

TRMC Board of Managers

Minutes

January 27, 2025

The Titus County Hospital District Board of Managers met for a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, January 25, 2025, at 5:30PM in the Conference Center – Medical Plaza on the 3rd floor of Titus Regional Medical Center’s Medical Plaza in Mount Pleasant, TX.

ATTENDEES: Don Lowry, Tony Rundles, Rob Holliday, Kevin Rose, Trent Abbott, Ricky Baker, Steve Courreges, Terry Scoggin (CEO), Dr. Milan Sekulic (CPE), Dr. James Bove (COS), and Dr. Will Hooks (CMO)

ADMINISTRATION: Patty Boeckmann, Kathy Griffis, Andy Fortenberry, and Jeff Drummond (legal)

VISITORS: Dr. Khalid Malik, Dr. Beth Peterson, Dr. Marney Sorenson, Dr. Farahnaz Haroon, Melanie Flournoy, Karl Garcia, Tracie Smith, Tiffani Hester, Jodi Bishop

CALL TO ORDER: Don Lowry called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

Opening prayer was officiated by Terry Scoggin. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Andy Fortenberry.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Recommendations

- I. Approval of Minutes of TCHD Regular Board Meeting – 12/16/2024
- II. Approval of Finance Committee Recommendation of Minutes of the TCHD Board Finance Committee Meeting – 12/16/2024
- III. Approval of Updated Level II Maternal Program Plan
- IV. Approval of Resolution Supporting the Level II Maternal Program
- V. Approval to add Andy Fortenberry, Chief Financial Officer, to the Pilgrim Bank Signature Cards
- VI. Approval of MEC Recommendation of TRMC Medical Directors (Trauma, EMS, Hospitalist)
- VII. Approval of MEC Recommendation of Calendar 2025 MEC Elected Members
- VIII. Approval of MEC Recommendation of Appointment of AHP to MEC (non-voting member)
- IX. Approval of MEC Recommendation for 2025 MEC Committees
- X. Approval of MEC Recommendation for Category Changes for Medical Staff Members
- XI. Approval of MEC Recommendation for Exception to provision of Medical Staff Bylaws Section 5.3.1
- XII. Approval of MEC Recommendation of Internal Review of External IRB (Institutional Review Board) Projects Policy
- XIII. Approval of TCOT Board Recommendation of Calendar 2025 TCOT Elected Member

- XIV. Approval of TCOT Board Recommendation of Additions to TCOT Board of Directors (non-voting)
- XV. Approval of January 1, 2025 TRMC Organizational Chart

Reports

- I. Executive reports – current month
- II. Hospital statistics – current month

- 📌 Don Lowry asked for a **motion** to approve the Consent Agenda listed above.
- 📌 **Motion:** A **motion** was made by Tony Rundles and seconded by Ricky Baker to approve the listed Consent Agenda items. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

❖ PATIENT EXPERIENCE UPDATE

- Tiffani Hester opened discussion regarding Titus Coffee Chats and Patient Experience Stars
 - Patient Experience allows for staff to get involved in setting and forming goals
 - Neurology office had 93.6% positive feedback for the past month with no negative scores
 - Positive impact from providers being involved in team huddles
 - Neurology clinic was recently remodeled and suggestions to widen the entrance and/or install automatic doors to assist with patient mobility
- Dr. Hooks involved in newly published book – “Modern Medicine, Powered by AI”

❖ TRAUMA SURVEY UPDATE

- Recently completed Level IV Trauma Survey
- Dr. Peterson voted Surgeon of the Year in Texarkana
- Kathy introduced Jodi Bishop, Trauma Coordinator, and her involvement in the success of the Trauma Survey; only two deficiencies noted by Surveyors
- Dr. Peterson discussed the difference between level III and IV Trauma and suggested that Titus work towards being designated a level III Trauma Center in the next year

❖ NEW BUSINESS

- Terry introduced each of the new physicians – Dr. Haroon, Dr. Peterson, Dr. Malik, and Dr. Sorenson
- Each new physician shared their insights on Titus Regional and plans for the future
 - Dr. Sorenson – recommends to stay an independent hospital in order to foster a sense of community and providing significant levels of care as able
 - Dr. Malik – discussed importance of personability and growth in outreach

- Dr. Haroon – importance of the impact of switching from Locums to hired physicians; leads to an increase in communication and accountability; introduction of Melanie Flournoy and her role working with Dr. Haroon
- Dr. Peterson – emphasized importance on personability with community, access to care, and improvement of the Emergency Room experience
- TCOT Strategy and Operations Report
 - Dr. Sekulic – physicians/providers are essential for success
 - He has met with all new providers to review the mission and goals of TCOT
 - Tasks at hand in 2025 include TCOT expansion, strategic development of TCOT service lines, optimization of TCOT functioning as a critical determinant of our success
 - Key initiatives are patient experience and referral management
 - Provider leadership is crucial for success and focus on integration into process improvement initiatives
 - Patty Boeckmann emphasized that the leadership of physicians is a key to success
 - Recent discussions around referrals between clinics, succession planning, and standardization of procedures
 - Strategic initiatives include medical school and residency programs
 - Future planning for OBGYN and family practice residency programs

❖ MEDICAL STAFF UPDATE

- Dr. Bove provided medical staff updates
 - Committee assignments and elections to MEC
 - MEC structure change
 - Dr. Mitz is no longer holding a Locums position and is an at-large member of MEC
 - Dr. Hester is the surgical lead
 - Strong team put together for peer review

- 👉 Don Lowry asked for a **vote** to approve the MEC recommendations. The vote carried unanimously.

❖ TRMC FINANCE REPORT

- Andy Fortenberry presented the December 2024 Financial Report
 - YTD end of December – 44 days cash on hand
 - Operating expense deficit – CHIRP payments a part of operating revenue and did not have CMS approval until the middle part of September

- Urology behind schedule for surgeries due to saline shortage
 - Overall volumes were not as high as expected with inpatient and surgery numbers down
 - Expenses – salaries are over budget and will be an area of focus; additional consulting fees attributed to increase in professional fees that were not budgeted
 - Supplies were over budget and mostly comprised of purchase of chemotherapy drugs
 - Financial drivers – volume/net patient revenue, revenue cycle, supplemental payments, operating expenses
 - Volumes: Decrease in admissions, births, surgeries, and outpatient procedures; backlog in Urology procedures due to impact of saline shortage
 - Revenue Cycle: Blue Cross Blue Shield contract in effect on 2/1/25; Sliced Health for payor contract analysis in effect on 2/1/25; Behavioral Health contract with Optum (UHC) effective 1/20/25; Chronic Care Management program implementation in FQ2 2025
 - Supplemental Payments: increase in 340B payments; property tax revenues; child sites (RHC) 340B eligibility on 4/1/25
 - Operating Expenses – anesthesia locums attributed to additional \$267K in FQ1; FTE reporting, expense reporting, and wRVU reporting tools all in flight
 - Financing Needs – proposed revenue bond for equipment and real estate in the amount up to \$5.4M
 - Seimens Varian Truebeam Linear Accelerator
 - Seimens go.SIM CT
 - Professional medical clinic
 - Urgent care medical facility
 - Cancer Center Linac renovation
 - Pharmacy upgrade
- 👉 Don Lowry asked for a **vote** to approve the finance report as presented. The vote carried unanimously.
- 👉 Don Lowry asked for a **vote** to approve the Resolution directing that a notice of intent to issue the Improvement Revenue Bond, Series 2025, to be published in accordance with the provisions of Section 264.044, Texas Health and Safety Code. The vote carried unanimously.
- Approval of land purchase tabled for discussion in Executive Session

❖ **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Terry Scoggin announced his intent to resign

❖ **QUALITY UPDATE**

- Dr. Hooks – identification of patients at risk of deterioration and implementation of interventions more quickly

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board convened to Executive Session at 7:42PM with a unanimous vote.

REGULAR SESSION: Regular session reconvened at 8:01PM with a unanimous vote.

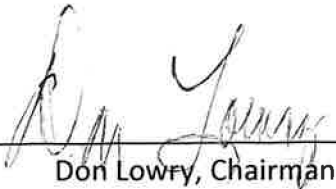
✚ Don Lowry asked for a motion to approve the real estate acquisition (property of Dr. Reyes).

✚ **Motion:** A **motion** was made by Ricky Baker and seconded by Steve Courreges to approve the real estate acquisition. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The Board convened to Executive Session at 8:08PM with a unanimous vote.

REGULAR SESSION: Regular session reconvened at 9:26PM with a unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT: Regular session adjourned at 9:27PM with a unanimous vote.



Don Lowry, Chairman



Tony Rundles, Secretary