

**Hamilton County Hospital District  
Board Meeting Minutes  
July 24, 2024**

**Presiding: Neil Muxworthy**

**Board members in attendance: Neil Muxworthy, Robert Witzsche, Doug Forrest, Karen Craig**

**Others Present: Grady Hooper, Chief Executive Officer; Melissa DeLaGarza, Chief Operating Officer; Debbie Martin, Chief Nursing Officer; Tammy Schreiber, Chief Financial Officer; Patrick Cobb, Chief of Emergency Medical Services; Tracey Karasek, Chief Administrative Officer; Jordyn Powers, Recording Board Secretary; Bobbie Nichols, QIPP Director; Maria Weaver, Hamilton-Herald News**

**Date and time: Wednesday, July 24, 2024, 10:00a.m., Hamilton General Hospital Board Room, 400 N Brown St, Hamilton, Texas 76531**

**Citizen comments (limit of 3 minutes per person):** There were none.

**Consider and act on minutes for May 20, 2024 special called meeting:** Witzsche moved, Forrest seconded approval on minutes for May 20, 2024 special called meeting. Motion carried.

**Consider and act on Financial Reports for March-May 2024:** Schreiber presented financials from March through May. YTD net income is \$471K. The holidays in May had a lower average on patient days of 4.5. Llano and Lampasas EMS had large gross charges for May. Collections for March is at 35%, April is at 32%, and May is at 39%. The increase in May collections was due to the 50% special for patient's medical bills to be paid off at the discounted rate. 340B gave us an increase in other revenue. Accounting and legal fees showed an increase due to QIPP payment. We renewed property insurance in May and added buildings which is attributable to monthly variances. Net income is \$71K for March, \$12K for April, and \$52K for May. QIPP line of credit was booked in May which accounts for the \$250K expense variance. In other financial items, a Medicare desk audit was performed on FY22 cost report. The cost report was correct but when Medicare computed a new interim rate from the cost report, there was an error in the calculation and they overpaid us by \$604K. Craig moved, Forrest seconded approval on Financial Reports for March-May 2024. Motion carried.

**QIPP Report:** Nichols stated the administrative turnover is still high. Rosenberg is on the Special Focus Facility list, and they will have double the surveys until they do better. Rosenberg has younger residents who are on disability, which creates a more difficult level of care. Component 2 for May was reviewed. Nichols presented a new prediction report which helps track staffing metrics being met in each component. Witzsche moved, Forrest seconded approval on the QIPP Report. Motion carried.

**Consider and act on approving EMS Interlocal Agreement for Lampasas County:** Lampasas County has pushed their Commissioner's Court to 8/12 for discussion and approval. We have serviced Lampasas with a \$0K subsidy but their Commissioner's Court is approving a \$200K subsidy. Mills County and San Saba County currently have a total combined subsidy of

\$500K (Mills and San Saba subsidies were at \$250K each). Mills County will be totaling \$367,500 and San Saba County will be totaling \$383,500. In addition, San Saba and Lampasas requested lengthening their EMS contracts for longer terms of 5 additional years with first 3yrs subsidies set at new level barring any changes in state and federal legislation impacting reimbursements. Hico will also have an updated contract next month with the current subsidy of \$115K increased to \$150K. Our EMS services 25% of the calls in Erath County and only 10% of the payment, so we will be negotiating a contract with them. Effective October 1<sup>st</sup> we will have an increase of \$973K in subsidies with a total subsidy value of \$1.485MM. The State approved \$35,972 on reimbursements from our EMS crew who were deployed to help after hurricane Beryl. Witzsche moved, Craig seconded approval on EMS Interlocal Agreement for Lampasas County, pending signed contract after Commissioner's Court. Motion carried.


**Consider and act on approving EMS Interlocal Agreement for Mills County:** See previous agenda item EMS Interlocal Agreement for Lampasas. Witzsche moved, Craig seconded approval on EMS Interlocal Agreement for Mills County. Motion carried.

**Consider and act on approving EMS Interlocal Agreement for San Saba County:** See previous agenda item EMS Interlocal Agreement for Lampasas. Witzsche moved, Craig seconded approval on EMS Interlocal Agreement for San Saba County. Motion carried.

**Consider and act on naming the Specialty Clinic:** Muxworthy proposed Bill Craig Specialty Center. Forrest wants to see the word 'medical' in the title. The Board had a discussion over various names options. Forrest moved, Witzsche seconded approval on naming the specialty clinic Bill Craig Medical Center. Craig abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

**Administrator Report:** Schreiber stated that due to Cerner Go-Live the month of June will show a drop in revenue. July will show a decrease in billed revenue and collections because of the slower schedules while operating during the first few weeks of the Go-Live. The Board had a lengthy discussion over the functionality of Cerner. Hooper mentioned we are moving payroll services from ADP to Paycom. DeLaGarza relayed that the signage for the Mills County Physical Therapy building is on the way. Equipment for the Mills County Wellness Center has been delivered, and the projected opening date will be towards the end of August. Additional trees will need to be removed from the specialty clinic. DeLaGarza brought clinic renderings to review the sign size with the new building name. Also, Brown Street will need to be closed for a few weeks when they start working on the pole relocation and turn in off Highway 36. Karasek wanted to circle back to Cerner for a moment. Due to a lapse on Cerner's half, patient surveys have not been sent out and this will affect our 5-star score. Karasek mentioned DNV findings. There was one NC1 finding. There were six documented NC2 findings, which all have action plans currently in place.

**Adjourn:** Witzsche moved, Forrest seconded at 11:34am that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

  
Neil Muxworthy, President  
Hamilton County Hospital District