



COOK COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Call to Order – Kay Olson called the meeting of the Cook County Hospital District Board of Directors to order on September 28, 2023 at 9:03 a.m. in the Board Room.

Adjourn to Closed Session – Mary Sanders made a motion to adjourn into closed session pursuant to Minn. Stat. §145.64 subd. 1(d) to discuss decisions, recommendations, deliberations or documentation of a Review Organization. Steve Frykman seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Summary - The Quality Improvement/Peer Review Report from August 16, 2023; Medical Staff Report from August 16, 2023; and Credentials Committee Report from September 20, 2023 were discussed.

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

Roll Call

Members Present: Steve Frykman (via Zoom), Kay Olson, Mary Sanders and Randy Wiitala

Members Absent: Patty Winchell-Dahl

Others Present: Kimber Wraalstad; Lori Ericson, Greg Ruberg; Todd Ford (p)

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

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes for August 24, 2023 – Mary Sanders made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 24, 2023 meeting as presented and the motion was seconded by Randy Wiitala. The motion carried unanimously.

Updates:

- a. **Clinic Board:** Kate Surbaugh provided a written report regarding the activities at Sawtooth Mountain Clinic (SMC). SMC hosted federal reviewers for a virtual site “visit”. The reviewers found three “preliminary findings”. All three items were minor and easily


Management Report:

The Management Report for September 2023 included in the Board materials was reviewed. Specifically highlighted was the Nursing Facility Workforce Incentive Program from the Minnesota Department of Human Services. The plan for North Shore Health has been submitted using the methodology that provides a temporary wage increase of \$2.50 per hour worked beginning in October 2023 for those employees who earn less than \$30.00 per hour. The Statement of Deficiencies for the Care Center Survey was reviewed. One federal tag with corresponding state licensing order and one additional state licensing order were cited. Also cited were five Life Safety codes. This was an excellent survey. The Meeting with SMC Collaboration Committee was held on September 26. North Shore Health participated in the virtual regional exercise developed by the Metro Health and Medical Preparedness Coalition. The exercise assessed the capability of healthcare facilities to respond to a shelter-in-place and then evacuation scenario. This allowed North Shore Health and the other participants to evaluate plans and procedures to enable continuity of care for patients, residents, and clients. North Shore Health was honored to host two members of United States Senator Tina Smith's staff at our facility. Specifically discussed were immigration issues, proposed nursing home staffing ratios, Medicare & insurance reimbursement, and affordable employee housing. We appreciate their interest in North Shore Health and their willingness to share our concerns with Senator Smith. The H-1B visa for Larhaine Eullaran was approved by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Ms. Eullaran will now schedule an appointment at the United States Embassy in the Philippines. She can then mark her travel arrangements to Grand Marais. We expect she will be at North Shore Health by the end of November.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Sanders and seconded by Randy Wiitala. The motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, October 19, 2023.

The regular meeting adjourned at 11:08 p.m.



Chair



Clerk