



COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD MINUTES FOR JULY 20, 2023

Call to Order – Kay Olson called the meeting of the Cook County Hospital District Board of Directors to order on July 20, 2023 at 9:06 a.m. in the Board Room and via Zoom.

Adjourn to Closed Session – Steve Frykman made a motion to adjourn into closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. §144.581, subd. 5 which permits closure to discuss marketing activity and contracts related to the Hospital’s competitive position with other health care providers that offer similar services; and Closed Session pursuant to Minn. Stat. §145.64 subd. 1(d) to discuss decisions, recommendations, deliberations or documentation of a Review Organization. Randy Wiitala seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Summary - The Quality Improvement/Peer Review Report from June 21, 2023; Medical Staff Report from June 21, 2023; and Credentials Committee Report from July 19, 2023 were discussed.

Reconvene - The North Shore Health Board reconvened in regular session at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Steve Frykman, Kay Olson, Mary Sanders, Randy Wiitala and Patty Winchell-Dahl (via zoom)

Members Absent:

Others Present: Kimber Wraalstad; Lori Ericson, Doug Montgomery; Troy Batchelor (p), Greg Ruberg (p); Sam Usem (p), Todd Severnak, MD; (p); Darin Willardsen, MD (p) Doug Sanders (p)

Approval of Agenda: Randy Wiitala made a motion to accept the meeting agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Steve Frykman. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments: Sam Usem introduced himself and thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the meeting and learn more about North Shore Health activities.

Approval of Minutes for June 29, 2023 – Mary Sanders made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 29, 2023 meeting as presented and the motion was seconded by Steve Frykman. The motion carried unanimously.

Updates:

- a. **Clinic Board:** The email from Kate Surbaugh regarding the activities at Sawtooth Mountain Clinic (SMC) was shared. SMC attended the annual conference for Breakwater Health Network (BHN). The SMC Behavioral Health department recently completed a robust capacity assessment to identify better ways to utilize the scheduled time for our small behavioral health team. The SMC Pharmacy now has an online ordering system for over-the-counter medications and supplies.
- b. **County Board:** Commissioner Mills was unable to join the meeting due to a conflict in his schedule.
- c. **Board Members:** Ms. Olson shared information from Minnesota Hospital Association's Trustee Council. Plans are being made for the January education and there will be an emphasis on reimbursement.

Board Presentation – Horizon Virtual TeleHospitalist Program – Todd Severnak, DO
Dr. Todd Severnak and Dr. Darin Willardsen from Horizon Virtual joined the meeting to share information about the Horizon Virtual TeleHospitalist Program. Earlier this year, Sawtooth Mountain Clinic announced that as of July 1, 2023, their providers would no longer provide inpatient, swing bed and observation services to NSH patients so they could focus on clinic primary care services. To continue to provide these hospital services to the Community, North Shore Health conducted thorough research on a variety of options and chose to work with Horizon Virtual. Horizon Virtual is a St. Cloud, MN-based virtual hospitalist provider who responded to our inquiries with "We will help you take care of your patients". Dr. Severnak shared that Horizon Virtual provides admission, consults and cross-cover services to North Shore Health, 24 hours a day – 365 days/year. A Board-Certified Internal Medicine Hospitalist reviews, evaluates, and admits patients to the hospital via telemedicine service. Horizon Virtual purchased a state-of-the-art telehealth cart and associated technologies for North Shore Health. Dr. Severnak, with the assistance of Troy Batchelor, demonstrated the various capabilities of the telehealth cart. Board Members were able to experience the technology as if they were a patient and were able to ask Dr. Severnak a multitude of questions. The Members of the Board heartily thanked Dr. Severnak for joining the North Shore Health Team and his demonstration.

Financial Reports: Ms. Ericson presented the June 2023 financial statements. The Statements of Net Position, Statements of Revenue and Expenses and Change in Net Position were reviewed. Gross Patient Service Revenue for the month of \$2.174M is 7.20% more than budget. Inpatient, Swing Bed and Outpatient revenue is more than budget; with Outpatient revenue of \$1.672M being \$130K or 8.41% more than budget. Total Operating Revenue for the month of \$1.778M is 1.72% more than budget. Total Operating Expenses of \$1.853M are 4.27% more than budget. The Net Loss from Operations for June 2023 of \$75K is \$46K greater than budget. The financial forecast was reviewed; however, Ms. Ericson noted the financial impact of the transition to a different hospitalist model has not yet been incorporated in the forecast. Randy Wiitala made a motion to accept the June 2023 financial statements. The motion was seconded by Steve Frykman and the motion carried unanimously.

Old Business:

- a) **Other:** None

New Business:

a) **Financial Signatory Resolution:** A resolution authorizing Kimber Wraalstad and Lori Ericson to provide investment and transfer instructions for North Shore Health funds. Randy Wiitala made a motion to adopt the Financial Signatory Resolution. The motion was seconded by Steve Frykman and the motion carried unanimously.

b) **Other:**

SMC Update: Mary Sanders provided an update about her meeting with Matthew Brown, Sawtooth Mountain Clinic Board Chair. The Board Members of North Shore Health reiterated their desire to meet with the Sawtooth Mountain Clinic Board to review the information and recommendations provided by Darrold Bertsch in May regarding Collaboration opportunities. Ms. Surbaugh has recently shared two dates when the Sawtooth Mountain Clinic Collaboration Committee would be available to meet with the North Shore Health Board. Darrold Bertsch is available to participate on Tuesday, September 26 at noon. The North Shore Health Board Members verified they would be available on September 26. Mary Sanders made a motion to meet on September 26 with the Sawtooth Mountain Board and before that meeting, there be a Committee of Members from each Board to plan the meeting. The motion died for the lack of a second. After much discussion, it was agreed that the September meeting be focused on the recommendations provided by Darrold Bertsch as that feels to be the best use of time.

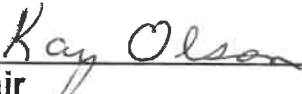
Management Report:

The Management Report for July 2023 included in the Board materials was reviewed. Specifically highlighted in the report was the addition of Speech Therapy services and the Immigration Activity update. A corrected version of the 2023 budget timeline was distributed.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Sanders and seconded by Steve Frykman. The motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 24, 2023.

The regular meeting adjourned at 12:33 p.m.



Chair



Clerk