

**Nocona General Hospital
Board of Directors Meeting
May 21, 2024**

Board Members Present:

Charles May, President
Ken Koontz, Vice-President
Chris Keck, Secretary
Paula Webb
Cris Lemon
Ron Brown
Kristal Ferguson

Absent:

None

Hospital Administration:

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

Medical Staff:

Len Dingler, MD

Others Present:

Brian Jackson, Jackson & Carter, PLLC
Caraleigh Buxie, MD

Meeting was called to order by President, Charles May at 12:32 PM.

Approval of Previous Minutes from the April 24, 2024 Regular Meeting

Paula Webb made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2024 Regular Meeting, and Chris Keck seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Community Input

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Conduct Oath of Office for Newly-Elected Trustees

Rebecca Hamilton swore in the three incumbents: Cris Lemon, Charles May, and Ron Brown.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Election of Officers

Cris Lemon made a motion that all officers remain the same:

Charles May, President
Ken Koontz, Vice-President
Chris Keck, Secretary

Kristal Ferguson seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Presentation and Discussion: Caraleigh Buxie, MD

Dr. Caraleigh Buxie introduced herself to the Board and presented her credentials. As with the anesthesia and pain management group, she requested a daily rate/per case payment for her services. Lance reminded the board that, in the past, surgeons have billed their own professional fees. If the Board grants credentials, and she begins her services at the hospital, Lance noted that the hospital will need to closely monitor the financial aspect. He presented a comparison of Dr. Buxie's cost versus the hospital reimbursement prepared by Kelly Cope.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Request for Surgical Privileges for Caraleigh Buxie, MD

Ken Koontz made a motion to extend surgical privileges to Caraleigh Buxie, MD, as presented. Ron Brown seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Contract with Caraleigh Buxie, MD for Surgical Services

Paula Webb made a motion to approve a contract with Dr. Caraleigh Buxie as recommended by hospital administration and pending approval by legal counsel. Ken Koontz seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Anesthesia Privileges for the Following CRNAs with Genesis Wellness & Pain:

- a) Theodoor Hancke, CRNA, APRN, NSPM-C
- b) John Ryan Nuckols, DNP, CRNA, NSPM-C
- c) Alexander Fukes, CRNA, APRN

Ken Koontz made a motion to extend anesthesia privileges to the three CRNAs as presented. Ron Brown seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Also included in the board packet was a delineation of pain management privileges for Theodoor Hancke. Ron Brown made a motion to extend pain management privileges to Theodoor Hancke as presented, and Ken Koontz seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on April 2024 Financial Statements

Lance presented the following report to the board:

For the month of April, the hospital had 29 admissions; 616 outpatient discharges; including 5 surgeries; 233 ER visits; 377 home health visits; and 1818 clinic visits. Additionally, there were 8 observation admissions. This utilization resulted in gross revenue of about \$1.87M, missing budget by about 5.4% while exceeding the yearly budget through 10 months by 1.3%. The average daily census was a very low 2.9 patients with an average length of stay of 3.5 days. These utilization numbers, combined with the expenses and allowances, resulted in a \$427,835 loss from operations, the 3rd largest of the fiscal year. The yearly operational loss continues to grow year over year, as it sits another 7% higher than this time last year. Although patient volumes are up slightly, we continue to not be able to generate enough volume both on an inpatient and outpatient basis to offset the expenses that unfortunately continue to increase at a higher rate. Combined with the growing reduction in ER visits, a situation is created in which a significant decrease in operational loss will only be obtainable by staff reductions. This will be the only available option if volume continues at its current levels.

For year over year comparison: (10 months)

- Gross revenue is up 1.5% from with last year but down 10% from FY22.
- Net revenue is up 17.5% (increased collections) but level with FY22.
- The ADC is up 0.4 patients from last year and 2022.
- **Admissions are up 4% but down 20% from FY22.**

- The ALOS is the up slightly.
- **Outpatient discharges are up 4% compared to last year but down 10% from 2 years ago.**
- ER visits are down 11%.
- Ambulance calls are up 10%.
- **Obs admissions are up 15%.**
- O/P surgeries are up 19%.
- Clinic visits are up 4%.
- FTEs are up 1.7.
- Receipts of patient accounts are up 17% for hospital accounts, up 33% for home health and up around 1.5% in the clinics when Cooper's stats are removed.

Net operating revenue was close to budget for the month but exceeded the yearly budget by around 17%.

Overall expenses were over budget by about 4.5% for the month and about 7.6% over budget for the year, mostly due to supplies, Cooper, and consultant fees.

Ron Brown made a motion to accept the April 2024 financials as presented, and Cris Lemon seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Tuition Reimbursement Request for Keisha Henry, Nurse Aide

Chris Keck made a motion to approve the tuition reimbursement request for Keisha Henry as recommended by Corrie Holcomb, CNO, and Paula Webb seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Paula Webb made a motion to extend privileges to these CRNAs, and Chris Keck 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 additional information to the Board:

Renovation Project

We are finalizing the contract had have a pre-construction meeting set up with JC Commercial for the week of the 20th. Currently, it appears a mid-June date for moving dirt is possible. I will work to get a firmer timeline for you by the meeting time.

QIPP Facilities

We have enrolled 20 facilities for QIPP Year 8; however, we will be CHOWing out the Electra facility prior to the September start date for year 8. The current manager, SLP, has sold that facility to the Electra hospital. Our current yearly IGT for all facilities stands at \$19,033,719.66, more than double year 7's IGT requirement. The first half will be due in early June, which will require me to cash out about 90% of our current money market fund. It is currently earning around 5.16%, earning around \$596,000. That transfer will leave around \$2m in the money market with around \$6.5m still remaining in the CDs. I will be working with Wells Fargo in the coming months to determine the best course of action for funding both the next IGT in December and the renovation project.

Budget

The fiscal year 2025 operating budget has been slow to develop. I will need to convene a meeting of the finance committee soon. I will be meeting with each of the department directors to discuss any potential changes operationally that could affect the upcoming budget.

Preliminary Tax Values

I have also included our 202 preliminary tax values showing the district's appraisals have increased from last year's certified numbers. There currently is an increase of about \$86 million. Again, these are preliminary numbers and most likely will decrease once the appeals process is completed.

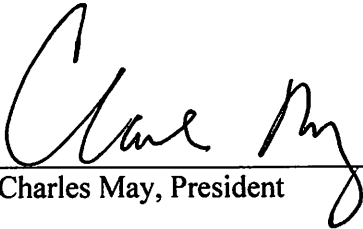
Medical Staff Report

Nothing to Report.

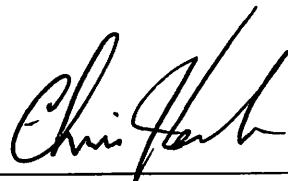
Other Business

None

Meeting was adjourned at 2:01 PM.



Charles May, President



Chris Keck, Secretary