

**Nocona General Hospital
Board of Directors Meeting
December 21, 2021**

Board Members Present:

Charles May, President
Chris Keck, Secretary
Ken Koontz, Vice-President
Paula Webb
Kristal Ferguson

Absent:

Ron Brown
Cris Lemon

Hospital Administration:

Lance Meekins, CEO; Rebecca Hamilton, Admin Asst./HR

Medical Staff:

Len Dingler, MD

Others Present:

None

Meeting was called to order by President, Charles May at 12:44 PM.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Paula Webb made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2021 meeting and Ken Koontz seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Community Input: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

Discussion and Possible Vote on November 2021 Financial Statements

Lance presented the following financial report to the Board:

For the month of November the hospital had 32 admissions; 626 outpatient discharges, including 11 surgeries; 275 ER visits; 352 home health visits; and 1621 clinic visits. Additionally, there were 12 observation admissions. This utilization resulted in gross revenue of just over \$2M., exceeding budget by about 13%. The average daily census was 4.6 patients with an average length of stay of 3.8 days. These utilization numbers, combined with the expenses and allowances, resulted in a \$239,000 loss from operations.

For year over year comparison: (5 months)

- Gross revenue is about 23% higher than last year resulting in allowances being up about 29% due to the aging of Accounts Receivable. Expenses are down slightly.
- The ADC is up 1.1 patients from last year.

- Admissions are up about 32%.
- The ALOS is down slightly.
- Outpatient discharges are up 14%.
- ER visits are up 20%.
- Ambulance calls are almost the same.
- Obs admissions are down 18%.
- O/P surgeries are up 65%.
- FTEs are up 2.
- Receipts of patient accounts are up 11% for hospital accounts, down 47% for home health, and up 21% in the clinics.

Net operating revenue exceeded budget by 12% for the month. We still have an abundance of older Accounts Receivable out that should help with the allowances once they are billed and collected.

Overall expenses were under budget by about 2% for the month but about 1% under budget for the year. With staffing shortages in the nursing department, we are utilizing far more PRN employees, which come with a higher hourly rate. Additionally, we have recently added a travel nurse on our dime that will increase the consulting expense in December and January.

Non-operating revenue was again greatly benefitted by significant QIPP payments during the month. The year 4, 4th quarter payments arrived resulting in a \$971,000 benefit.

Paula Webb made a motion to accept the November Financial report as presented. Chris Keck seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Lot Sales: Lots 28 & 29, Block 2, Nocona Lake Estates

Ken Koontz made a motion to approve the bid for the Lot Sales as submitted, and Kristal Ferguson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Convene to Closed Session for the Following Purposes:

- a) Texas Government Code Section 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney**

No Closed Session

Administrative Report

Lance presented the following report to the Board:

Nick Rose

We met again with Nick regarding the pain management clinic. I am currently working with a possible consultant that can assist us with setting up the clinic, a turnkey possibility. With this being potentially a new source of revenue, I want to ensure that the process is set up correctly from the beginning. Additionally, I am talking to our auditors regarding the billing process and what impact it could have on our CRNA exemption designation, which provides a bump in payments for the current CRNA payments through surgery. Unfortunately, there are many of these smaller issues that need to be settled before we move forward.

Previously Approved Capital Projects

We have started to see progress with several projects. Omnicell is currently onsite training staff on the new pharmaceutical dispensing system. It should be up and running before the end of the year.

Additionally, Mindray has been here as well running the wiring needed for the new telemetry system in the Unit.

For the parking lot project, we have authorized the architects to produce the civil construction documents/drawings for the project and additional water line for the fire sprinkler system. Once these documents are completed, our current thought is, due to the complexities now involved with the project, to competitively bid it out.

November Coronavirus Update

- 203 Tests performed (202 in October), began use of new Biofire system
- 25 Positive (37 October)
- Positives:
 - Bowie 8
 - Nocona 10
 - Saint Jo 5
- 7 Covid+ admissions (10 October) plus 4 inpatients admitted in October still admitted in November resulting in 58 inpatient days (80 October)
 - Nocona 2
 - Bowie 4
 - Saint Jo 1

7 unvaccinated inpatients

Medical Staff Report: Nothing to Report

Other Business: None

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Charles May, President

Chris Keck, Secretary