

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Regular Monthly Meeting
February 18, 2016
4:30 PM**

ATTENDEES: Thomas Spackman, MD. Dr. Michael Weiss
 Eugene Feinour Allen Jones
 Marybeth Cunningham Ann Marie McCrystal
 John Val Zudans, MD.

OTHER ATTENDEESS: Ann Marie Suriano Jennifer Peshke, Esq.
 Jennifer Frederick Vicki Soule
 Jeff Susi Geri Smith
 Joe Saul Mary Blumstein
 Lisa Hedenstrom Mayur Rao
 Miranda Hawker Mary Linn Hamilton
 Lisa Setters

Convene Meeting – Eugene Feinour, Chairman

Mr. Feinour convened the regular monthly meeting of the Indian River County Hospital District at 4:30 p.m. by welcoming the public at home and in the commission chambers. The first order of business was the approval of the regular monthly meeting minutes dated January 21, 2016, Chairman’s Meeting Minutes dated January 19, 2016 and a February mothing disbursement of \$1,108,713.22. Dr. Weiss made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Mrs. Cunningham. The motion passed unanimously.

District Counsel Report, Jennifer Peshke, Esq.

Mrs. Peshke stated that she did not have a formal report prepared for the evenings meeting. She further stated that there have been several meetings regarding the Districts strategic planning and that the Trustees have been informed on that at the prior Chairman’s meeting.

Financial Statement Review, Allen Jones

Next Mr. Jones stated that the Districts expenditures are projecting consistent with budget and the tax revenues are being deposited into the bank account. There are currently around \$2 Million in revenues that have not been received. Dr. Weiss made a motion to approve the financial statement, which was seconded by Mrs. McCrystal. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Report, Ann Marie Suriano, Executive Director, IRCHD

Next, Mrs. Suriano stated that the District received a community partner award for 2015 from VNA. She and Mr. Feinour visited with all the agencies the District funds, once he took the Chairman's seat. She feels it was a great opportunity to show Mr. Feinour the work these agencies are doing, from an operational stand point. Additionally, she offered that opportunity to tour the health care agencies, to the other Trustees, should they wish. Further, Mrs. Suriano and Mr. Jones will be visiting the Brevard County Health Department to look at their OBGYN program to gain information and knowledge that could be helpful for the Partners Program. Partners Collaborative will meet Tuesday February 23rd to discuss the same. Next, she stated that Mr. Felix presented the draft strategic plan to the Trustees for their review and comment, before the final plan is presented at next month's regular meeting. Lastly, she discussed that the District and IRMC will hold a joint board meeting tomorrow at the Richardson Center, to present the Community Health Needs Assessment conducted by the various health agencies in the county. Dr. Ghezzi the Hospitals consultant and Michael Felix, the Districts consultant, will lead the meeting and discussion. There will also be data presented by Mrs. Cunningham, District Trustee, and Mr. Rick Van Lith, VP of Business Development at IRMC.

Agencies Quarterly Report- VNA of the Treasure Coast- Marylinn Hamilton, Pres. &CEO

Ms. Hamilton thanked the Trustees for their continued support over the years. She gave a brief summary of the VNA's programs and services that they provide to the residents of Indian River County. Currently, the VNA provides many home health and hospice services. They operates a mobile unit clinic, that is staffed with an ARNP for non-emergent care. Ms. Hamilton stated that the funding VNA receives from the District currently makes up 3% of their budget.

Next, Ms. Lisa Sellers, who is an ARNP for the mobile unit, discussed the mobile units' first quarter financials, in which they spent a total of \$109,702 and had 912 patient visits. The mobile unit is a non-emergent care clinic on wheels, available to Indian River county residents, at no cost to the client, should they meet the income and residential qualifications. Ms. Sellers stated that the VNA constantly monitors the patient vs. cost volumes at all 6 locations that the bus visits, to make sure they are serving areas that are in most need of the service. Ms. Sellers shared a few patient satisfactory surveys from patients who visited the mobile unit. These patients praised the VNA and the District for providing this services and gave above satisfactory responses.

Next, Ms. Hamilton gave a brief summary of the Hospice House and its first quarter performance. By way of background, the Hospice House is there to provide quality end of life care to all Indian River County residents and received its Medicare Certification in 1986. For the first quarter of the fiscal year, provided 70 indigent patients were provided care at the Hospice House for a total of \$21,000. Ms. Hamilton explained that the funding provided by the District is essential in assisting these patients in their last days of life. The Hospice House also receives additional community support through the VNA and Hospice Foundation. Ms. Hamilton further discussed the VNA's Home Health finances for the first quarter of the fiscal year. The VNA provided 384 visits to indigent qualified patients in the county at a cost of \$62,280.

Next, Ms. Mary Blumstein, VP of Finance, discussed the VNA's overall financial position from October to December, 2015. She stated that Hospice and Home Health are tracking higher than projected budget and they have seen a 25% growth in revenues. Mrs. McCrystal questioned whether the increase in Hospice is due to increase physician referrals and awareness of the program itself. Ms. Blumstein agreed and stated they have seen the largest growth in Hospice and are seeing more patients coming into the program, as well as patients being admitted sooner, which is preferential and most effective when dealing with hospice patients. Dr. Zudans questioned if the VNA would be able to divert patients from the hospital's emergency room ("ER") to the mobile unit, by parking the unit outside the entrance to the ER. He feels this would be an incredible use of resources, as well as a solution to the larger issues of non-emergency visits at the ER. Ms. Sellers stated that this has been done in the past, but due to legal restrictions, they were unable to park it directly at the bottom entrance of the ER. Currently the mobile unit does park at the VNA twice a week, which is in very close proximity to the ER entrance. Dr. Zudans asked that this issue be revisited, so that they can find a solution concerning the legal issues of parking the unit directly outside of the ER. Dr. Spackman also questioned how the nurses on the bus determine if a patient is indigent before they are given treatment. Ms. Sellers stated that the patient must show proof of residency and have no insurance. However, they are not required to show proof of income. If a patient does have insurance, they are referred to TCCH or the Health Department. Mr. Jones informed Mr. Susi, who was out of the room when Dr. Zudans spoke, that there was a discussion on placing the mobile unit at the entrance ramp to the ER. He felt that Mr. Susi should know that this had been discussed and hopes that they can figure out some ways to provide relief to the hospital for non-emergent care.

Agencies Quarterly Report- IRC Health Department- Miranda Hawker, Department Administrator

Ms. Hawker began her presentation by discussing the first quarter results for the Indian River County Health Department in Vero Beach. The Vero site primarily serves adult clients and about 67% of those clients are self-pay. She explained that the remaining 32% of patients are covered by insurance or a mix of Medicaid and Medicare. Overall, 85% of the clients are 150% or less of the poverty level. Their dental program serves both children and adults and the fees are approximately one-third of the fees of the private sector. She further explained that 50% of the clients receiving dental are self-pay and 93% of these patients are 150% or below the federal poverty level. Additionally, many of the children in the dental program are now covered by Medicaid managed care. Next, she discussed the financial reports for the primary care, dental, and Gifford sites. The losses that are being shown is money which has surpassed their state funding, which is categorized as general revenue for things such as family planning and diseases. Anything that is at a loss, is funded from unrestricted general revenue and reserves. For the last fiscal year, the Health Department wrote off around \$175,000 in uncollectable debt. She also discussed the number of patients seen at the three sites.

Further, Ms. Hawker discussed the Health Department's customer satisfaction surveys that are required to be conducted by the state. She discussed the different areas they are measured on and stated they required to show the state of Florida that they have complied with the standards and have followed up with any patient complaints within one business day. She also included the family related Medicaid program fact sheet for the review of the Trustees. She

feels that the Trustees have expressed interest in this information and wanted to share the latest report with them.

Next, Ms. Hawker invited the Trustees to attend the grand opening of the Martin Luther King Walking Trail on February 27, 2016 at 11:00 AM, which is located at the Gifford Health Center. She explained that through a tremendous community effort, this trail was able to become a reality. Mr. Jones asked what the hours for the Gifford Health center and inquired whether extending the office hour could bring more access to care and what the cost, benefit trade off would be. Ms. Hawker stated that the center is open Monday through Friday, 8AM-5PM. She thought it was a wonderful idea, but would have to bring a plan to the staff and see what the budget requirements are. She would like to expand the programs that are currently being offered at Gifford and she feels there is a lot of potential to do this. The Trustees agreed that the funding to the Health Department is well spent and they look forward to future opportunities to expand the health care being offered.

IRMC, Inc. Monthly Report- Nursing Leadership Update, Lisa Hendenstrom, Chief Nursing Officer IRMC

Ms. Hendenstrom discussed the foundation principles that the nursing advisory team follow include teamwork within nursing leadership, focus on patient care, and staff engagement. The hospital recognizes staff with various awards such as the clinical excellence award and the Daisy award, for those nurses who have shown outstanding dedication and service. The clinical excellence award was started by the Foundation and is presented during hospital week each year. The newest award, which will be given out starting this year, is the Daisy award. The award is given to a nursing staff member or direct caregiver that has made a difference in a patient life. This award is given out to more than 1600 across the nation and internationally. Next, Ms. Hendenstrom discussed Certified Nurses' Day which will take place on March 19, 2016. This is an annual day of recognition for healthcare leaders, dedicated to nursing professionalism excellence, recognition, and service. Additionally, the executive team at the hospital recognizes outstanding staff members by sending thank you notes to their homes, as a sign of appreciation. Lastly, she discussed IRMC and their effort to obtain "Pathway to Excellence" recognition. The program focuses on nursing practice, leadership, safety, quality, culture of wellbeing, and nurse development. She explained that the hospital will be focusing on these principals for the next year, so that they can hardwire those practices into daily routine. Mrs. McCrystal stated she attended a reception at IRMC recognizing the retirement of Mr. Steve Massey, RN for his 45 years of service as a nurse at IRMC and stated that he was a wonderful asset to IRMC and he will be missed. She also praised the nursing team for their dedication and work they do at the hospital. Mr. Jones questioned if there were any metrics in place that measure nurse job satisfaction and performance. Ms. Hendenstrom stated there are employee surveys that measure employee engagement and that within the last year, the surveys scores raised by three points, which is significant.

Unfinished Business

Dr. Weiss thanked Mrs. Cunningham for her efforts and dedication to the Community Health Needs Assessment. He questioned why Sebastian River Medical Center ("SRMC") was not included when collecting the data for the assessment. Mrs. Cunningham stated that she will make contact with Sebastian as an attempt to open a line of communication.

***New Business- Adoption of 2016 Federal Poverty Guidelines- Jennifer Frederick,
Program Liaison IRCHD***

Mrs. Frederick presented the 2016 Federal Poverty Guidelines for the Trustees review and approval. She stated that each year, these guidelines are issued by the Florida Department of Health and the District uses them to determine financial eligibility for indigent care. She asked for a motion for approval, which was made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mrs. McCrystal. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

Dr. Weiss directed his question to Mr. Susi, as to why there was an ad in the Press Journal advertising a job opening at the hospital for a Director of Oncology. He questioned why the advertisement had been posted, because the hospital already has a Director of Oncology. Mr. Susi stated that the current director, Dr. Grichnik is the current director of the Scully-Welsh Cancer Center. They are looking for additional leadership for radiation oncology and medical oncology in addition to the physicians that are currently working at the center.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Marie McCrystal
Secretary