

MINUTES OF THE KEARNY COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
January 4, 2010

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Hatty Rebel, Pauline Neff, Ralph Reimer, Tom Vincent, Jon Wheat, Marilyn Wolfe and Raymond Yakel

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Bentley, CRNA; Heather Combs Platter; Marian Hunter, RN, DON-HPRV; Sarah Irsik-Good, Coordinator QA, Risk Management and Education; ReChelle Kennedy, CFO; John Loebel, CEO; Julie Munson, DO; Arlo Reimer, MD; Erik Sandstrom, MD; Sue Stingley, RN, DNS; Donna Winright

The Finance Committee of the Board of Directors met at 2:00 pm on Monday, January 4. Members in attendance were Pauline Neff, Ralph Reimer, Jon Wheat and Raymond Yakel. John Loebel, CEO, and ReChelle Kennedy, CFO were also in attendance. The committee reviewed the financial report for November; discussed the need for a temporary increase in the line of credit with Kearny County Bank; reviewed the cost reductions reported for the month; and discussed the final settlement of the 2008 Medicare cost report.

The Kearny County Hospital Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Jon Wheat, Chairman at 6:13 pm.

The agenda was amended by adding the resolution needed for the increase in the line of credit and discussion of the creation of a public relations committee at the Board level. The Board approved the agenda as amended.

The Board went into executive session for 15 minutes at 6:16 pm for the 3rd Qtr 2009 QA/RM report by Sarah Irsik-Good. The Board came out of executive session at 6:30 pm and approved the QA/RM report as presented.

Sue Stingley reported on the results of the KCH federal survey and Assisted Living state survey that took place November 30 – December 3, 2009. The surveyors cited the hospital with one deficiency and Assisted Living with no deficiencies. The hospital deficiency will be assigned to a QA/QI team.

Sue presented information about the humidity issues in the OR that have been ongoing since the completion of the construction project. She also provided an update on the Elopement Deterrent System. The County Commissioners recommended a letter be sent to Westrock advising them of the issues in implementing the system. A walk through with Advanced Electronics is planned for Tuesday, January 5th. Sue also informed the board that Gary Hayzlett was scheduled as a guest speaker for a Trauma ITV program on January 5th that will be broadcast live from KCH. He will talk about the legislative process.

In response to concerns expressed by community members in the past, Sue updated the Board on nursing low census hours during the 2009 calendar year. She also provided information about staffing for the Assisted Living apartments. There was much discussion about developing a tiered billing system for HPRV and Assisted Living. Sue will prepare information to present to the Board at the February meeting.

Marian Hunter reported that there are three open beds at HPRV and she is experiencing turn-over in CNA staff.

Dr Sandstrom thanked the Board for providing locum tenens coverage.

The consent agenda was presented including information that the hospital auditors will be present at both the Finance Committee and the Board meeting on Monday, January 25, 2010. The County Commissioners have indicated that they will attend the Finance Committee meeting. Jon Wheat encouraged all Board members to attend the Finance Committee if possible. The consent agenda was approved as presented.

ReChelle Kennedy reviewed the November financial reports. November was a strong month for Kearny County Hospital. It was noted that November was a record-breaking month with 19 babies, including a set of twins. The Board approved the November financial report, checks #069198 - #069389 in the amount of \$505,812.10 and electronic transfers in the amount of \$642,382.87.

ReChelle also provided an update on the impact of the 10% reduction in Medicaid that is being implemented by the governor. KHA estimates that this will decrease reimbursement to the hospital by \$93,000. This does not include the impact on HPRV. There was much discussion regarding the issue.

ReChelle updated the Board on the increase in the line of credit. It is temporary for 60 days. She does not anticipate that the extended amount will be needed. The Board formally approved the resolution that was implemented on December 17th when John Loebel canvassed the Board members.

Marilyn Wolfe advised the Board that they would have to pass a resolution to allow Don Lutz and ReChelle access to account information at the Kearny County Bank. The Board voted to approve this access and Marilyn will bring the resolution to the next meeting for signature.

Jon Wheat created a steering committee to address relations with the public. He appointed Ralph and himself to serve on the committee.

John Loebel reported on communications he has had with Drs Birky and Miller. He also provided an update on the progress of Strategic Plan initiatives. Administrative visits to patients are going well. ReChelle is working on an employee wellness day that will involve the community and other local businesses. Articles will be placed in The Lakin Independent and on the web site about this event in a timely fashion.

The Board approved the 2010 Corporate Compliance Plan as sent out in the meeting packet. The Purchasing Policy was also discussed. John recommended that the capital equipment limit that he can authorize remain at \$5,000. The Board approved the policy with the \$5,000 limit.

It was moved, seconded and carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Reimer, Secretary

Approved:

Jon Wheat, Chairman

Heather Combs Platter, Recording Secretary