

**TAOS HEALTH SYSTEMS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
July 26, 2023
2:00 p.m.**

Present: Abe Balsamo, Robyn Chavez, Lucille Gallegos, Carl Gilmore, Cipry Jaramillo, MD, Cristina Martinez, Don Mooney, Paul Sands, Peter Selzer, MD, Lynn Skall, Chris Stagg, and Trinidad de Jesus Arguello

Members Absent:

Administration: James Kiser, Connie Prewitt, Sue Romansky, Renee Laughlin, Brittany Lamendola, Vivian Santistevan and Mitsy Carruth

Guests: Eric Jones, Ovation Healthcare

- I. **Call to Order** - Holy Cross Hospital, a division of the Taos Health Systems, Inc., Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 26, 2023, by Paul Sands, Board Chair. Attendance was recorded and a quorum was present.
- II. **Approval of Agenda** - The agenda was presented for review and approval. Following review and discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as amended to add Ground Ambulance and Request from the Town of Taos. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- III. **Public Comments** – There were no public comments presented.
- IV. **Declaration of Conflicts of Interest** - There were no conflicts of interest reported.
- V. **Approval of the June 28, 2023 Taos Health Systems (THS) Board Minutes** - Following review and discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the June 28, 2023 THS Board Minutes as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- VI. **Approval of the Consent Agenda**
 - 2023 May Board Compliance Program Update

Following review and discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- VII. **Lifewings Quality & Safety Council Report – Misty Carruth, Quality Director** - June 2023
 - Lifewings Quality & Safety Council Report – June 2023 – June S & Q Card

Quality Report

- Overall hospital rating score decreased to 66.70%.
- Left without being seen decreased to 1.70%.
- Inpatient Readmission Rate increased to 5.12%.
- Patient Satisfaction: Communication w/Doctors decreased to 73.30%.
- Patient Satisfaction: Communication w/Nurses increased to 84.40%.
- Patient Satisfaction: Instructions for Care at Home increased to 92.30%.
- Survey return numbers:
 - Outpatient – 136
 - Inpatient – 15
 - ER – 44
 - Ambulatory Surgery – 43

Misty reported that they are working on several processes to help increase the patient survey responses. She reviewed several of the processes.

- Inpatient Rounding – As of June 30th, patients are being reminded of mailed survey.
- Meetings 1:1 held with each leader to share their department survey that patients receive.
- Working with Press Ganey and IT to have Primary Spanish Speaking patient surveys completed in Spanish.

Following review and discussion, motion was made and seconded to accept the Lifewings Quality & Safety Council Report as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.

VIII. **Finance Report** – Connie Prewitt, CFO

- June 2023 Financial Statements – Connie Prewitt, CFO, presented the June 2023 financials for review and acceptance. (Refer to CFO's Narrative Report).

Following review and discussion, a motion was made and seconded to accept the June 2023 financials as presented. All were in favor and the motion carried.

IX. **CNO Report** – Brittany Lamendola, CNO reported on the following:

- Has made an offer to a new ER Manager. She will start in a few weeks.
- Sarah Beane will now be the Patient Care Services Director and will oversee the ICU, Med-Surg, and ER.
- Recruitment is going well.
- Continuing our relationship with UNM. The UNM paramedics have stated that they want to come up to HCMC to do their clinical rotations in the Spring.
- We will posting for 24/7 Patient sitters for the ER Department due to the increase in more 1:1's.
- Volumes have been very high and continue to see more high acuity patients.

X. **HR Report** - Vivian Santistevan, CHRO reported on the following:

- Presented the HCMC Employee Stats.
- Reviewed the HR Updates:
 - With CNO, visited UNM Taos Nursing facility and spoke with nine students. All but two have committed to come to work at HCMC.
 - Increased advertising and recruiting efforts in the local 300-mile radius to reduce costs of using recruiters.
 - Conducting daily training of the HR team members.
 - Started the Emotional Training/EQ process for SLT and HR team.
 - Five minute Leader training will begin tomorrow.
 - 10 Nurses hired under Team Taos initiative.
- Reviewed the Challenges in HR

XI. **Medical Staff Report** – Susan Romansky, COO reported on the following:

- **Cardiology**
 - Dr. Tiziano Scarabelli and Carol Chen-Scarabelli, NP, to join us on August 8th.

- New echo tech Michael started this week and we have a second that is very interested. We would be open six days week to meet the growing demand.
- **Surgery**
 - Dr. Robert Brown to start on August 8th.
- **Primary Care**
 - Dr. Mary Jo Young to start on August 8th.
- **Pediatrics**
 - Dr. Patterson started this month, 6-month locums coverage for the clinic.
 - Dr. Cynthia West experienced pediatrician is interviewing with us in September. We will need one additional Pediatrician to help cover our call needs.
 - Morgan Verkuilen –NP program, starts in September.
- **OB/GYN**
 - There will be a few staffing changes in this department. Dr. Moore has given his official date of retirement as October 8th. He will be winding down and turn over patients to Dr. Casey Smith at that time. Dr. Ouellette will be taking more OB call and reducing her pediatric calls.
- **Hospitalist**
 - Dr. Alexandra Ninneman accepted her offer to be an independent contractor to provide hospitalist coverage. She would like to work here part time as well as spend time with her family that live in Taos.
 - Dr. Bassett is no longer an employee, and we are recruiting to replace him.
 - Dr. Adam Spring, Hospitalist who has been working in a CAH in Whitefish, Montana has applied and looks like a great fit. We will be interviewing him via phone this week.
- **ED**
 - Melissa Tingue, NP, PRN in the ED, starts in August.
 - Lisa Spero, NP also PRN accepted her offer and will start in September.
 - Staci West, NP signed on as an APC independent contractor in the ED.
 - Waiting for Dr. Townley, independent contractor in the ED to sign. She will be moving to Taos this Fall and wants to start with as PRN. Currently working in Phoenix and Flagstaff.
- **Primary Care** – Have two new candidates interested:
 - Megan McClure – Two years before she graduates.
 - Ernest de Bourbon M.D. – Experienced and ready to go has NM license
- **Imaging Dept.**
 - Have hired a traveler Echo Tech. We are pretty backed up. He seems to like HCMC and we hope that he might be interested in coming on as a permanent employee.
 - Recruiting for local Radiologist.
- **Concord Radiology**
 - Go live went very well, and the coverage they are providing has been excellent. No delays to date.

XII. **CEO Report** – James Kiser reported on the following:

A. CEO Report

- Thanked the Board for attending the Strategic Planning Meeting. We had a great turnout from community leadership.
- James gave a brief update on his discussions with the Mayor and their proposal for the TCCY Clinic.
- James complimented Sue for her work on bringing Chemotherapy services to Taos. Sue has set up meetings with the Oncologists and the folks from St. Vincent's.

XIII. **Ovation Healthcare Report** – Eric Jones, Ovation Healthcare, AVP – Eric Jones reported on the following:

- Eric mentioned that Ovation is working on getting all the board members and CHRO on the Board Portal.
- The Ovation Healthcare Strategy Team is working with Administration on the Strategic Plan.
- Blake and Ginnie from Ovation will be working with the Senior Leadership Team on the follow-up items from the Strategic Planning Meeting.
- Eric reviewed the changes made to the Advisory Services Agreement. Eric commended the Senior Leadership Team on the productivity.
- Ovation will be working with HCMC on getting to the 80% GPO goals.
- This month's Board Education focuses on Compliance.
- Ovation will be hiring around 200 employees to work on the IT side of advisory. They continue to work with Ovation on a possibility of GPO savings on our EMR (Meditech Expense).

XIV. **Medical Staff Recommendations – Cipry Jaramillo, MD, COS**

- Credentialing – A motion was made and seconded to accept the Medical Staff recommendations to the Board for privileges and memberships as listed below. All were in favor and the motion carried.

INITIAL APPOINTMENTS:

Locums

- **Egbnim, Donatus MD (Hospitalist)** – Appointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.
- **Marshall, Stephanie MD (Cardiologist)** – Appointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.
- **Davis, Aaron DO (Hospitalist)** – Appointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.
- **Yager, Mary MD (Hospitalist)** - Appointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.
- **Brown, Robert MD (General Surgeon)** - Appointment in the Surgery and Anesthesia Department.
- **Burton, Lukas MD (Radiologist)** - Appointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.

Concord Teleradiology:

- DiVito, Jason DO
- Niblett, Randy MD

Appointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.

REAPPOINTMENTS:

- **Rembecki, Richard MD (Pediatrician)** – Reappointment in the Perinatal Department.
- **Castro, Christa PA-C (Emergency Medicine)** – Reappointment in the Emergency Medicine Department.
- **Selzer, Peter MD (Radiology)** - Reappointment in the Pediatric and Adult Medicine Department.

Dr. Jaramillo reported that the Medical Executive Committee has requested that a more formal structure be set in place to include input from the Medical Staff regarding who the hospital credentials for the clinics. Sue Romansky reviewed the current process.

XV. New Business

- Board Committee Assignments – Paul Sands asked the board members to review the final draft copy of the board committee assignments. He asked if anyone had any questions. Lenora will be sending out the meeting schedule to the board.
- Mayor Pascualito Maestas presented information to the board regarding the Town's Housing and Development project. Mayor Maestas mentioned that they should have around \$5M towards the Housing and development project with assistance from Senate Bill 7.
- Mayor Maestas reported that the Town is now interested in selling the TCCY Building to HCMC or perhaps doing a swap for the 18 acres the hospital owns. The Mayor mentioned that they would be happy to get the TCCY clinic appraised if interested. He also suggested the hospital get an appraisal of the 18 acres.

XVI. Old Business

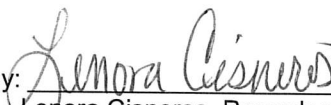
HCMC 2023 Perception Survey Summary Data - The summary was included in board portal as a FYI.

XVII. Executive Session

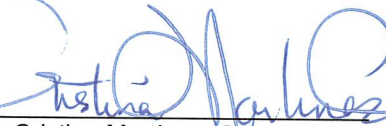
- A motion was made and seconded at 4:21 p.m. to enter into Executive Session discuss legally protected matters. All were in favor and the motion carried.
- A motion was made and seconded to reconvene into open session at 4:55 p.m. All were in favor and the motion carried.

XVIII. Adjournment - There being no further business, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m. All were in favor and motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:


Lenora Cisneros, Recorder

Approved by:


Cristina Martinez, Secretary