



**Petersburg**  
MEDICAL CENTER

## Facilities Maintenance Report September 2025

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### **Workforce Wellness**

The Facilities Department recently hired a third full-time team member, which is an exciting step forward for our hospital. This additional staffing strengthens our ability to manage daily operations, respond to emergencies, and keep up with preventive maintenance. Historically, our small team has faced challenges with coverage and workload, but this new hire will help to improve balance, morale, and retention.

### **Community Engagement**

We recently launched a new maintenance ticketing system that allows staff to easily submit and track work requests. Over time, this system will expand to allow community members and outside stakeholders to submit requests as well, improving transparency and collaboration. In addition, the Facilities team takes pride in keeping the hospital looking welcoming and well-maintained so that patients, families, and visitors feel comfortable and respected when they walk through our doors. These efforts ensure that the hospital remains not only functional but also a place the community can be proud of.

### **Patient Centered Care**

Although Facilities does not interact directly with patients, our work has a significant impact on their safety and comfort. By keeping systems reliable, sanitary, and functional, we support uninterrupted patient care. This includes behind-the-scenes efforts to keep heating, cooling, water, and medical support infrastructure stable, which in turn ensures that patients can receive care in a safe and supportive environment.

### **Facility**

Much of our focus continues to be on the condition of our critical infrastructure. Recently, a 4" cast iron drain line failed, and the pipe was so deteriorated that staff could push a finger through the bottom of it. The most likely culprits for this deterioration are both the age of the system and decades of caustic drain cleaner use. In addition to drain lines, we are regularly repairing leaks in our domestic water supply and even in our heating system. These ongoing challenges highlight the fragility of our building infrastructure and the need for constant attention to keep systems functioning.

The new WERC building has been a welcome addition, offering improved space for storage, offices, and services. However, as with any new facility, there have been adjustments and troubleshooting required on the maintenance side to ensure systems operate as expected. Overall, this addition has been positive, but it has also expanded our workload.

### **Financial Wellness**

The Facilities Department does not generate income directly for the hospital, but our role is to support every other department by maintaining safe, reliable infrastructure. We focus on resourcefulness, creative problem-solving, and efficient use of budgeted funds to minimize downtime and repair costs. At this time, there are no major unplanned expenses, though we remain vigilant given the age of many of our systems.

**Submitted by:** Wolf Brooks

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