



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022 4:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shirley Coulter, Andrea Mellinger, Joe Wright, Jenifer Shassetz, Gene Davis, David Smith, and Ron Mischke

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mike McCafferty, Tom Klepperich, and Patty Forister

All other via phone that made their presence known: Dr. John Addlesperger, Dr. Shaun Gonda, Barb Hesperen, Holly Zajic, Nyle Morgan, Cathy Bealer, Amy Ligocki, Britney Varner, Cody Sinclair, Liz Mahoney, Rob Forister, Stephen Dow with the Sheridan Press, Dr. Barry Wohl

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Shirley Coulter, Chairwoman, called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. The board is meeting in person, practicing social distancing and mask usage. Due to COVID, all others have been asked to call in to limit the number of people in the room.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS

There are no introductions at this time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The December board meeting agenda was presented. Ron Mischke moved to approve the agenda. Andrea Mellinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The November board meeting minutes from Wednesday, December 1, 2021 were presented and Gene Davis motioned to approve the minutes. Joe Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

QUALITY COMMITTEE REPORT

Liz Mahoney presented on the following:

Safety events from June 2021 to December 2021 were reviewed and areas of improvement identified.

The Utilization Management for the third quarter was reviewed for qualifying patient stays.

Blood transfusions are at 90% compliance. A decrease in documentation is a result of staff turnover and there is a need to ensure training of new staff in this area.

Data relevant to the use of restraints showed 100% compliance with appropriate orders being placed and renewed. We will continue to audit charts based on TJC and CMS guidelines.

Multi-drug resistant organism data was reviewed.

Employee Flu Vaccinations are at 48%. Our goal is to have 90% of staff vaccinated. We will continue to offer flu vaccinations through March 31, 2022.

Inpatient fall data was reviewed with areas of improvement identified to educate staff, the patient, and families of the patient to request assistance. Will discuss at all huddles to bring attention to high risk patients.

PATIENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The committee met, and NRC Picker scores were reviewed.

Outpatient Surgery, Women's Health, the Women's Clinic and the Welch Cancer Center were reviewed.

The concepts and modifications the departments are implementing for improvement are impressive.

NRC is a very efficient evaluation system, with real time feedback allowing for corrective actions/responses in a timelier manner.

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MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Credentialing to be done in Executive Session.

On behalf of the Medical Executive Committee, Dr. Gonda requests board approval for an Honorary Staff Membership to Dr. Barry Wohl. Dr. Wohl has retired from practice and the medical staff would like to recognize him for his 42+ years of service to the community and our hospital. Dr. Wohl complimented the hospital, stating it is the best it has ever been and respects Mike McCafferty's leadership. David Smith motioned to approve the honorary staff membership for Dr. Wohl as presented. Ron Mischke seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mike McCafferty extends his thanks to Dr. Wohl; his leadership has been tremendous for the hospital and expanding that to the medical staff leadership and meeting the needs of the community. Mike is appreciative of Dr. Wohl's mentorship over the years as well.

Dr. Gonda, on behalf of the Medical Executive Committee and the Credentials Committee recommends the following Medical Staff initial appointments and Medical Staff Renewals for board approval.

MEDICAL STAFF INITIAL APPOINTMENTS (ACTION)

Name	Category	Specialty	Renewal Date	Affiliated Organization
Randol Hooper, MD	Telemedicine/Delegated	Critical Care Medicine		Billings Clinic Pulmonary
Helen Feltovich, MD	Consulting-No Admit without active Physician cosign	Maternal Fetal Medicine		St. Vincent's (Billings)
Ibrahim Hammad, MD	Consulting-No Admit without active Physician cosign	Maternal Fetal Medicine		St. Vincent's (Billings)
Troy Porter, MD	Consulting-No Admit without active Physician cosign	Maternal Fetal Medicine		St. Vincent's (Billings)

David Smith moved to approve the medical staff initial appointments as presented. Joe Wright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MEDICAL STAFF RENEWALS (ACTION)

Name	Category	Specialty	Renewal Date	Affiliated Organization
LaNora Dixon, FNP	Advanced Practice Clinician - Nurse Practitioner	Medicine	2/3/2022	Billings Clinic
Waheed Jalalzai, MD	Teleradiology/Delegated (No Membership)	Radiology	1/08/2022	Real Radiology
Tyler Neitlich, MD	Teleradiology/Delegated (No Membership)	Radiology	1/08/2022	Real Radiology

David Smith moved to approved the medical staff renewals as presented. Andrea Mellinger seconded the motion. Motion carried.

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ADMINISTRATION REPORT

COVID-19 Update – Dr. Addlesperger, CMO states there is an increase in COVID cases, with 40 positive cases in the last 24 hours, bringing the total to 90. This new variant is rapidly expanding and highly transmissible. However, there is not an increase in the hospitalization rate, as the Omicron variant may not be as severe. SMH has processes in place and supplies to deal with an increase. However, the challenges are with staff becoming ill. The vaccination protects a person from not becoming as ill and protects from death, but a person can still be symptomatic. SMH is reviewing CDC guidelines on shortened quarantine time to ensure we have adequate staffing to safely take care of our patients.

Staffing Opportunities – Mike states that he will be sharing information soon on outcomes from studies being done relevant to employee compensation, employee retention and challenges facing rural hospitals and communities. The hospital is challenged with retaining staff due to circumstances and current competition in the nation. Adding to the challenge of getting candidates to Sheridan, is the higher cost of living. SMH is utilizing Lean resources to problem solve the challenges on employment in a rural healthcare system.

FINANCE

Nathan Stutte, CFO reports there is a high level of volume across the organization, with an increase in surgery, cath lab and the emergency department. SMH is starting to feel pressure from the number of travelers in the hospital, with 22 travelers in various departments. Traveler rates have doubled and tripled in some markets, topping out at \$200+ an hour for a traveler. The Welch Cancer Center is ahead of last year, and the clinics are busy with a 20% increase in volume. The Urgent Care had high testing volume due to COVID. With stating all of this, Nathan indicated we had a positive operating margin for November. Contract labor is being monitored closely. The higher wages of a contract nurse (traveler) is attractive to a number of SMH staff, who are leaving the hospital to make more money. There is talk on a national level to look at the situation, as the margins are huge and have a negative impact on delivering healthcare, especially in a rural community.

FOUNDATION REPORT

Cody Sinclair, Chief Development Officer reports that the Foundation is grateful to the community for their support of the Transitional Care Unit campaign and the engagement of the donors. The Foundation continues to look for an opportunity in the near future to get donors to the second and third floors for viewing of the work that is being done. The Foundation also received an amazing gift from Mr. T. R. Shelby made in honor of his deceased wife, to benefit the Welch Cancer Center. Additionally, community members, Kim and Mary Kay Love provided a gift to every SMH employee before Christmas. The support of the Love Family is greatly appreciated. The Foundation board is excited for another successful year in 2022.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Rob Forister reports that the Transitional Care Unit expansion project is coming along and there are no issues or change orders to report on. The project is moving along nicely. The tile in the front vestibule of the hospital has been replaced with walk off carpet to keep the floors clean.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business to present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Shirley Coulter motioned to move into Executive Session at 4:35 p.m. to address credentialing matters. Gene Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

General session reconvened at 4:47 p.m. to address the medical staff credentialing. Please see above under the



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Medical Staff Report for action taken.

Shirley Coulter adjourned general session to move back into Executive Session at 4:50 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further matters to come before the board, the meeting adjourned out of Executive Session at 5:42 p.m. as no action was taken.

Patty Forister, Recorder

Andrea Mellinger, Secretary