

MINUTES

The quarterly meeting of The Medical Center Hospital Authority Board of Trustees was held on Wednesday, July 28, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. via WebEx due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Members Present: Susan McWhirter, M.D., Vice Chair, Max Brabson, Jr., Mike Burns, James E. W. Crosse, M.D., Brenda DeRamus, John Hargrove, Rick McKnight

Member Excused: Michael Gorum, M.D.

Member Absent: Dr. Robert Wright

Others Present: Laura Drew, Scott Hill, Holly Saville, Bill Tustin, Andrew Rothschild

I. Approval of April Minutes

On motion by Dr. Crosse, seconded by Mr. Brabson, the minutes of the April 28, 2021 meeting were approved as submitted.

II. Review of Operations and Approval of Financial Statements Period Ending June 30, 2021

A. The Medical Center Hospital Authority

Total income for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 was \$441,472 versus prior year of \$567,367. Total operating expenses were \$273,376 versus prior year of \$244,345. Net income was \$168,096 versus prior year of \$323,023. Total assets were \$5.4 million.

B. Spring Harbor

Operating income for fiscal year ending June 30, 2021 was \$21,000 versus the budget of \$1.96 million. Volumes are trending upward at this time. Total occupancy was at 77% versus the target of 90% which was mainly due to COVID. Revenue was \$15.2 million which was \$1.8 million below budget. Operating expenses were \$15.2 million which was \$151,000 above budget. Purchased services were higher due to COVID related expenses of \$230,000.

C. Piedmont Columbus Regional

There were year-to-date earnings after regional allocations of \$77.8 million versus the budget of \$36.9 million. The large difference between actual and budget earnings was due to a cash gap at the beginning of fiscal year 2021. New revenue cycle leadership was put in place and the cash gap was closed. Volumes in the emergency departments and surgical cases are increasing.

On motion by Dr. Crosse, seconded by Mr. Brabson, the board adopted the financial/operations report for Spring Harbor and Piedmont Columbus Regional, and the financial statements for The Medical Center Hospital Authority for year ending June 30, 2021, as presented by Mrs. Saville and discussed.

III. Muscogee County Indigent Care Program Update

Payments received from the City was \$14.1 million. Charges were \$23.3 million and the amount earned from the charges was \$11.6 million. Physician payments totaled \$166,039 which left a total earned of \$11.8 million. A payment of \$1,139,207 will be made to the City. There was an issue with qualifying and requalifying people for the program due to COVID.

IV. Landscaping Now that the Talbotton Road Project is Completed

At the beginning of the Talbotton Road widening project, the City paid approximately \$330,000 for the land it took and the trees and shrubbery that was removed. This money remains on the balance sheet of the Hospital Authority. There is an obligation to return the landscaping in order to meet the City Code. Approval was requested to utilize these funds to continue the fencing and shrubbery up Talbotton Road the same as that at JBACC and the new parking lot next to the corporate building.

On motion by Mr. Brabson, seconded by Mr. Hargrove, the board approved the utilization of the approximately \$330,000 for fencing and shrubbery as presented by Mrs. Saville and discussed.

V. Spring Harbor Update

Mrs. Drew reported that Spring Harbor is interviewing for the executive director position. The interviews will conclude within the next week. Kelsea Garrett, health care administrator, has been accepted into the nursing home administrator training program in Butler, Georgia. Mary Wilkerson will continue as the interim nursing home administrator at this time.

A question was asked concerning the financial performance at Spring Harbor. It was reported that there has been an issue selling open apartments and villas due to COVID. The personal care side occupancy has not increased much recently. There have been some deaths experienced. It is anticipated that by the end of 2021, better performance will be seen.

Mr. Hill commented there are a number of original residents still at Spring Harbor which skews the average age of residents. COVID has impacted the marketing efforts for several months. Marketing has picked up recently.

VI. Medical Staff Update

There were no extraordinary items from Midtown or Northside.

VII. Reaffirm Bank Resolution and Signatories

On motion by Mr. Brabson, seconded by Dr. Crosse, the board reaffirmed Synovus as a depository of the Authority.

On motion by Mr. Brabson, seconded by Dr. Crosse, the board affirmed Michael Gorum, M.D., Chairman, T. Fredrick McKnight, Treasurer, Allen Holladay, Assistant Treasurer, and Holly Saville as authorized bank signatories on all financial transactions.

VIII. Selection of Nominating Committee

Dr. McWhirter appointed Mr. Burns, Mr. McKnight 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.

IX. 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.

X. Report from Chairman

There was no report from the Chairman.

XI. Report from Piedmont Columbus Regional

The number of COVID cases saw a dramatic decline system-wide. We are beginning to experience another increase. The number of positive cases system-wide is now up to 287. This increase is due to the variants and the breakthrough infections for vaccinated people. The breakthrough cases we are seeing are less severe. At this time there are 50 COVID positive patients in Columbus. Of these 50 patients, only two have been vaccinated. The vaccine is effective. Piedmont Columbus Regional will return to one visitor per day per patient. There can be a switch out at night of the visitor staying with the patient.

There were lessons learned during the previous three surges. The largest issue is staffing of RNs and respiratory therapists. Work is being performed on rebuilding the workforce. The masking policy is being revised due to this fourth surge.

As a hub, 65% to 70% of the employees are vaccinated. System-wide 70% to 75% of the employees are vaccinated. The offer of a \$400 bonus to all employees up to level seven who received the vaccines assisted some but not as much as was hoped. Members of leadership,

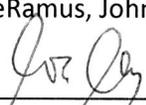
employed physicians and all new employees beginning September 1 must be vaccinated. A date to mandate all employees levels one to seven to be vaccinated is being reviewed.

XII. Other

There were no other items for discussion.

XIII. Executive Session

On motion by Mr. Brabson, seconded by Dr. Crosse, the Authority, on advice of legal counsel, then went into executive session, closed to the public, to discuss the matters described below pursuant to the 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 Hospitals 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, being Susan McWhirter, M.D., Vice Chair, Max Brabson, Jr., Mike Burns, James E. W. Crosse, M.D., Brenda DeRamus, John Hargrove, and Rick McKnight.



Vice Chair



Assistant Secretary