



**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Regular Meeting**  
November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Open Session Minutes  
10:00 am

**Members Present:**

Rod Waeckerlin, *President*  
Mark Kostovny, *Vice President*  
Jerry Steele, *Secretary*  
Gary Goergen, *Treasurer*  
Lisa Engstrom, *Member (absent)*

**Administration:**

Gerald Parton, *Interim Chief Executive Officer*  
Stephanie Hinkle, *Chief Operating Officer*  
Lisa Boston, *Director of Compliance*  
Alexis Martinez, *Executive Assistant*  
Scott Miller, *Ovation Healthcare (via zoom)*

**Guests:**

Jan Gulbrandson, *Director of Ancillary Services*  
Sherry Longog, *Laboratory Supervisor*

Rod Waeckerlin, President, called the Memorial Hospital of Carbon County Board of Trustees meeting to order at 10:06 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence followed.

**Approval of Agenda:**

Agenda revisions were made by the Board of Trustees and the CEO. The proposed Retaliation policy will be tabled until further review. Memorial Hospital of Carbon County Reports will be moved after the Open Discussion and Citizen Participation.

Mark Kostovny made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Board of Trustees Consent Agenda:**

Mark Kostovny made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Approval of Board of Trustees Open Session Minutes for October 24<sup>th</sup> and November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024:**

Revisions will be applied to the November 7<sup>th</sup> minutes. The motion for the Salary Exemption Policy was not carried out unanimously. Correction will be applied to the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 minutes to reflect the appropriate changes at the request of the Board of Trustees.

Garry Goergen made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to accept the minutes with exception to the revisions, from the regular meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> and November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Employee Recognition Presented by Rod Waeckerlin, *Board of Trustees President*:**

- Employee of the Month for November 2024 was presented and awarded to Monica Montoya, Accounting Coordinator. The Board of Trustees thanked her for her hard work and dedication.
- Employee of the Month for December 2024 was presented to Christa Green, Health Information Technician. The Board of Trustees thanked her for her hard work and dedication.

**Open Discussion/Citizen Participation**

N/A

**Operational Report Presented by Gerald Parton, *Interim Chief Executive Officer* & Stephanie Hinkle, *Chief Operating Officer***

Mr. Parton has met with (2) Chief Financial Officer candidates. Mr. Twyman is present during this Board of Trustees meeting to meet with the board members during the Executive Session. Mr. Parton also met with Dr. Dan Wandsneider to discuss various hospitalist items. The Town Halls that were hosted recently had good attendance. Mr. Parton and others met with a spine surgeon, Dr. Stanton. Startup gross costs and equipment costs come in at around 1 million dollars. He does not foresee this being an option for MHCC for a while. Cerner calls and repayment plans are in process for development.

Mrs. Hinkle discussed the hospital district. A recap meeting with a round table discussion was held. Her plan is to maximize the course of the next (2) years. Mrs. Hinkle has attended various interviews addressing the hospital district. She has been diligent about educating the community that the current appointed Board of Trustees is still in effect and no new board members have been appointed. She and Mr. Parton met with the County Commissioners last week. The hospital district committee will continue to meet quarterly, as there is still room for improvement for the district initiative.

**Compliance Policy Review Presented by Lisa Boston, *Director of Compliance***

The Board of Trustees tabled the Compliance Policy Review.

**Cepheid vs. BioFire Presented by Jan Gulbrandson, *Director of Ancillary Services* and Sherry Longog, *Laboratory Supervisor***

Mrs. Gulbrandson reviewed that the Cepheid agreement would have a spin agreement of 127. She and Ms. Longog are certain that they can reach the 127 values. Last year, BioFire costs were \$165,000.00. The Cepheid equipment has the ability to run several tests and has more accuracy. The turnaround time for tests is faster than BioFire. Cepheid can run MERSA screenings as well. These would be additional remodifications of the Laboratory. Mr. Waeckerlin questioned if MHCC will have any issues exiting the BioFire contract. The BioFire contract ended in May of 2024. The Cepheid will have capabilities at the Rawlins Family Practice Clinic, the Saratoga Health Center of Platte Valley and the MHCC Hospital. There will be new equipment, applications, and training provided within the (3) weeks. Training is inclusive with the startup. Reagents can be added later. Mr. Kostovny ensured that there were not any up-front start-up costs for Cepheid. Mr. Parton indicated that there is no capital expenditure. He will send the agreement to Mrs. Forwood to review prior to Board approval. Mr. Twyman questioned how long training is and advised to request a timeline to ensure that training will be completed within that timeframe prior to charges outside of the training timeframe.

Jerry Steele made a motion, and Mark Kostovny seconded the motion to approve the Cepheid contract as presented, pending Legal Review. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Motion to Recess Board of Trustees Public Meeting to go to Executive Session at 10:42 AM**

### **Motion to Recess Board of Trustees Executive Session to go to Open Session at 2:43 PM**

### **Credentialing**

Mark Kostovny made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve credentialing 1-8 of the MEC recommendations as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Sameer Sharma, MD: (BlueSky) Neurology – Recommend Appointment to Telemedicine Staff
2. Linda Petrovich, MD: (RadPartners) Radiology – Recommend Appointment to Telemedicine Staff
3. Issac Ingersoll, DO: Hospitalist – Recommend Appointment to Active Staff
4. Ahmad Alqaqa, MD: Cardiology – Recommend Reappointment to Courtesy Staff
5. Lincoln Westfall, DO: Family Medicine – Recommend Appointment to Active Staff
6. Adam Fieber, CRNA: Anesthesia – Recommend transition to full, unrestricted Allied Health Staff
7. Michael McFall, DO: Summit Pathology – Recommend transition to full, unrestricted Courtesy Staff
8. Andrew Ferguson, MD: Blue Sky Neurology – Recommend transition to full, unrestricted Telemedicine Staff

### **New Business**

- *The Aspen Agreement*

The Aspen Agreement was reviewed. The agreement will cover ensuring that their insurance covers their employees, and our insurance will cover MHCC employees. This agreement will allow for further opportunities to obtain training for staff at Aspen Medical Center in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

Garry Goergen made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve the Aspen Agreement as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Credit Balances and Payer Balances Policy*

A policy for credit balances and payer balances did not previously exist.

Garry Goergen made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve the Credit Balances and Payer Balances Policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Board Resolution for UPL Funds*

This will allow Medicaid money that intends to provide reimbursement for MHCC. The money will be borrowed from the Bank of Commerce. The resolution must be submitted no later than November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Mr. Parton and President Waeckerlin intend to go to Bank of Commerce tomorrow for final completion. The Board of Trustees and Mr. Parton questioned some of the specific verbiage in the Resolution to ensure it was correct. Mrs. Forwood advised utilizing the verbiage, “Up To” to ensure that if MHCC wishes to lower the amount, we have the appropriate language to do so. Ms. Martinez will make

these corrections in the Resolution to reflect the changes in paragraph 1. The amount that MHCC will receive is \$2,341,235.00.

Mark Kostovny made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve the resolution authorizing the establishment of a line of credit in the amount of \$1,170,617.00. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Executive Session Approvals*

Asset Disposal:

Garry Goergen made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve the purchase sale agreement associated with the asset disposal as discussed in the Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

Ovation Contract:

Mark Kostovny made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve a 1-year extension of the Ovation Healthcare Contract ending on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, as discussed in Executive Session. Motion carried unanimously.

- *Patti Shue, PNP, Amended Contract*

The amended contract was approved in the previous Board of Trustees, Executive Session meeting. Minutes were not recorded for the approval of the amended contract.

Garry Goergen made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to approve Patti Shue, PNP, amended contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Old Business**

- N/A

## **Adjournment:**

Garry Goergen made a motion, and Jerry Steele seconded the motion to adjourn the Board of Trustees public meeting at 2:58 pm and to reconvene on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be on December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 10:00 am.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

Alexis Martinez, *Executive Assistant*  
Abbi Forwood, *Legal Counsel*