

## **West Ascension Parish Hospital Service District Board Meeting**

The West Ascension Parish Hospital Service District Board held its regularly scheduled meeting on April 29, 2021.

This was a teleconference meeting (partial) and this meeting was recorded. One member was asked and responded that he could not be present due to Covid-19 State Mandates (See\*).

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Michel Hirsch, Dr. Glenn Schexnayder, Mr. Glenn Robert,  
\*Mr. Michael Medine Mr. A.J. Gomez and Mr. Vince Cataldo

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ms. Loretta Larvadain, Ms. Nobie Landry, Mr. Larry Buquoi

**GUEST:** Ms. Stacey Nichols

**1. CALL TO Order**

Dr. Michel Hirsch called the meeting to order at 12:00noon. There was no objection to the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting as distributed. The minutes were accepted as individually read.

**2. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Ms. Nobie Landry presented the financial report and the sales tax report for review and discussion. The reports were approved as presented.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**4. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Vince Cataldo gave findings of the monthly and quarterly committee reports and no actions were needed.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Loretta Larvadain reported we are still struggling to fill shifts. Prevost is continuing to advertise on Facebook, hospital website and newspapers due to the ongoing nurse shortage. One staffing agency has provided two nurses for a limited number of shifts per week.

Dr. Nagaratha Reddy and CareSouth requested an interface with our electronic medical record system. Dr. Reddy's interface has been completed for x-rays, but we are still working on the lab portion. Care South's interface is on hold.

Mr. Henry Chauvin, Mr. Glenn Higgins and Ms. Traci LaMoyne met with Mr. Vince Cataldo to get the first phase of the hospital improvements and renovations started. Mr. Chauvin is also contacting the engineers working on this project. The adjacent property is needed to store the dirt from the retention ponds.

Mr. Legendre did not meet the deadline for the appeal he had filed concerning the adjacent property. Mr. Steve Irving motioned to dismiss Mr. Legendre's appeal. The dismissal hearing is scheduled for June 14, 2021.

Mr. Lee Melancon would like to get the fitness park open for the public on the day of the next health fair at Prevost. This could be one of the health fair stations. Ms. Danielle Bernard is working with Mr. Melancon to get this park opened.

The Radiology Department mammography numbers for March 2021 have doubled from March 2020. We are still expecting a slow month in April as we did no mammograms in April 2020 due to COVID-19. We are continuing to send out reminder letters and follow ups with those that didn't show up for their yearly exams.

Mr. Vince Cataldo gave an update on in-house COVID-19 testing. The lab has collected 3,182 tests as of April 28, 2021 and the positive findings are 23%.

Ms. Stacey Nichols is continuing to work on the timekeeping section of the handbook. She would like to meet with all employees to have them sign a notice of overtime calculation using the forty-hour work week system. The time system will be used to satisfy the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). This system was approved by the Board and the effective date of this overtime system will be May 30, 2021.

Ms. Nichols met with the Board on April 26, 2021 to discuss salaries before the April board meeting. The recommendation presented to the Board was to give a one dollar across the board pay increase for all employees. The Board approved the one dollar pay increase.

Mr. James Breaux requested a new pulmonary function machine for his department. The request for proposals (RFP) is in progress.

The mobile home has been demolished. It will be moved to the adjacent property to be burned once the adjacent property is cleared through the courts.

The amended Envision contract has been signed. Mr. Cataldo is pushing to increase patient census. A meeting is scheduled with Envision representatives on May 17, 2021.

Each Board member was reminded to complete the self-assessment packet for the year 2020.

The Louisiana Compliance questionnaire for Postlethwaite & Netterville has been completed by all Board members and returned to Postlethwaite & Netterville.

The Board approved a new G.E. Telemetry System for the Emergency Department. The new system was ordered on January 28, 2021 and was installed on April 5, 2021. Ms. Loretta Larvadain said the system is definitely an upgrade from the Mindray System.

The Board approved two MAC 5500 HD (EKG machines) with Wi-Fi capabilities. These machines were ordered on March 2, 2021 and arrived on April 13, 2021. We have been given the runaround from Southern Medical. On April 27, 2021 we spoke to the president of the company and the meeting was productive. We are still having to transmit by telephone line.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

One Wound Care N.P. and two Virtual Radiologists were reviewed and approved for provisional privileges

There were no applications to review for provisional or full privileges at this time.

Ascension Parish and Donaldsonville leaders are looking for advice on how to revitalize Donaldsonville and the West Bank of Ascension Parish. Ascension Parish Government should be receiving COVID-19 stimulus money for the entire parish. This funding is based on the Federal Anti-Poverty Funding Formulas. A meeting was held on April 21, 2021 (evening) to discuss this matter.

Mr. A.J. Gomez and Mr. Vince Cataldo visited the Thibodaux Fitness Center on April 22, 2021. Mr. Gomez reported that he was impressed with the facility and the services offered to its members.

At the MEC meeting held on April 20, 2021 the MEC members approved the health fair in 2021. The Board approved the MEC's recommendation to have the health fair.

Prevost purchased LifePak Defibrillators in 2010 and 2014. One of them is needing major repairs. The Board motioned and approved the purchase of two new LifePak 20e defibrillators/monitors with pacing packages.

## **7. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

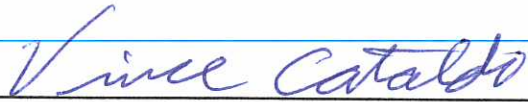
No executive session was called.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on a motion by Mr. Glenn Robert and a second by Dr. Glenn Schexnayder.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michel Hirsch', written over a horizontal line.

Dr. Michel Hirsch, Board Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vince Cataldo', written over a horizontal line.

Mr. Vince Cataldo, Administrator/Secretary