properly marked as required by Section 25-1-87?	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
27.	On or before the first Monday in September, has the Board of Trustees adopted, entered on its minutes, and filed with the owner or owners a proposed budget for ensuing fiscal year? (Section 41-13-47)	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
28.	On or before the first Monday in March, has the Board of Trustees adopted, entered on its minutes, and filed with the owner or owners a full fiscal year report containing a complete and correct accounting of all funds received and expended for hospital purposes? (Section 41-13-47)	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
29.	Has the Hospital avoided purchasing items from or entering into contracts with members of its Board of Trustees or businesses in which such members have a financial or ownership interest? (Section 25-4-105)	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
30.	Has the Hospital avoided purchasing items from or entering into contracts with any hospital employees or a business in which they have an interest unless allowed under Section 25-4-105(4)?	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
31.	Has the Hospital provided the required disclosures as required by a defined benefit retirement plan in accordance with Section 41-13-49 and 41-13-51?	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____

TRAVEL

1.	Has the Hospital complied with Sections 41-7-140, 41-13-29 and 41-13-35 regarding travel?	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____
2.	Has the Hospital adopted a policy on paying employees actual expenses for official travel while engaged in hospital business or in attending recognized educational or professional meetings? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>xx</u>	_____	_____

Tallahatchie General Hospital & ECF

(Name of Hospital)

Compliance Questionnaire

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>N/A</u>
3. Have the Hospital officers and employees used, as a minimum, the travel vouchers prescribed by the MS State Dep't of Finance & Administration for reimbursement of official travel?	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
4. Have the Hospital Board of Trustees adopted a policy requiring that paid receipts be attached to vouchers for travel reimbursement? (Meeting of <u>1/22/1985</u>)	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____

PURCHASING

1. Has the Hospital refrained from purchasing personal items for employee use?	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
2. Has the Hospital adopted a policy prohibiting split purchases in order to avoid advertising for bids?	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
3. Has the Board adopted a policy requiring acknowledgment of receipt of good purchased?	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
4. Are at least two competitive written bids obtained for purchases of more than \$5,000 but not more than \$50,000? (Section 31-7-13)	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
5. Did the Board of Trustees follow proper procedures in advertising for purchases of more than \$50,000? (Section 31-7-13)	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
6. Did the Board of Trustees follow proper procedures for opening of bids?	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
7. Is a bid file maintained by Hospital personnel as required by Section 31-7-13?	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
8. Did the Board of Trustees justify on the minutes any purchases made other than lowest bid? (Section 31-7-13)	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
9. Did the Board of Trustees place on the minutes and justify all emergency purchases? (Section 31-7-13)	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____
10. Has the Hospital generally complied with the Public Purchase Law? (Section 31-7-1, et al.)	<u>XX</u>	_____	_____