

Board of Trustees

March 31, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Crawford County Memorial Hospital was held on Monday, March 31, 2025, in Hospital Board Room D at Crawford County Memorial Hospital, Denison, Iowa.

Present on site during the meeting were Jay Mendlik, David Reisz, Vernon Sid Leise, Jon Schuttinga, Amy Schultz, Theresa Sheer (CNO), Heather Rasmussen (Chief Quality Officer), Rachel Melby (CFO), Erin Muck (CEO), Dr. John White, Dr. David Wright (Chief of Staff out at 6:13), and Heather Wight (Recorder). Also in attendance were Gordon Wolf (Denison Free Press), Patrick Stevens (Cardiopulmonary Manager out at 6:01), and Sam Pauley (Nurse Director of Emergency Department out at 6:01). Not present was Dr. Michael Luft (Chief Medical Officer).

CALL TO ORDER: The Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mendlik.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Reisz, second by Schuttinga, to approve the February 24, 2025, minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

QUALITY CARE AND SERVICES

Quality Committee Report

- Rasmussen gave a brief update of the Quality Committee activities including updates to the HCHAPS survey.
- Recommend Board action regarding Medical Staff Accountable Care Committee recommendations for approval of Medical Staff privileges and appointment/re-appointment applications.

Medical Staff Report

Wright shared that interviews for the summer intern program have started. Katie Tremel and one of her staff from radiology came and discussed issues regarding vascular studies and gave general updates from their department. Angie Andersen was present for updates and questions for any IT issues. The Cerner representative will be onsite this week and their continued one-on-ones with the providers has been very beneficial.

PATIENT EXPERIENCE

5-Star Journey Update

Sheer shared the nurse beside reporting continues to improve, now focusing on hardwiring the process. Muck shared a patient comment that she personally received.

PEOPLE

Credentialing

A motion was made by Leise, second by Schultz, to approve Medical Staff new appointments of Sotolongo, Malyszek, Todd, and McKenna and the reappointments of Cook, Harty, and West. In addition, the distant site new appointments of Brailita, Hankins, Mandadi, Starlin, VanSchooneveld, and Keesler. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mission Committee Report

Muck shared that Kylee LeFebvre will be joining Dr. Burkett as his physician assistant. Dr. Burkett and Kylee have relocated closer to radiology to make patient trips to and from the radiology department easier. Lori Johannsen officially retired and we wish her the best.

GROWTH

Department Reports

Emergency Department

Pauley shared that the Emergency Room (ER) has been refining its mental health policies and workflows to enhance the safety and care transition for mental health patients. As of this fall, we successfully passed our DNV inspection. Before the policy change, the average transfer time for a patient requiring one-on-one care was over 27 hours. However, through collaboration with our integrated telehealth partners and streamlining processes, from December through February, this transfer time was reduced to an average of just 5.2 hours.

In addition to these improvements, the ER is actively involved in community outreach with the Emergency Preparedness Committee for the Tri-City BBQ event that is held in Denison every September. Our team will be providing strategic first aid care and planning safety protocols to effectively manage any potential mass casualty or multiple injury situations during the event.

Our annual patient census has seen a notable increase. Currently, we are averaging approximately 500 patients per month, which reflects a rise of 1,000 patients annually compared to 2020. Among the most frequent presenting complaints, chest pain remains one of the most common. Looking ahead, the ER will be participating in the American Heart Association's "Get with The Guidelines" program for Stroke and STEMI patients. This initiative is a proven in-hospital approach designed to improve patient outcomes by promoting adherence to the latest, evidence-based guidelines.

Cardiopulmonary

Stevens shared the new chronic care management for COPD patients. This program is for newly diagnosed COPD patients to teach proper nebulizer use, inhaler use, spacer use, proper oxygen use, and maintenance of all DME. Stevens will also assist the patient to develop an action plan, when to call with questions, and when to start their rescue pack. Chronic care management patients will receive annual spirometry, COPD assessment screening, vaccine education, smoking cessation, and general disease management. In addition, he has also upgraded the in-house nebulizers to the breath activated nebulizers. These provide less medication waste, better particle size and better response from therapy. He has also purchased an Aerogen nebulizer for use on patients in severe respiratory distress. This is a vibrating mesh nebulizer. It has zero medication waste with optimal particle size and deposition. This is used on patients that require multiple back-to-back treatments. It decreases patient time in the ER and total hospital time if hospitalized.

CEO Report

Muck shared that the Wellness Center is moving along nicely as is our building project. We are excited to see everything coming together.

FINANCIAL STABILITY

Finance Committee Report

1. Total Payroll & Accounts Payable of \$2,670,098.86 for payment.

A motion was made by Schuttinga, second by Schultz, to approve the financial report, total payroll, and accounts payables in the amount of \$2,670,098.86. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNITY

Policy 105.03 Document Provision & Requests

A motion was made by Schultz, second by Reisz, to approve the outlined changes to Policy 105.03 to comply with Iowa Code Chapter 22. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Chair Comments

We've got a lot of good things going on. Next month's strategic planning will be a great opportunity to share our goals and ideas for the future.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Reisz, second by Schuttinga, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:14 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.