

TRINITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
March 17, 2025-Monthly Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Marjory Pulvino.

Board Members Present: Marjory Pulvino, President
Cheryl Spearman, Secretary
Patricia Rogers
Randy Karnes
Laura Huffman
Michelle Medlock
Deana Shelly
Sunnie Frye

Board Members Absent: Steve Hancock, Vice President

Others Present: Billy Goodin, Executive Assistant to the Board
Brett Kirkham, CEO, MCHS
Josh Abell, Administrator, MCMCT/MCMCC
Roxann Langston, DON, MCMCT/MCMCC
Orrin Hargrave, On-Point
Betsy Carney
Keith Shelley, CEO Ventura EMS
Scott Womack, Ventura EMS

*Denotes Guests that addressed the board

II. INVOCATION Randy Karnes provided the invocation.

III. PUBLIC FORUM-PUBLIC

Marjory Pulvino welcomed those in attendance and opened the floor for any discussions or questions. There were no questions or comments presented during the Public Forum.

IV. READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the monthly Board Meeting held on February 17, 2025, were reviewed by the Board.

Action: Laura Huffman made the motion to accept the minutes as written for the February 17, 2025 monthly Board meeting. Cheryl Spearman seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

V. MIDCOAST REPORT-Josh Abell, Administrator MCMCT/MCMCC:

Josh reported that there were 413 visits to the ER during the month of February—2% conversion rate, but Josh would like to see a 10% or better conversion rate. There were 80 visits to the outpatient lab and 19 visits to outpatient radiology. He did not have any clinic statistics. The state came back to visit and TMH was in full compliance.

MidCoast is still having problems with TrueBridge billing. MidCoast presented a plan to TrueBridge, but they rejected it. Josh spoke with a representative from Trent Ashby's office who said that we will have the Medicaid contract very soon and Blue Cross contract by May or June.

Josh is forwarding a proposal to Brett and David. He would like another billing company to give a proposal. There would be a transition period, but he would work toward a shut off. He would like the new billing company to collect on the newer and higher paying bills. Insurance companies are slow in paying. One problem might be that the insurance company is sending money to the patient instead of the hospital. Managed Medicare and Medicare Advantage companies make the bulk of money. They like to pay the old two year old rate instead of the current rate.

Josh reported that MidCoast lost about \$1.1 million last year. They are getting money from the Stabilization Grant but not sure when the money will come. In the future, MidCoast might be eligible for a competitive grant.

TMH had a good January and met expenses. TMH is still fighting Medicare for September payments. The hospital keeps refiling, but can only go back 90 days **from the date of the survey.** A True Bridge task force is still working on it, but not able to get any funds of about \$250,000 yet. TMH needs more revenue. Because of start up issues, revenue that cannot be collected, contracts being delayed and insurance companies not wanting to pay, TMH is at risk.

Jodey Arrington, the House Budget Committee chairman from Texas, has introduced the Second Chances for Rural Hospitals Act in Congress. This bill expands the eligibility requirements by allowing hospitals that have been closed since 2014 to become a REH. Josh said he is going to Washington DC next month. He will visit several Congressmen to ask them to support the bill. Getting the bill passed will take a long time. If TMH ever receives the REH designation, the hospital will receive more governmental funding.

VI. PRESENTATION OF STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS

1. Monthly Financial Report

The Monthly Financial Report was distributed, and it was presented by Orrin Hargrave with OnPoint. Mr. Hargrave reported that tax percent collections for the month were at 84%. Mr. Hargrave also discussed the financial data as listed below, the Money Market Account balance and included the Pledge Report from the First National Bank of Trinity. Mr. Hargrave also presented an update on the TexasCLASS investment pool performance.

<u>Compilation of Financial Statements – Assets</u>	<u>February 28, 2025</u>
Cash on hand	\$ 250.00
Checking	\$ 318,809.07
TexasCLASS cash	\$ 299,901.83
Money market account FNB	\$ 115,813.08
Property taxes receivable	\$ 535,104.70
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	\$ (217,354.06)
Prepaid Insurance	\$ 27,059.60
 Total Current Assets	 \$ 1,076,584.22

For the current month Total Revenues were **\$235,950.17**, Total Operating Expenses were **\$105,897.30**. Operating Revenues in Excess of (Less Than) Expenses were **\$130,052.87**.

Action: Randy Karnes moved that the financial report be accepted by the Board. Laura Huffman seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

VII. PRESENTATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee: Presented by Marjory Pulvino, President:

Marjory reported that she and Board member, Randy Karnes, visited the President and Vice-President of First National Bank of Trinity to ask them to finance our QIPP loan. They said they could not help us because we have no collateral.

Marjory discussed the importance of the REH designation and why we need it. She said that a waiver from the requirement that the hospital was open in December 2020 would be required. She said that TMH lost \$860,000 during the first year of operation.

Marjory is going to send a letter to our legislators with an explanation of our problems. She would like each of the Board members to sign the letter. She asked Keith Shelly to write a letter explaining what would happen to his company if our hospital had to close.

B. Budget Committee: Presented by Deana Shelly

The Budget Committee did not meet today. Deana reported that she reviewed the current status of the budget and the District is in good shape financially.

C. Community Health Resource Center Report: Report by Pat Rogers

The CHRC advisory committee met on March 12. Ms. Bacon presented her productivity log. She revised and updated the flyer she had been using and asked that it be taken to the Board for approval. Also, she asked that Board review her list of needed promotional items and give her permission to order them. Her monthly presentations are ongoing and are being held at Trinity High School, Head Start, and

the YMCA. She plans on contracting or writing a letter to our local businesses and asking for donations for medical supplies needed by her clients. She is also looking for grants to help get the supplies. The Board discussed her requests and decided to ask her to look at her wish list again because we do not have the money to buy the requested items at this time. Randy moved that we allow Ms. Bacon to revise the CHRC flyer. Deana Shelley seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board.

Election Committee: Report by Cheryl Spearman

The Certificate of Unopposed Candidates document has been received from Priscilla Rasbery, our Trinity County Election Administrator. Cheryl Spearman moved that the Certification of Unopposed Candidate document be accepted by the Board. Sunni Frye seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board. Cheryl Spearman stated since all the candidates for the May 3, 2025 election were unopposed, we can cancel the election. Cheryl Spearman moved that the Board approve the Cancellation of Election scheduled for May 3, 2025 by signing Resolution # 0002-2025. Laura Huffman seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved by the Board. The Board members signed the resolution.

D. Executive Assistant to the Board Report:

Billy Goodin presented the following report for the month.

Month: February 2025:

- 1. Petty Cash Report:** Monthly Petty Cash Verification performed on 3/17/2025 Cash \$250.0, Receipts \$0.00, Checks \$0. for a total of \$250.00. Balanced to assigned total of \$250.00. Verified by Cheryl Spearman, TMHD Secretary.

- 2. Questions and Comments:** None

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Josh Abell reported that Brett Kirkham said there is a problem making payroll. He said that the Board needs to know at least five days before things like this happen so plans can be made. If we can get the insurance contracts in place, maybe there will be a glimmer of hope. He is worried that we do not have an alternative without getting the REH designation. Josh made the comment that it is a fact that rural towns die if they do not have a school or a hospital.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

Cheryl Spearman reported that she and Randy Karnes had a telephone conversation with Liz Johnson last week. Liz gave them information on how to start a hospital foundation. She has

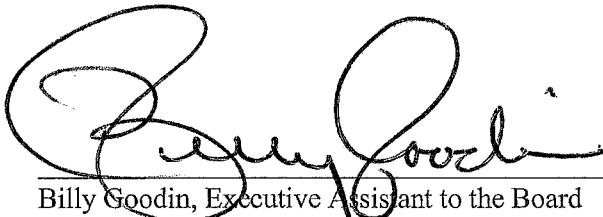
started two foundations and worked for one. She would come to the first meeting to educate the members by showing a power point and coordinating group activities. Randy Karnes stated that we need to delay the meeting until we get the right mix of people together. The Board members agreed.

X. **ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION, IF REQUIRED:** No Closed Session Required

In Accordance with Section 551.072 of the Open Meetings Handbook, “Deliberations About Real Property” and Section 551.085. Deliberation by Governing Board of Certain Providers of Health Care Services.

XI. **REOPEN MEETING FOR SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS** – No Closed Session Required.

XII. **ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business, Sunnie Frye moved to adjourn the meeting; Patricia Rogers seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 p.m.



Billy Goodin, Executive Assistant to the Board

4-21-25
Date