

THE MEDICAL CENTER HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

MINUTES

July 27, 2022

The quarterly meeting of The Medical Center Hospital Authority Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, in the conference center at Piedmont Columbus Regional Midtown.

Members Present: Susan McWhirter, M.D., Chair, Alpna Arora, Max Brabson, Jr., Mike Burns, Brenda DeRamus, John Hargrove, Rodney Mahone

Member Excused: Rick McKnight

Others Present: Laura Drew, Scott Hill, Allen Holladay, Andrew Rothschild

I. **Approval of Tina Etheridge as Assistant Secretary**

On motion by Mr. Brabson, seconded by Mrs. Arora, Tina Etheridge was appointed as the Assistant Secretary of The Medical Center Hospital Authority Board of Trustees.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

On motion by Mr. Hargrove, seconded by Ms. DeRamus, the minutes of the April 27, 2022 meeting were approved as submitted.

III. **Review of Operations and approval of Financial Statements Period Ending June 30, 2022**

A. **The Medical Center Hospital Authority**

Total income year-to-date June 30, 2022 was \$232,786 versus prior year of \$441,472. Total expenses were \$291,406 versus the prior year of \$273,376. Net income was \$568,833 versus the prior year of \$168,096. Mr. Holladay advised that the fencing and landscaping project has begun and discussion ensued on the location of the same.

B. **Spring Harbor**

Operating income for year-to-date June 30, 2022 was \$998 thousand versus the budget of \$1.1 million. Total occupancy was 80% versus the target of 83%. Independent living was 172 versus the target of 178. Healthcare occupancy was 65.3% versus the target of 66.3%. Operating Expenses of \$14.9 million is \$98 thousand over budget. SW&B expense is significantly lower than budget as a result of managing FTEs in response to the lower census. Contract Labor costs were up due to the unbudgeted HC Administrator and higher Forefront Dining Service labor cost (in part due to the labor shortage) as well as filling open positions. Supply Expense exceeded budget by \$220 thousand. This includes higher Dining Service food, supplies and minor equipment which was mainly due to the transition from Unidine to Forefront and the result of inflation pressures. R&M costs were up which is directly related to apartment refurbish costs including those on the Health Center as residents transition over from independent living. Other Expenses are up as a result of the Marketing incentives to attract new sales. (program ended in December). Purchased Services and Depreciation were under budget. The 2023 Budget is better than the prior year and feel it will be achievable.

C. **Piedmont Columbus Regional**

Month ending June 30, 2022 earnings after regional allocations of \$9.1 million on a budget of \$13 million. Year-to-date earnings after regional allocations were \$95.7 million on a budget of \$83.9

million. Surgeries were up at Midtown and down at Northside. Changes made to revenues in the fourth quarter due to the extra funding received from Medicare for the COVID patients went away.

D. Muscogee County Indigent Care Program

The MCICP reconciliation for FY 2022 was reviewed by Mr. Holladay. There will be a return of proceeds to the City, again this year, in the approximate amount of \$1.4 million.

On motion by Mr. Hargrove, seconded by Mr. Brabson, the board adopted the financial/operations report for Spring Harbor and Piedmont Columbus Regional, the financial statements for The Medical Center Hospital Authority for year-to-date ending June 30, 2022, and the Muscogee County Indigent Care Program as presented by Mr. Holladay and discussed.

IV. Spring Harbor Debt Update

Mr. Holladay advised that the refinancing of the bonds has been completed. Prior to the refinancing, \$10 million in debt was paid down from investments.

V. Spring Harbor Update

There were no other items to report for Spring Harbor.

VI. Reaffirm Bank Resolution and Signatories

On motion by Mrs. Arora, seconded by Mr. Brabson, the board reaffirmed Synovus as the depository of the Authority.

On motion by Mrs. Arora, seconded by Mr. Brabson, the board affirmed Susan McWhirter, MD, Chairman, Brenda DeRamus, Treasurer, Allen Holladay, Assistant Treasurer and Holly Saville as authorized bank signatories on all financial transactions.

VII. Selection of Nominating Committee

Dr. McWhirter appointed Brenda DeRamus and Mike Burns and herself to the Nominating Committee. The Committee's purpose is to prepare a slate of nominees to fill The Medical Center Hospital Authority Board of Trustee Officer positions to be elected to take office January 1, 2022. The committee will present its recommendations at the October meeting.

VIII. Conflict of Interest Questionnaires

The board reviewed and accepted the attached Conflict of Interest Questionnaires, as presented by Dr. McWhirter and discussed. There were no changes noted in any potential conflict of interest since the last review by the board.

IX. Selection of New Board Member

On motion by Mr. Hargrove, seconded by Mr. Brabson, John Bucholtz, DO, was unanimously selected to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Robert L. Wright as a member of The Medical Center Hospital Authority Board of Trustees. This term is effective October 26, 2022 and expires July 1, 2023, or until his successor is elected, whichever last occurs.

X. Report from Chairman

Dr. McWhirter advised that the system is working well on taking care of patients. Ratings continue to improved.

XI. Report from Piedmont Columbus Regional

Received final approval from Piedmont Healthcare Board for the ICU and Children’s Hospital capital project. The project will cost approximately \$28 million. Have begun the philanthropy project to help offset the costs. Mrs. Aline Lassiter will start reaching out to Board members requesting their support of the project.

Currently working on building the pediatric and pediatric surgery programs. Working with Mercer on a joint hire of a very well-established pediatric surgeon. Have hired Dr. Delacruz who is a pediatric hospitalist and intensivist. He will be helping to reestablish the pediatric PICU and help with the hiring of pediatric intensivists.

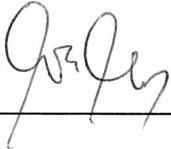
As Northside has been doing very well, once the new rehab hospital opens, will start looking at ways to grow.

XII. Other


There were no other items for discussion.

XIII. Executive Session

On motion by Mr. Hargrove, seconded by Mr. Brabson, the Authority, on advice of legal counsel, then went into executive session, closed to the public, to discuss matters described below pursuant to exemption from the Open Meetings Act set forth at O.C.G.A. §50-14-3(a)(6)(C) which permits closure of any meeting of the governing authority of a public hospital in which the granting, restriction or revocation of medical staff privileges is discussed; pursuant to the exemption from the Open Meetings Act set forth at O.C.G.A. §50-14-2 which permits closure of any meeting to consult with legal counsel pertaining to pending litigation brought by or against an “agency”; and also pursuant to the exemption from the Open Meetings Act set forth in the Georgia Hospital Authorities Law §50-31-75.2 which permits closure in executive session to allow discussion of a potentially commercially valuable proposal or strategy that may be of “competitive advantage” in the operations of the Authority or its medical facilities that has not been made public. The members voting to go into executive session were all those who were initially present as indicated above.



Chair



Assistant Secretary