



Hospital District #6 Harper County
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Mission Statement: *Hospital District #6 provides high quality, patient, and family centered health and wellness services in partnership with our communities.*

HD#6 HOSPITAL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

March 27, 2025 – 5:22 p.m. – Patterson Health Center, Large Conference Room

PRESENT:

Board of Directors

Jan Lanie, Stan Wedman, Tim Penner, Pam Fallis, Kristin Stoughton, Amy Walker, Kara Bello

PHC Sarah Teaff, CEO; Lori Allen, COO; Sandra Owen, CFO; Amber Speer, Risk Manager/Quality/Infection Control; Kim Barwick, HR Director

Guests

CALL TO ORDER: Lanie called the meeting to order at 5:22 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

BOARD EDUCATION or PRESENTATIONS: Sandra Owen, CFO, reviewed depreciation and how it affects hospital finances.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of February 27, 2025, regular board meeting was presented for approval. Motion to approve by Penner; seconded by Fallis; motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS, POLICY REVIEW & APPROVAL: The Patient Care Policy, Hospitalist Process and Guidelines were presented for approval. The policy details hospitalist requirements and standards for compliance with quality initiatives and regulatory/CMS requirements.

The Risk Management plan was returned by the State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment for correction to one reference in the document to the previous Risk Manager. The new Risk Manager's name has been entered into the document and the plan is ready for approval as revised.

The Hospitalist policy and Risk Management plan were approved as presented. Motion by Lanie; seconded by Wedman; motion carried unanimously.

MEDICAL STAFF AND CREDENTIALING REPORT:

The Executive Medical Staff met on February 26, 2025, to consider credentialing applications from:

- New appointments – Stat Rad Providers Amy Kirby, MD and Ali Sharif, MD
- Reappointments –
 - Carrie Bloedel-Helmer, CRNA (Allied Health)
 - Dusty Atterbury, PA (Allied Health)

The applications were recommended for Board approval by the Executive Medical Staff. The board approved the medical staff applications and privileges as presented. Motion by Lanie, seconded by Stoughton. Motion carried unanimously

OPERATIONS REPORTS:

Quality/Infection Control/Risk Management:

- Amber Speer presented the 2024 year-end quality report. Goals have been established for the inpatient providers related to Quality and Infection Prevention.
- Speer reviewed the 2024 surgery and deaths reports as well as the quality and infection prevention year end HCAHPS report.
- Education was provided regarding staying safe during the measles outbreak, cases have been reported in Kansas.
- An emphasize will be placed on closing the loop regarding risk incidents to alleviate future reoccurrences and to improve patient safety.

COO:

- HirePaths will be filming at PHC in April, the video introduces young adults to healthcare careers through apprenticeships. "Career Hunters" will feature an actress exploring apprenticeships in healthcare, aviation, and education. Kristen Birket, Marketing Director, will be involved in filming highlighting various areas of the hospital.
- PHC has fully transitioned from Access Physicians providing hospitalist services to in-person care provided by Leah Gerdes, APRN, and Chan Farley, APRN. This transition has resulted in increased patient volumes. For example, in January and February of 2025 the increase has been approximately 20% when comparing acute days from the prior year. Swingbed experienced the largest increase for the same period, increasing 96% in January and 100% in February. Although some increase may be attributed to seasonal illness, the enhanced presence and availability of the hospitalists is believed to be a significant contributing factor. Overall, this change has had a positive impact on our inpatient volumes and revenue with potential room for growth.
- New payment plan options through PayZen are being implemented. The "Care Card" is designed to assist with upfront collections and went live March 26. The second option, a post-payment plan for balances already incurred, is more detailed and tentatively scheduled to launch on April 9th. Both options are provided at no cost to patients. PayZen will proactively reach out directly to patients to present the post payment option.

CEO:

- At the request of the Harper County Health Foundation, the hospital has been working with legal counsel to develop an operating agreement for ownership and management of the HD6 buildings/property formerly used by Anthony and Harper hospitals. The Agreement was planned from the outset when the property was transferred to the Foundation, yet it was never formalized. This structure would eliminate the need for a lease for the Harper building while in use by the hospital.
- Modest rate increases are planned for the Harper and Anthony Wellness Centers to account for inflation and operational shortfalls. Rate increases were last applied in 2007. In 2024 the operating shortfall was a combined \$99,547. These adjustments are a step toward long-term sustainability while maintaining strong community access and value.
- Senate Bill 284 related to the 340B program continues to progress through committee. The hospital along with our pharmacy partners are working together to prepare for the potential financial impact. Board members were encouraged to reach out to Kansas officials in support of the 340B program.
- The hospital is currently evaluating the feasibility of whether an outpatient behavioral health model focused on seniors would benefit our community.
- The hospital has had preliminary discussions with the Harper County Health Department regarding whether PHC could assist in any way during their search to fill their RN vacancy. While committing an RN several days a week poses logistical challenges, we are exploring creative ways to partner without compromising hospital operations.
- In preparation for the annual meeting in May, members were asked to consider individuals to serve on the nominating committee or to present as individuals willing to fill vacancies that might occur on

the hospital board. Discussion followed regarding the Hospital Boards involvement with the Foundation. The date for the annual meeting will be scheduled for May 19, 2025, at 6pm, the special meeting with Forvis to receive the audit report will be held at 5pm.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Owen reported on February 2025 Financials. February's activity in cash accounts was reviewed, that included payments received and expenses paid out. Payments received from insurance and patients were \$1,318,913.26. February included two payrolls paid. Days Cash on Hand decreased to 139.61 days. Patient Accounts Receivable increased with a total AR balance of \$3,374,433.00 and AR Days at 35.57. Gross Patient Revenue for February was \$2,159,224. Inpatient revenue increased in February and YTD has seen a 31.57% increase in revenue or \$58,268.00. Swingbed revenue increased for the month and YTD has seen a \$211,557.00 YTD increase. Both Inpatient and Swingbed Revenue have been influenced by the change to In-Person Care or PHC's own Hospitalists. Outpatient Revenue continues to see a decrease in revenue with YTD down by \$211,577.00 compared to YTD February 2024. Total Operating Revenue increased for the month and has a YTD increase of 1.89% or \$67,192.00 compared to February 2024. Total Operating Expenses increased in February with total expenses of \$2,232,504. Areas of increased expenses YTD includes Professional Fees, and Insurance. Net Loss of \$157,966 was reported for the month of February 2025.

Accounts payable for February were \$1,852,850.94. Motion by Wedman seconded by Fallis to approve accounts payable. Motion carried unanimously.

HARPER COUNTY HEALTH FOUNDATION (HCHF): No meeting was held this month. The Foundation is planning a trap shoot in May. The golf tournament has been moved to September.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Charge Master Review – The Hospital Charge Master has not been updated since 2019, industry standards suggest an analysis every three to five years. Quotes from several vendors were presented for consideration. The board authorized Sarah Teaff, CEO, to negotiate a contract for the charge master review. Motion by Lanie, seconded by Penner. Motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 6:55 p.m. the hospital board entered executive session for 30 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Open session to resume at 7:25 p.m. Motion by Lanie, seconded by Bello. Motion carried unanimously. Open session resumed at 7:25 p.m. at which time a motion was made to extend the executive session by 20 minutes. Open session to resume at 7:45 p.m. Motion by Walker, seconded by Bello. Motion carried unanimously. Open session resumed at 7:45 p.m. at which time a motion was made to extend the executive session by 15 minutes. Open session to resume at 8:00 p.m. Motion by Lanie, seconded by Bello. Motion carried unanimously. Open session resumed at 8:00 p.m. No action was taken while in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT: There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned to 8:00 p.m. Motion made by Lanie; seconded by Walker. Motion carried unanimously.


Kara Bello, Secretary

Approved by the Board 4/24/25 (Date)