

Minutes

Operating Board of Directors DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center March 18, 2021

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Rehab & Nursing Operating Board at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

Present Directors: Ferald Bryan, Pat Conboy, Karen Cribbin, William Cummings, Steve Kuhn, Greg Millburg, Rita Nielsen.

Absent Directors: None

Also Present: Brian Gregory, Steve Duchene, Scott Gima

Rita Nielsen called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. The meeting is being held as a Virtual Public Meeting.

Motion: Steve Kuhn moved to approve the agenda with the addition of a review of the January 13, 2021 meeting minutes to the Approval of Minutes. Seconded by Steve Kuhn.

Roll Call Vote: Rita Nielsen asked for a roll call vote on the approval of the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Pat Conboy moved to approve the January 13, 2021 and February 11, 2021 open session minutes. Steve Kuhn seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Rita Nielsen asked for a roll call vote on the approval of the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments:

None

Old Business:

None

New Business:

Administrator's Report. Duchene discussed the current County positivity rate has declined to 3.0 percent. The current state-wide positivity rate is 2.7%.

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Duchene discussed CMS' recent publication of the new indoor visitation guidelines. IDPH is reviewing the guidelines and has not yet released an update to the State visitation guidelines for the State. Gima added IDPH has asked IL nursing homes should not allow indoor visitation until State visitation guidelines have been updated. The current single resident positive case also delays indoor visitation. DCRNC is currently investigating whether this positive case is a result of a false positive rapid test.

Duchene discussed the current status of the plan of correction for the CMS survey tags, life-safety and Emergency plan tags.

Duchene summarized the dementia program development that is currently underway in response to the survey. Work is ongoing with a new physician and consulting psychiatrist that will significantly improve the overall Alzheimer's and dementia program. Gima added that the program improvements provide an opportunity to expand the program and increase census.

Duchene discussed the ongoing planning for a new electronic medical records system and current recruitment efforts for an Admissions/Marketing Coordinator and a Human Resources Manager.

Financial Report. Gima provided a summary of the December financials that showed a cash loss of just under \$1 million. That figure includes CARES Act funds that total about \$1 million. The average census for the year was just under 141 residents. The current census is 115. At that census level, the cash loss would be significantly higher. A few years ago, cash was as high as \$5 million. The current cash is less than \$1 million. Cummings asked for the reasons for the decline. Gima stated that \$5 million is less than 5 months of available cash based on average revenues per month. Millburg added that DCRNC contributed \$2 million of nursing home funds for the expansion project, bringing the cash balance down. Cummings asked if COVID stopped people from coming into the nursing home. Gima stated that admissions from home fell to a very small number since March 2020. Secondly, hospital referrals also declined significantly. Cummings asked what nursing homes are supposed to do? Gima answered that in the private sector, working capital or short-term loans are used. A county-owned nursing home does not have access to either types of loans.

Gima summarized current and future strategic efforts to build census. This includes continued work with the Northwestern post-acute care network and a possible expansion of our Alzheimer & dementia program. Gima also discussed continuing work to reduce agency use of nurses and CNAs.

Cribben asked if the recent stimulus bill provided any financial assistance for nursing homes. Gima answered that there was no nursing home funding included in the bill.

Brain Gregory stated that the recommendation from the Assistant States' Attorney is for the Operating Board to formally ask the county board for financial assistance. A discussion took place that stated that the framework for the assistance would be periodic assistance in the form of a loan to the nursing home. Periodic benchmarks would be required.

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Motion: Pat Conboy moved to ask the county for financial assistance. Steve Kuhn seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Rita Nielsen asked for a roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session:

Motion: Steve Kuhn moved to adjourn and open an Executive/ Closed Session, pursuant to Collective Bargaining per ILCS 120/2(c)(2). Seconded by Ferald Bryan.

Roll Call Vote: Rita Nielsen asked for a roll call vote to adjourn and open an Executive/Closed Session pursuant to Collective Bargaining per ILCS 120/2(c)(2). Motion carried unanimously.

At 9:02 a.m., Executive Session took place with the following individuals present: Brian Gregory, Scott Gima and Steve Duchene.

Executive Session ended at 9:16

Motion: Pat Conboy moved to approve the Extension Agreement Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) entered into by and among the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center and DeKalb County and AFSCME Council 31 and a second Extension Agreement Memorandum of Understanding that addresses cooks and activity aides. Greg Millburg seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Rita Nielsen asked for a roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: April 8, 2021

Motion: Greg Millburg moved to adjourn. Bill Cummings seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Rita Nielsen asked for a roll call vote to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
Scott T. Gima
Recorder