

A meeting of the McAlester Regional Health Center Authority was held at 04:00 PM, on Wednesday September 06, 2023, at McAlester Regional Health Center in the Administration Board Room. Public notice, setting forth there on the day, time and place for this regular meeting had been delivered to the office of the City Clerk at 09:33 am on September 01, 2023.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:** Christopher Beene, MD, Chairman ~ Sayer Brenner ~ Marti Fields ~ Johnny Zellmer, MD ~ Mary Shannon ~ Brent Grilliot ~ Damon Mascoto ~ Susan Kanard ~ James Bland

**TRUSTEES ABSENT:**

**HOSPITAL STAFF:**

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Maggie Martin, Legal Counsel

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Beene called the meeting to order at 04:00 PM.

**Public Comment:** None

**Consent Agenda:**

1. MRHCA Board of Trustees Minutes for August 06, 2023
2. August 2023 Agreement Log
3. Credentialing & Privileging List

**Consideration & Approval of Appointment: (Provisional)**

1. Niladri Basu,, MD ~ Provisional ~ Orthopedic Surgery ~ One year
2. Francisco Torres, MD ~ Provisional ~ Emergency Medicine ~ Three Months (Provisional)
3. Ifeyinwa Stephanie Nwachukwu ~ Provisional ~ CRNA ~ One Year

**Consideration & Approval of Reappointment: (Active):**

1. Emory Hilton, DPM ~ Active ~ Podiatry ~ Two years
2. Jonathan Rohloff, DO ~ Active ~ Family Medicine/Hospitalist ~ Two years
3. Stephen Riddell, MD ~ Active ~ Obstetrics/Gynecology ~ Two year
4. Christine Tavakoli, DO ~ Active ~ Family Medicine/Hospitalist ~ Denied/Non Use of Privileges
5. Michael Speiker, APRN-CNP ~ Allied Health ~ Telemedicine/Behavioral Health/Forefront ~ Two years

**Consideration & Approval of Advancement: (Active)**

1. Mia Murphy, DO ~ Active ~ Family Medicine/Hospitalist/Prime ~ One year

**Consideration & Approval of Additional Privileges (Consulting; Distant Site)**

1. Evgeny Sidorov, MD ~ Consulting ~ Telemedicine/Neurology/Telestroke ~ Two Years (Consulting)
2. Faddi Saleh Valez, MD ~ Consulting ~ Telemedicine/Neurology/Telestroke ~ Two Years (Consulting)
3. Uttam Verma, MD ~ Consulting ~ Telemedicine/Neurology/Telestroke ~ Two Years (Consulting)
4. Ahmad Al-Awwad, MD ~ Consulting ~ Telemedicine/Neurology/Telestroke ~ Two Years (Consulting)
5. Danny Samkutty, MD ~ Consulting ~ Telemedicine/Neurology/Telestroke ~ Two Years (Consulting)
6. Jorge Ortiz-Garcia MD ~ A motion was made ( ) and seconded ( ) to Acknowledge & Accept the Resignations as presented. Motion carried.

**Consideration & Approval of Temporary Privileges**

1. Ryan Knoerdel, PA-C ~ Physician Assistant/Orthopedic Assistant/MRHC ~ 07/16/23 – 08/13/23
2. Stephen Riddell, MD ~ Obstetrics/Gynecology ~ 08/01/23 – 09/07/23

Initials \_\_\_\_\_

3. Thomas Cooper, MD ~ Family Medicine/Hospitalist ~ 08/01/23 – 10/04/23

**Resignations (Acknowledge & Accept)**

1. Andrew McDowell, PA-C ~ Physician Assistant ~ 06/30/23
2. Bradley Lawson, MD ~ Orthopedic Surgeon ~ 07/24/23
3. Kaitlin Vaughn, APRN ~ Nurse Practitioner ~ 08/01/23

A motion was made (Fields) and seconded (Grilliot) to approve items 1, 2, and 3, of the Consent Agenda as presented. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Marti Fields, Brent Grilliot, Johnny Zellmer, MD, Sayer Brenner, Susan Kanard, James Bland, Mary Shannon, Damon Mascoto, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the motion carried.

**Discussion and consideration of land donation to the McAlester Youth Shelter:** Mr. Shawn Howard reported he was approached by the Director of the McAlester Youth Emergency Shelter requesting a property donation from the hospital to expand the current shelter. In the past, the Hospital donated property approximately 150 ft x 149 ft where the current Shelter is located. The hospital currently owns 6 small lots directly behind the shelter totaling approximately 150 ft x 149 ft when combined and the property is landlocked. The contractor informed Mr. Howard 3 lots were needed to expand the current facility. Mr. Howard stated the lots are small and not of any use to the hospital. He made a recommendation to donate all 6 lots to the Youth Emergency Shelter to allow room for a playground area for the children. A recommendation was made by the Board to include in the donation agreement a restriction whereas the land can only be used for Youth Emergency Shelter purposes and if the Youth Emergency Shelter ceases to exist, the property will be returned back to the hospital. Ms. Maggie Martin, attorney for the hospital stated she will add these stipulations to the agreement. A motion was made (Brenner) and seconded (Zellmer) to donate 6 lots known as Lots C,D,E, F, G, and H in Block 163 in the City of McAlester, now known as South McAlester, Pittsburg, State of Oklahoma, with the restriction included in the donation agreement whereas the land can only be used for Youth Emergency Shelter purposes and if the Youth Emergency Shelter ceases to exist, the property will be returned back to the hospital as presented. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Sayer Brenner, Johnny Zellmer, MD, James Bland, Brent Grilliot, Susan Kanard, Damon Mascoto, Marti Fields, Mary Shannon, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the motion carried.

**Finance Committee Report:**

1. **Discussion and consideration of July 2023 Financial Reports:** Ms. Cheryl Perry provided an overview of the July 2023 Financial Reports. She reviewed the Income Statement, Month to Date Actuals, Net Revenue Report, Net Revenue Issues, Other Expenses, Professional Fees, Physician Fees, Purchased Services, Miscellaneous & General and Supplies, McAlester Regional health Center Authority Investments/Board Designated Capital/General Use Funds Roll Forward, Salaries & Wages, Expenses, and the Loan Covenant report. Ms. Perry reported the long awaited FEMA funds was received. The average daily census was up 1% and the acute average length of stay was down. Outpatient surgeries decreased due to a departing surgeon. ED visits increased but outpatient imaging decreased. The remaining clinics were down in numbers contributed to a lower number of available clinic days and time off around the holiday. Salaries were higher in July, contract labor decreased by \$37k to run rate with good movement in ED, Surgery, and Cath Lab. Ms. Perry reported the last \$100k was received as a final reconciliation distribution from the sale to DaVita for MRHC's share in the McAlester Regional Dialysis joint venture. MRHC has also been working with FORVIS on several non-labor expense projects to improve MRHC's margin. Ms. Perry stated we should reach our goals with no problem. A motion was made (Bland) and seconded (Kanard) to approve the July 2023 Finance reports as presented. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: James Bland, Susan Kanard, Mary Shannon, Johnny Zellmer, MD, Marti Fields, Sayer Brenner, Damon Mascoto, Brent Grilliot, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the motion carried.
2. **Discussion and consideration for the purchase of a Cath Lab Upgrade from Arch Medical for Equipment & Software:** Ms. Perry informed the Board the current Cath lab equipment is 15 years old and becoming very difficult to

keep operational. In the past month, the equipment was down twice for multiple days resulting in cancelled procedures. Most procedures were rescheduled however some were lost to other facilities. She stated the Cath Lab is a central piece of equipment to the hospital's cardiology program. The new Lab upgrade will also help with recruitment of cardiologist to this area. The current lab served the community well for years but is now approaching the end of life. Ms. Perry made a recommendation to purchase the cath lab upgrade from Arch Medical. A recommendation was also made to allow Ms. Perry to find the appropriate financing option for MRHC. Funds are currently available through the MRHC Foundation that will be used for a downpayment. The Foundation will continue to raise funds to be applied against the outstanding debt. A **motion** was made (Zellmer) and seconded (Bland) to approve the purchase of the Cath Lab Upgrade from Arch Medical using their financing option as presented. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Johnny Zellmer, MD, James Bland, Susan Kanard, Brent Grilliot, Damon Mascoto, Marti Fields, Mary Shannon, Sayer Brenner, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the **motion** carried.

#### **Personnel Committee Report:**

1. **Discussion and consideration of WellDyne Pharmacy Benefit Manager:** Ms. Lucy Muller reported a pharmacy benefit manager is a third-party administrator of prescription drug programs for commercial health plans, self-insured employer plans, Medicare Part D plans, the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, and state government employee plans. She stated an analysis of the current program was performed by FORVIS with the recommendation to go out to market to ensure WellDyne was within market. HR engaged SavRX, Optum, Elixir, CVS, and WellDyne and after review chose the top three to present to the Personnel Committee. The Personnel Committee vetted the pros and cons of each vendor before making the final decision to accept the WellDyne renewal proposal to present to the Board of Trustees. A **motion** was made (Mascoto) and seconded (Fields) to approve the WellDyne renewal proposal to provide Pharmacy Benefit Management as presented. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Damon Mascoto, Marti Fields, Johnny Zellmer, MD, Sayer Brenner, Susan Kanard, James Bland, Mary Shannon, Brent Grilliot, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the **motion** carried.

**Chief of Staff Report:** Dr. Jonathan Rohloff reported the Residents are doing well and embedded into the community. Two Residents became parents this month. The Hospitalist Group will be losing a couple of staff members due to the change in ER management and will be working to get the staff back up to appropriate levels. Surgeons are very happy with changes to Anesthesia coverage that will be occurring in the near future. He stated although there have been some difficulties with staffing in the recent past and extending into the next few months, patient care will not be impacted.

**CEO Report:** Mr. Howard shared the hospital's lower surgery volumes are directly correlated due to the lack of anesthesia coverage. The current Anesthesia Group is down to three CRNAs, traditionally there should be five to seven to cover all the surgeries. Administration made a very difficult decision to move to the Western Oklahoma Anesthesia Group to provide anesthesia services to MRHC. The group will be fully staffed to accommodate more surgeries including dental cases. The new group is expected to begin on October 1, 2023. Mr. Howard reported the hospital signed an additional surgeon, Dr. Francisco Bravo, who is expected to be here on September 18, 2023. In addition, an orthopedic surgeon is very interested in joining MRHC. He currently lives in Dallas; however, McAlester's smaller community is very appealing to him. He visited the hospital and community recently and met with several providers. In closing, Mr. Howard asked the Board to congratulate Ms. Julie Powell for graduating with a master's degree in legal studies with an emphasis on Health Law.

**Executive Session:** Discussion and Potential Action – Christopher Beene, MD – Chairman

**25 O.S. § 307(B)(4):** “Confidential communications between a public body and its attorney concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, legal action, or proceeding in the public interest.”

1. Pursuant to 25 Okla. Stat. § 307.B.4 discussion with Legal Counsel regarding pending peer review matter and grievance letter

A **motion** was made in public session at 5:07 PM by (Brenner) and seconded by (Fields) to enter Executive Session. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Sayer Brenner, Marti Fields, James Bland, Brent Grilliot, Susan Kanard, Damon Mascoto, Johnny Zellmer, MD, Mary Shannon, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the **motion** carried unanimously.


A **motion** was made at 6:10 PM by (Zellmer) and seconded by (Brenner) to come out of Executive Session. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Johnny Zellmer, MD, Sayer Brenner, Mary Shannon, Marti Fields, Damon Mascoto, Susan Kanard, Brent Grilliot, James Bland, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the **motion** carried.

**ACTION NEEDED:**

1. Discussion and consideration of action taken in Executive Session regarding the letter of grievance.

A **motion** was made (Shannon) and seconded (Zellmer) to prepare a response letter to the grievance letter discussed in executive session. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: Mary Shannon, Johnny Zellmer, MD, Susan Kanard, Brent Grilliot, James Bland, Damon Mascoto, Marti Fields, Sayer Brenner, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the **motion** carried.

**Adjournment:** A **motion** was made (Bland) and seconded (Kanard) to adjourn the meeting at 06: 15 PM. The vote was taken as follows: Aye: James Bland, Susan Kanard, Johnny Zellmer, MD, Sayer Brenner, Marti Fields, Mary Shannon, Damon Mascoto, Brent Grilliot, and Christopher Beene, MD. Nay: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Chairman Beene declared the **motion** carried.

  
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 Christopher Beene, MD ~ Chairman  
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 James Bland ~ Vice-Chairman