

**MINUTES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
Regular Monthly Meeting
May 18 2017
4:30 PM**

TRUSTEES:	Marybeth Cunningham Ann Marie McCrystal Karen Deigl Tracey Lockwood-Zudans	Allen Jones Dr. Michael Weiss Barbara Bodnar
STAFF:	Ann Marie Suriano Kate Voss	Jennifer Frederick Jennifer Peshke, Esq.
OTHER ATTENDEESS:	Warren Fuller George Andreassi Zaqary Sanders Deborah Hawkins Miranda Hawker Gerri Smith	Lewis Clark Michelle Genz John Romano Bob Savage Mary Linn Hamilton Myra Weiss

Convene Meeting – Marybeth Cunningham, Chairwoman IRCHD

Mrs. Cunningham convened the regular monthly meeting of the Indian River County Hospital District (“IRCHD”) at 4:30 p.m.

Consent Agenda – Marybeth Cunningham, Chairwoman

Mrs. Cunningham asked for a motion to approve the Chairman’s Meeting Minutes dated April 12 & 19, Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes dated April 20 and a May disbursement of \$1,138,850.42. Mrs. McCrystal made the motion to approve, which was seconded by Mrs. Bodnar. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Cunningham stated that the District’s website has been updated to include information concerning the Collaborative Committee meetings and press releases. There has also been the addition of a contact form, where the user can submit their contact information and any questions they may have concerning the District. Additionally, she stated that the next Collaborative Meeting would be held on June 15 at 9:00 AM at the District offices. Further, Mrs. Cunningham stated that later on in the year, the District plans to hold a town hall meeting for the community to attend and provide feedback regarding health care matters in the county.

Mrs. Cunningham welcomed new Trustee Tracey Lockwood-Zudans to the Board. Mrs. Zudans was appointed by Governor Scott to replace the seat vacated by Dr. Hussamy.

Lastly, Mrs. Cunningham stated that as part of the Districts strategic plan, the office will be sending a memo outlining the protocol guidelines for overall Board governance and communications as a District Trustee.

District Counsel Report, Jennifer Peshke, Esq.

Mrs. Peshke provided her monthly district counsel report and stated that she continues to monitor the active House and Senate Bills related to Special Districts. To date all active bills she is tracking are with the Senate and have died during this legislative session as of May 8, 2017. These bills include, HB 843, SB 740, HB 7021, and SB 1004.

Further, she worked with the District staff to answer questions regarding the appointment process for the open seat on the Trustee Board following Dr. Hussamy's resignation. As stated by Mrs. Cunningham, Governor has appointed Tracey Zudans to fill the open seat. She welcomed Mrs. Zudans to the board and stated that she looks forward to working with her. She is currently working to get her bond in place and has reviewed the associated new Trustee paperwork with her.

She stated that she continues to work with counsel for the VNA as the lease for the Human Services building is up for renewal and they have indicated their desire to exercise the right to renew the lease for an additional five year term, pursuant to the rights within the lease. She explained that the building requires some repairs and upgrading and the District is working through those requests at this time. Mrs. Suriano will bring any requests to the board for approval, before any funds are expended.

Additionally, she has been working with District Trustee Mr. Jones and hospital counsel to re-confirm the existing Indigent Care Agreement as Amended and Restated. Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, they are within the reconfirmation period at this time. There will be further updates on this matter next month.

Mrs. Peshke explained that she has participated in the agency funding request meetings for the 2017-2018 fiscal year and is working to ensure that all agency funding agreements are in place. The agreements will be updated, to reflect the new funding amounts that will be awarded.

Lastly, she stated that she has attended all Collaborative Committee meetings and has met with hospital counsel regarding the same, to facilitate the delivery of documents requested by the consultants. This process involving due diligence on behalf of the taxpayers and residents of Indian River County is underway and she will continue to assist the Trustees and the Consultants as needed.

Financial Statement Review- Allen Jones, Treasurer

Mr. Jones provided the financial statement review and stated that the District is in sound financial condition with approximately \$8 million in the bank, which does not include the \$1.7 million that is owed to the District from AHCA, for the participation in LIP funding program for IRMC. Expenditures for program and administrative expenses continue to run below budget by approximately \$950,000.

Executive Director Report- Ann Marie Suriano, Executive Director

Mrs. Suriano stated that the District office has undergone some renovations to address the need for a larger conference space and moving Mrs. Frederick office into the main area of the suite. She explained that the project should be completed by next week and the new conference room will be available for upcoming meetings.

Additionally, she stated that she is working to hire a company to conduct a condition survey of the Human Services Building, which is in need of repairs and updating. Once the company has completed their work, she will review the findings with the Trustees to discuss the options moving forward.

Mrs. Suriano stated that the Care Card website portal is active and there have not been any issues to date. The organizations are now using the portal to upload the patient qualification information, so that they may receive their Care Card.

Lastly, the LIP funds that were advanced to AHCA from the District, to support the low-income pool have been received and will be reflected on next month's financial statement.

Funded Agencies Quarterly Report- New Horizons- John Romano, CEO

Mr. Romano provided a brief report concerning the indigent patients who receive services at New Horizons in Indian River County. He stated that during the first half of the fiscal year they have seen an increase in psychiatric visits and have seen an increase in the number of new clients. The center is now utilizing telemedicine to provide additional services for patients. A full time ARNP has now been hired for the Indian River County center and is providing additional psychiatric services.

He further reviewed the service data for indigent qualified patients. New Horizons served 220 indigent clients from October through March. Mr. Romano explained that the outcomes desired for individuals treated at New Horizons, is to live functional lives in the least restrictive means possible, in the community.

There was further Trustee discussion concerning mental health services in Indian River County and the difficulty in getting patients who need these services, qualified. The Trustees inquired if New Horizons had been collaborating with the Connections Center, to provide referrals for services in the community. Mr. Romano stated they have been working with Connections and it is a wonderful asset to Indian River County.

IRMC, Inc. Monthly Report- 2nd Quarter Financials- Warren Fuller, VP Finance

Before Mr. Fuller began his presentation, Mrs. Cunningham asked that the hospital monthly report be provided to the Trustees ahead of time, so that they may review the information prior to the day of the meeting. Mr. Fuller stated that he would pass the request on to the appropriate party at the hospital.

Mr. Fuller reviewed the hospitals 2nd Quarter financials. He explained that the hospital has made up approximately \$3 million in losses from the 1st quarter and are now \$1 million behind budget. He stated that they would be working towards improving that position over the next 6 months. He reviewed the variance data between 2017 and 2016, and there have been increases in 2017 with regard to physician visits and full time employees, which are consistent with the recorded volumes.

There was further discussion concerning the hospitals reimbursement rate increases, which went into effect April 1st. Mr. Fuller explained that they had previously budgeted for these increases and their financial statement will not show any additional gains from that income. He further explained that the hospital charges were raised by 67% but the indigent care reimbursement is capped at 3%, pursuant to the Indigent Care Agreement. Even with the increased rates, IRMC has some of the lowest costs among other hospitals in the surrounding area. Mr. Fuller further stated that as part of their managed care contract, one of the hospitals payors asked that they considering raising their charges, which would help with the rate increase that went into effect April 1. Additionally, Mrs. Cunningham inquired as to how many days' cash on hand the hospital has. Mr. Fuller stated that currently the hospital is at 68 days.

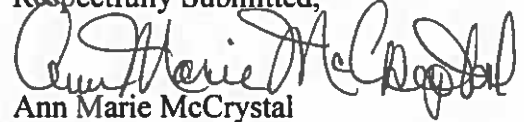
At the request of Dr. Weiss, Mrs. Suriano explained the indigent care analysis sheet that is provided to the District by the hospital. This sheet shows all reimbursements made to IRMC for indigent care and any reversals, which would occur if a patient has an additional payor source available after the date of service.

Public Comment-

Mr. Paul Nezi, resident of Vero Beach, stated that as a follow up to Mr. Fuller just reporting that the hospital increased charges as a strategy to increase reimbursement rates. He stated that he worked for a large health insurance company, they would never ask a provider to raise their rates so they can provide a higher reimbursement. Their objective was to keep the reimbursement to the providers low. He does not understand why the hospital would charge less, instead of trying to maximize their revenues. Additionally, the hospitals CFO reported last week that the hospitals days on hand were at 81 days, but Mr. Fuller reported that it was 68. He is requesting clarification on that matter. Mr. Jones stated that he will be attending the hospitals finance committee meeting next week and he will address Mr. Nezi concerns to the hospital board at that time, and bring back the answers back to this public body as well.

Adjournment- The meeting adjourned at 5:09 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Marie McCrystal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Marie McCrystal
Secretary