

**Granite County Hospital District
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
23 FEBRUARY 2016**

Present:

- Mr Ken Burd
- Mr. Jim Waldbillig
- Mrs. Judy Friede
- Mr. John Barbara (by telephone)
- Mr. Chris Miller

A quorum of the Board was present.

The meeting was called to order by Ken Burd on FEB, 23, 2016 at 05:38 PM. The meeting was held in the Granite County Medical Center Conference Facility in Philipsburg, MT.

The minutes from the JAN, 29, 2016 meeting and the FEB, 11, 2016 special meeting were reviewed. Ken Burd made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Judy Friede seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Standing Items

Administrator's Report

Maria Stoppler RN,DON,CEO presented her report (please consult the posted copy of the report for details).

Medical Staff Report

Medical Director Terry Jones, MD, opened his report by noting that staff shortages have compelled both the CEO/DON and the ADON to work 12 hours shifts to avoid the expense of hiring temps.

The revised medical staff bi-laws are ready for review and have been presented to the board.

The credential packets for two radiologists from Medical Imaging Associates have been reviewed and these radiologists are recommended for approval by the board: Dr. Christopher L. Bachman and Dr. Myka C. Veigel.

Financial Report

Brenda Peyton presented the Financial Report (please consult the posted copy of the report for details).

John Barbara expressed concern that the AR balance continues to rise and asked how much of the AR balance was greater than 90 days. Brenda replied that it was about \$360-370 thousand dollars. John wondered if there was something more that could be done to recover some of this debt. Ken Burd noted that the increase in insurance policy deductibles is placing ever greater pressure on those who need care but cannot afford to pay out-of-pocket costs.

Committee Reports

Policy and Review Committee: Chair Chris Miller presented the following reviewed policies for approval by the board: Housekeeping and Laundry, Adult Day-care, Infection Control (Hepatitis, Pneumonia), Wound Care and Prevention and New Visitors & Social Media. He also reported that providing Shingles Vaccine shots to LTC patients is under consideration but that no decision has yet been made.

Ken Burd made a motion to approve the reviewed policies and Jim Waldbillig seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Quality and Safety: Chair Chris Miller was unable to attend the committee meeting so Maria Stoppler included this report in her Administrators Report. (please consult the posted copy of the report for details).

Facilities: Chair Jim Waldbillig reported that the broken water line that was recorded at the last board meeting has been repaired by the town and at their expense.

Marketing: Chair Judy Friede reported that promotional brochures will be inserted in the latest edition of the Granite County Phonebook which is due to be published by the Philipsburg Rotary in about 6 weeks.

Technology: Chair John Barbara reported that he has reviewed the Epic Preparation Strategic Plan created by Dave Lee and the Epic Network Assessment created by Providence Healthcare and is planning to work with Dave Lee to get these executed. He is also planning to work with Dave Lee to evaluate the new telephone system at the County Court House to see if it might be appropriate for GCMC and Drummond Clinic.

Professional Affairs: Chair Ken Burd requested a motion to accept the recommendation of Dr. Jones to credential the two Medical Imaging Associates Radiologists: Dr. Christopher L. Bachman and Dr. Myka C. Veigel. Chris Miller made the motion and Judy Friede seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Foundation Report

Ken Burd reported that improved ambulance service is a need that is high on the list with all parties involved but that there is nothing yet to report from the County or the Foundation. Ken and Maria plan to meet with the County on March 3rd to launch an initial discussion on the matter.

Old Business

PARA Charge-master Review:

Ken and Maria said that the PARA revision to the GCMC Charge-master which was decided on at the February Special Board Meeting will probably not be ready for review until sometime after the next board meeting.

New Business

Introduction of Dr. Jim Mc Kay, Clinical Representative from St. Patrick Hospital:

Dr. Mc Kay introduced himself as St. Patrick's new clinical outreach representative to GCMC. Dr. Mc Kay has been in Missoula with St. Patrick Hospital for 17 years as a radiologist and a former chief of staff. He indicated that Providence is working to deploy more medical staff to outreach positions and he dedicates %80 of his professional time to that function. The agenda of his visit today is simply to "learn and listen". He also extended an apology from Jeff Fee, CEO, of St. Patrick for being unable to attend due to a compulsory meeting in Seattle.

Open Comment

Carl Sundstrom: Expressed concern that there is only 11 days cash on hand and wondered what the return would be possible on the 180 days+ AR balance. Brenda explained how the monthly allowance for bad debt is calculated using a tier system that adjusts for Medicare, Medicaid and Private pay.

Carl also noted the value difference for in a situation where the charge-master amount is less than the reimbursement amount, which Medicare may pay and which results in significant increased cash for the facility. He wondered if residents really understood how important usage is and if some educational effort could be made at the upcoming Health Fair ?

Dave Lee: Expressed concern that the operational difficulties of the business office risk being neglected during the upcoming EMR deployment and that there has not been a cost benefit analysis comparing Epic to an alternative system specifically designed for the needs of CAH. He urged the board to consider using the Technology committee to undertake such an analysis. He also said that having the place be fun to work at and easy to do are really important dimensions to success. "Every time we lost someone in the Business Office it was a crisis, almost as bad as losing a Doctor and we can't have that. The Business office has to be easy and fun and that will only come with better tools."

Adjournment

Ken Burd proposed a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Judy Friedie. The motion passed without objection and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Ken Burd (Chairman of GCHD Board of Trustees)

Date