



March 25, 2024
MCHD Board Minutes
Teresa Stephens, Chairman

Call to Order

The Marion County Hospital District Board of Trustees regular monthly meeting was called to order by Teresa Stephens on March 25, 2024, with a quorum present at 5:00 PM at 2547 E. Silver Springs Blvd. Ocala, FL.

5:00 PM Roll Call

Upon roll call the following Board Members were present in the office: Rusty Branson, Teresa Stephens, Ram Vasudevan, David Cope, Ken Marino, Rich Bianculli, Harvey Vandeven

Other Present in Office

Curt Bromund, Debra Velez, Matt White, Kimberly Glancy, Crystal Pfriender, Jessica Cole, Michelle Stone, Mac MacKay, Alison Stone, Laurie Walker, Judy Johnson, Jennifer Murty, Bruce Akerman, Nathan Howes (via Zoom), Iffy Akwule-Udoch (via Zoom), Brian Creekbaum

Invocation

The meeting opened with invocation by David Cope.

Public Comment (3 Minutes)

None.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

MCHD February 26, 2024 Board Meeting minutes – A motion was made by Ken Marino, seconded by Rich Bianculli to adopt the previous MCHD board meeting minutes presented. With no further discussion and no objections, the motion passed unanimously by the board.

FINANCE REPORT

Purvis Gray Audit – Alison Stone and Laurie Walker from Purvis Gray presented to the Board of Trustees, Marion County Hospital District's September 30, 2023 Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report. Mrs. Stone advised the audit meets the external financial reporting requirements under Florida Statutes and stated Purvis Gray had no findings in their Auditor's Report.



A motion was made by David Cope to accept the September 30, 2023 Audit Report from Purvis Gray, motion was seconded by Ram Vasudevan. Motion accepted by the board.

February 2024 Financials – Matt White conducted a review of the February 2024 financial statements, as presented in the board packet. There were no significant variations to the budget.

A motion was made by David Cope to approve the February 2024 Financials, motion was seconded by Rusty Branson. The Motion passed unanimously by the board.

INVESTMENT REPORT

Teresa Stephens opened the Investment Report.

New Business

Wilshire Investment Overview – Nathan Howes and Iffy Akwule-Udoch (via Zoom) reviewed Wilshire’s February Investment Overview which was provided in the Board packet.

The Investment Report was accepted by general consent.

Old Business

None.

OPERATIONS REPORT

Rusty Branson opened the Operations Report.

New Business

Insurance Renewal Dates – Rusty Branson provided an overview of MCHD's insurance renewal dates and presented a comprehensive list of all the insurance carriers in the board packet. Mr. Branson requested the trustees review the packet. Additionally, it was agreed that a column of insurance premiums would be incorporated into the spreadsheet and emailed out to all trustees for their reference.

College of Central Florida Naming Rights – Curt Bromund addressed the request from the College of Central Florida and AdventHealth regarding the naming of the new nursing center on the Ocala campus. The naming opportunity for the center is presently under the purview of the



Marion County Hospital District Board, as stipulated in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Hospital District and the college. Mr. Bromund informed the board that AdventHealth has proposed to contribute 20% of the building's value to the college. Mr. Bromund stated that in order to proceed with this request, the Hospital District will engage separate legal counsel, as the current legal representation by Gooding and Batsel also serves the college.

A motion was made by Rich Bianculli to grant naming rights for the college's nursing center to AdventHealth. The motion included a stipulation that AdventHealth must provide a minimum payment of \$3.5 million, which equates to 20% of the building cost. Furthermore, the funds received from AdventHealth would be restricted for use in the field of health sciences, and the payment must be made as a one-time lump sum, motion was seconded by David Cope. The Motion passed with 5 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstained.

*****Rusty Branson abstained from the vote, recusing himself since he is a voting board member on the college's board.*****

The Operations Report was accepted by general consent.

Legal

Conflict of Interest – Mac Mackay, legal counsel from Gooding and Batsel, addressed the topic of trustees serving on other community boards. Mr. Mackay provided a concise overview of situations in which a trustee may need to abstain from voting due to conflicts of interest. Mr. Mackay encouraged trustees to proactively communicate if they anticipate a potential conflict of interest regarding any agenda item. This proactive approach ensures transparency and adherence to ethical standards within the board's decision-making processes.

MRHS Stark Settlement Update – Mac Mackay, legal counsel from Gooding and Batsel, offered an update on the MRHS Stark Settlement. He outlined that the Stark Law violation, which occurred in 2016, has recently surfaced as an issue primarily due to understaffing at the Center for Medicaid Services. According to Mr. Mackay, the hospital has a documented policy indicating that the credit would exclusively be applied to non-employee positions. Legal Counsel expressed confidence in the validity of the Stark Law Settlement. It was disclosed that the settlement amount is expected to range between \$75,000 and \$150,000.

A motion was made by Rich Bianculli to approve engaging the law firm, motion was seconded by Ken Marino. The Motion passed unanimously by the board.



New Projects

Rich Bianculli opened the New Projects Report.

Homelessness – Rich Bianculli proposed adding homelessness as one of The Hospital District’s pillars. He emphasized the importance of addressing this issue within the community and discussed the potential impact of a new law signed by Governor Ron DeSantis. The law, which will take effect later in the year, prohibits homeless people from sleeping on public property. Rich Bianculli informed the trustees that he has entered into a real estate contract to purchase the building that previously served as the domestic violence shelter in Marion County for \$625,000. He would like to purchase the building and collaborate with another agency to operate it as a low barrier homeless shelter. Mr. Bianculli noted that he has 60 days to close on the sale of the building. Harvey Vandeven recommended holding a workshop for the trustees to review The Hospital District's pillars. MCHD staff will schedule the workshop.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES REPORT

Harvey Vandeven opened the Strategic Initiatives Report.

New Business

Sexual Assault and Recovery Building Request – In June 2023, Creative Services lost its certification as a Sexual Assault and Recovery organization. Since then, Haven House of Lake/Sumter has been providing Sexual Assault and Recovery services in Marion County. Haven House has helped Marion County establish its own Sexual Assault and Recovery organization called the Marion County Sexual Assault Center, Inc. They are currently seeking a permanent location, as they are currently using space from Belleview Health Department, which is not centrally located. The staff recommends leasing the building at 1121 SW 1st Ave to Marion County Sexual Assault Center, Inc. They would be responsible for the building's utilities and maintenance. Marion County Sexual Assault Center, Inc. would enter into a standard lease with MCHD and be required to report outcomes to our organization through Mindshare. Currently, SMA Healthcare's Peer Recovery staff occupy the 1121 SW 1st Ave building. It's proposed to relocate the Peer Recovery Staff back to Beacon Point so that all Peer Recovery staff can work from a single location.

A motion was made by Ram Vasudevan to approve moving the Peer Recovery Specialists to the Beacon Point Campus and leasing the Hospital District building located at 1121 SW 1st Ave



to Marion County Sexual Assault Center, Inc., motion was seconded by Rich Bianculli. The Motion passed unanimously by the board.

Domestic Violence and Appropriation Funds – Curt Bromund provided an update. Debra Velez and Curt Bromund participated in locating a quality domestic violence service provider when Creative Services ceased operations for Marion County citizens. After meeting with CASA of Pinellas leadership and touring their facilities, we looked for ways to bring this organization to Marion County. Debra and Curt met with the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Children & Families (DCF) to discuss funding options for facilities and operations, and then they met with the CEO of CASA of Pinellas to determine what level of funding was required to provide high quality services in Marion. CASA’s CEO stated that she needed about \$1M of additional operating funds the first year to provide the full continuum of services to survivors of domestic violence. DCF leadership was very responsive and was able to slightly increase operating funds for the new service provider; however, DCF does not provide capital expenditures for facilities and more funds were needed for operations. Debra and Curt wrote two appropriations requests to ensure our new service provider was fully funded during their first year of operations. Both of our requests were successful, receiving \$1M for DV operations and another \$1M for acquisition on or renovations of a DV shelter. Legislative sponsors for the two appropriations are Representative McClain and Senator Baxley. As long as the governor does not veto our funded line items, the Hospital District will receive and distribute the funds under the guidance of DCF.

The Strategic Initiatives Report was accepted by general consent.

Old Business

None.

Teresa Stephens adjourned the meeting at 6:45 PM.