

MINUTES OF THE KEARNY COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
September 27, 2010

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Pauline Neff, Hatty Rebel, Ralph Reimer and Jon Wheat

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Bentley, CRNA; Heather Combs Platter; Marian Hunter, RN, DON-HPRV; John Loebel, CEO; Julie Munson, DO; Arlo Reimer, MD; Brandi Ward, RN; Sarah Irsik-Good, QA/RM Coordinator; Wilma Day and Nanette Rice

The Finance Committee of the Board of Directors met at 2:00 pm on September 27. Members in attendance were Pauline Neff, Ralph Reimer, and Jon Wheat. John Loebel, CEO, was also in attendance. The committee reviewed the financial report for August, explored the feasibility of installing a water well on the property and discussed the monthly cost reduction report.

The Kearny County Hospital Board of Directors was called to order by Jon Wheat, Chairman at 6:00 pm.

John Loebel requested that discussions of a water well, the breast cancer awareness program, flu vaccinations and Friends of Kearny County Hospital be added to the agenda. The agenda was approved with these additions.

The Board voted to enter into executive session for 20 minutes for the 2nd Qtr 2010 QA/RM report with all except Wilma Day and Nanette Rice asked to stay. The Board went into executive session at 6:03 pm and came out at 6:23 pm. The Board voted to go back into executive session for 10 minutes starting at 6:23 pm to continue discussions about the 2nd Qtr 2010 QA/RM with those already in attendance asked to stay. The Board entered into executive session at 6:23 pm and came out at 6:32 pm.

The Board voted to approve the 2nd Quarter 2010 QA/RM Report as presented.

In Sue Stingley's absence, Brandi Ward provided the Director of Nursing report for the hospital. She stated that hospital nursing staff continues to low census when patient acuity is low. However, night shift is still short two nurses. The blood pressure clinics are getting better attendance as more non-employees are participating.

Brandi also reported that 360 doses of the flu vaccine have been received out of the 1200 doses that were ordered. All residents of long-term care, assisted living and home health are the first priority to receive the vaccine. Staff members are also eligible to receive the vaccine as well as high risk patients who present to the ER or hospital. The Deerfield school system has asked that we sell 35 doses to them which we will do. In addition, the Family Health Center will host Flu Shot Clinics. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Marian Hunter reported that there are currently 36 residents at HPRV with one admission scheduled this week. It is a busy time at HPRV with training beginning on September 28th for Optimus, the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) for long-term care. In addition MDS 3.0 takes

effect on Friday, October 1st. The Family Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, October 9th and the Holiday Bazaar is scheduled for Wednesday, November 24th.

Marian reported that due to health reasons she is resigning her position as the Director of Nursing and will return to floor nursing. The Board members expressed their thanks for her service as the Director and their wishes for better health.

Dr. Reimer discussed a request from two physicians from Tribune to perform scheduled C-sections at KCH. Dr. Robyn Liu and Dr. Sheila Scheffe have requested privileges at KCH to assist in scheduled C-sections for their OB patients that they see in Tribune. The request came up as the result of Dr. Moser leaving Tribune and Dr. Ellis giving up the practice of OB. A KCH physician would be the primary physician in all cases. All procedures at KCH would be scheduled and the process for reviewing whether the case could be done here would be the same as we follow for our patients. This has been discussed and approved by our Medical Staff and it is felt that this will happen infrequently. It is a way to provide support and build referrals between Tribune and KCH. Because Scott City is geographically closer to Tribune than Lakin, all emergency C-sections will go to Scott City.

The Consent Agenda was approved as mailed. The Board asked that recognition of Becky Bates-Meyer for winning first place in the rural health photography contest be referred to the newspaper as well as the results of the radiology survey.

John presented the financial report for August. He reported that August overall was a slow month for the organization and was not very good financially. Although revenue was lower than budgeted, expenses were also less than budgeted. However, the deductions from revenue were greater than budgeted resulting in a more unfavorable bottom line than expected. Deductions from revenue, which includes contractual allowances to third party payers, continue to be the biggest challenge for healthcare providers. On a positive note, activity in both Physical Therapy and Home Health was significantly greater than budgeted. The Board approved the August Financial Report, checks #071002-071202 in the amount of \$256,045.23 and electronic transfers in the amount of \$813,980.33.

John presented the Administrative Report. He informed the Board that KCH is moving forward with discussions with Dr. Barker, a general surgeon from Ulysses. Dr Barker is already credentialed with KCH and would like to provide general surgical procedures in Lakin. He is responsible for all billing and collection of his professional fees and KCH will bill for their fees associated with each procedure.

Ralph Reimer provided information about the feasibility of installing a private well for the facility, to be used for non-potable water. The possibility was discussed at the Finance Committee. We need to review our water bills and water usage to determine if cost efficiencies can be achieved with a private well. An update will be provided at the October meeting.

Jon presented information about funding for Friends of Kearny County Hospital and reminded Board members that contributions are still being accepted.

Sarah Irsik-Good presented the Resident Voting policy to the Board. The policy was written to provide clarification of the facility's procedures for administering each resident's right to vote. The Board approved the policy.

Brandi presented information about Kan Quit II, a smoking cessation program offered through the KU Medical Center. The program targets smokers who are patients in rural hospitals that wish to quit smoking and is provided at no cost to either the patient or KCH. The program is centered on the premise that smokers are more motivated to quit when they are hospitalized. The program is essentially the same as we currently offer through our respiratory therapist but provides financial incentives and other types of support from KU to the patients who enroll in the program. The Board approved participation in the program.

Ralph Reimer has requested that KCH donate outdated equipment and supplies that have been in storage at the hospital for several years to a hospital in the Ukraine. These items are of no further use to the hospital and can not be sold or donated locally because of liability issues. The items were presented to the County Commissioners who approved the donation pending the items being declared as surplus property by the Kearny County Hospital Board of Directors. The Board voted to declare the list of equipment as surplus property with the intention of donating it to the hospital in the Ukraine.

Sarah presented information about the Breast Cancer Awareness events being hosted by the facility throughout the month of October. KCH is hosting a Breast Health Fair on Tuesday, October 19th from 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm in the hospital classroom. For the week of October 18th, KCH employees will be allowed to wear blue jeans for a \$20 donation to the Passionately Pink cause. In addition, the home football game between Lakin and Scott City on Friday, October 22nd is officially registered as a Passionately Pink event. Both teams are challenging their fans to get the most pink in the stands.

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:32 pm for 30 minutes with all KCH Board members, John and Heather invited to stay. The purpose of the Executive Session was to discuss with hospital legal counsel a matter of potential litigation. The Board returned from Executive Session at 7:45 pm.

The Board unanimously voted to move forward with the recommendation of hospital legal counsel.

It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Reimer, Acting Secretary

Approved:

Jon Wheat, Chairman

Heather Combs Platter, Recording Secretary