

**MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL OF SWEETWATER COUNTY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

January 4, 2023

The Board of Trustees of Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County met in regular session on January 4, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. with Dr. Barbara Sowada, President, presiding.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Sowada welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. She presented the Trustees, Ms. Richardson, Dr. Crofts, and Mr. Phillips with gifts for the new year and wished everyone an amazing 2023.

Dr. Sowada requested a roll call and announced there was a quorum. The following Trustees were present: Mr. Taylor Jones, Mr. Marty Kelsey, Ms. Kandi Pendleton, Dr. Barbara Sowada, and Mr. Ed Tardoni.

Officially present during the meeting: Ms. Irene Richardson, Chief Executive Officer; Dr. Brianne Crofts, Medical Staff President; and Mr. Geoff Phillips, Legal Counsel.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Sowada led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Our Mission and Vision

Mr. Tardoni read aloud the mission and vision statements.

Mission Moment

Ms. Richardson shared a recent article in the local newspaper about Mr. Marlin Dillard who assists people at the front information desk. She said he is a wonderful ambassador for the Hospital and exemplifies our mission every day. Dr. Sowada referenced a front-page article about recent falls related to ice and said our community is glad our emergency department is here.

AGENDA

The motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Mr. Kelsey; second by Mr. Jones. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2022, regular meeting as presented was made by Mr. Tardoni second by Mr. Jones. Ms. Pendleton abstained, and the motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATION

There were no comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Employee Policies

Dr. Sowada said The Joint Commission is focusing on workplace violence. Following discussion, Ms. Richardson said we can take the information back to the Human Resources Committee for continued discussion. Mr. Kelsey requested highlighted changes when revisions are brought forward to the Board for review and approval. Dr. Sowada said it is important we get it right and she said we appreciate the work being done.

NEW BUSINESS

Finance and Audit Committee Charter

Mr. Tardoni noted a minor change needed in the draft presented and said the charter will be returned to the Finance and Audit Committee for discussion.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Ms. Richardson wished everyone a happy new year and presented an update on the strategic plan areas of patient experience, quality and safety, community and growth, workplace experience, and financial stewardship. Mr. Kelsey said he would like to receive information on Medicaid expansion and how it may impact the Hospital.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Quality Committee

Mr. Jones said the information is in the meeting packet.

Human Resources Committee

Ms. Pendleton said the information is in the meeting packet.

Finance and Audit Committee

Mr. Tardoni thanked staff for getting the financial information out even though the Committee did not meet in December.

Bad Debt: The motion to approve the net potential bad debt of \$930,918.65 as presented was made by Mr. Tardoni; second by Ms. Pendleton. Motion carried.

Dr. Sowada referenced the goals graphs and noted the improved days of cash on hand data.

Building and Grounds

Mr. Kelsey said the information is in the meeting packet.

Foundation

Ms. Tiffany Marshall, Executive Director for the Foundation, provided an update on the Red Tie Gala. She said she and Ms. Richardson are on the agenda for the next Sweetwater Board of County Commissioners meeting to review the Wyoming State Land and Investment Board approval for the Hospital's lab remodel grant submission. She provided an update on other grants the Hospital has received.

Compliance Committee, Governance Committee, Joint Conference Committee

Dr. Sowada said the Compliance, Governance, and Joint Conference Committees did not meet.

Executive Oversight and Compensation Committee

Dr. Sowada said the Committee met and topics are discussed during executive session.

CONTRACT REVIEW

Ms. Richardson reviewed the iProtean agreement and said she feels this education for the Board has been really good. She said we feel we will be with them for more than one year and there is a significant discount if we renew for three years. Ms. Richardson said we want to involve the Foundation Board so the agreement includes additional licenses. Dr. Sowada said she will be on a call with iProtean soon and asked everyone for input on content and useful topics moving forward. She said iProtean is good at listening and responding. Ms. Pendleton and Mr. Jones said they are interested in the usage to warrant the expense. Ms. Richardson said she feels it is worthwhile, good Board education, and utilized. The motion to approve the iProtean agreement as presented was made by Mr. Tardoni; second by Mr. Jones. Motion carried.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Dr. Crofts said the Medical Executive Committee met the previous week. She encouraged everyone to continually wash your hands and stay home if you are sick. She said it has been very busy and we are seeing a big increase in RSV and flu cases. Dr. Sowada asked Dr. Crofts to please extend the Board's appreciation to the Medical Staff.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Dr. Sowada said M.O.A.B. information will be presented at the February meeting. Mr. Tardoni distributed information to the Trustees and said that could be considered board education.

Mr. Tardoni said we have helped many patients out with our navigation and care transition services. He asked us to look at getting a group of people together to work on issues surrounding prescriptions, costs associated with them, and submitting or automating them in some way to make

the process better. He said between the pharmacy, physicians, and computer people, maybe we can give people some aid. Dr. Crofts said she feels his frustration and outlined how she tries to help in the process. Ms. Richardson introduced Ms. Melida Marin, Lead Patient Financial Navigator, and said she and her department have done some really great things. Mr. Ron Cheese, Director of Patient Financial Services, said the department goal was raised by 500% this year and this month they went over \$1M in savings to the patients and the Hospital. Mr. Cheese said we are working with Cerner to look into the prescription piece and will look at opportunities to see how we can help.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The motion to go into executive session was made by Ms. Pendleton; second by Mr. Jones. Motion carried.

RECONVENE INTO REGULAR SESSION

At 5:03 p.m., the motion to leave executive session and return to regular session was made by Ms. Pendleton; second by Mr. Jones. Motion carried.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Approval of Privileges

The motion to approve the list of clinical privileges and granting appointments to the Medical Staff as reviewed in executive session was made by Ms. Pendleton; second by Mr. Jones. Motion carried.

Credentials Committee Recommendations to the Board of Trustees for Granting Clinical Privileges and Granting Appointment to the Medical Staff from December 13, 2022

1. Initial Appointment to Active Staff (2 years)
 - Dr. Mark Uhlman, Urology
2. Initial Appointment to Associate Staff (1 year)
 - Dr. Jason Kalan, Pediatrics
 - Dr. Holden Wagstaff, Emergency Medicine (U of U)
3. Reappointment to Active Staff (2 years)
 - Dr. Augusto Jamias, General Surgery
4. Reappointment to Consulting Staff (2 years)
 - Dr. Nathan Blue, Maternal/Fetal Medicine (U of U)
 - Dr. Edward Kimball, Tele ICU (U of U)
 - Dr. Lucy Dana DeWitt, Tele Stroke (U of U)
 - Dr. Muhammad Chauhan, Tele Stroke (U of U)
 - Dr. Jonathon Lee, Tele Radiology (VRC)

The motion to approve the contract presented by the CEO and authorize the CEO to sign the contract as discussed in executive session was made by Ms. Pendleton; second by Mr. Jones. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Dr. Barbara Sowada, President

Attest:

Ms. Kandi Pendleton, Secretary