

West Ascension Parish Hospital Service District Board Meeting

The West Ascension Parish Hospital Service District Board's regularly scheduled meeting from March 30, 2023 at 12:00 Noon.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Glenn Schexnayder, Mr. A. J. Gomez, Mr. John Marchand, Mr. Vince Cataldo.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Larry Buquoi, Ms. Loretta Larvadain, Ms. Nobie Landry, Attorney Spencer Long, Mr. Jess Daze, Ms. Jennifer Mistretta

ABSENT: Dr. Michel Hirsch, Mr. Mike Medine

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Michel Hirsch. There were no objections to the minutes of the meeting held on February 23, 2023 as distributed. The minutes were accepted as individually read.

2. ROLL CALL

Dr. Michel Hirsch and Mr. Michael Medine were not present.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

4. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Vince Cataldo gave findings of the monthly committee reports. No actions were needed.

5. OLD BUSINESS

There are still ongoing problems with nursing service shortages. Most shifts are shorthanded. Recruiting efforts continues through social media, the newspapers and on Indeed. We are using three full time contract nurses to fill the schedule. Two PRN registered nurses have been hired in the past four months.

Interfacing to our electronic medical records system with Dr. Nagaratna Reddy and Care South is still in progress. Meetings with Athenahealth are now scheduled every two weeks. Data continues to be collected to meet CMS requirements. We will probably file for an exception.

LAHIE continues to receive data and continues to report to the state.

CJ Electric reported that some of the material for the medical office building electrical upgrade has been received.

Training for ethics and sexual harassment training continues. Safety Director Mr. James Breaux will prepare instructions for board members to receive this training utilizing an internet link.

Our wound care provider, Restorix, was billing Prevost Hospital for non-reimbursable codes. This billing practice has been discontinued. Monitoring cost and reimbursement on the program continues.

To help with the temperature in the IT room, engineers proposed installing a mini-split in the room. Until the work can be done, the maintenance department has closed off some air conditioning ducts in the area to help lower the temperature in the IT room.

On February 21, 2023, The Joint Commission informed the hospital that it had received accreditation for all services surveyed effective September 16, 2022.

On February 22, 2023, Prevost Hospital received a certified letter from The Sunrise Community Group, Mr. Glenn Price. The group was requesting information/records from the hospital. Following a discussion, the board asked Mr. Cataldo to work with Attorney Larry Buquoi to satisfy this request in a timely manner. The requested information was delivered to Mr. Buquoi's office on March 6, 2023 and was picked up by Mr. Price on the same day.

Mr. Vince Cataldo and Ms. Nobie Landry, CFO, utilized the purchased Gallagher Compensation Study to adjust pay rates for employees. Mr. Cataldo highlighted the increases and the ranges from the study. Following a discussion, Mr. John Marchand motioned to approve the increases for the pay period starting March 20, 2023. Mr. A. J. Gomez seconded the motion and the motion carried. The final calculations have been completed and have been submitted to the ADP. Checks dated April 6, 2023 will indicate pay increases.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Jennifer Mistretta and Mr. Jess Daze gave highlights of the annual independent audit and the statewide Agreed upon Procedures on Compliance and Control Areas. There were a few minor findings and recommendations. Following a discussion, Dr. Glenn Schexnayder motioned to accept the audits as presented. Mr. John Marchand seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The following applications were presented to the board for Provisional Privileges

PHYSICIAN	COMPANY	SPECIALTY
Everett Brown, M. D.	Blue Angels	ER/Hospitalist
Stephen Fischer	Blue Angels	ER/Hospitalist

The applicants were reviewed and approved for Provisional Privileges by the board.

The following application was presented to the board for Full Privileges

PHYSICIAN	COMPANY	SPECIALTY
Christopher Green, M. D.	Tulane	Neurology/Tele-Stroke

The applicant was reviewed and approved for Full Tele-Stroke Privileges by the board.

The board members were given a copy of several proposals for ultrasound equipment. Following a review of the proposals, the board asked Mr. Cataldo to contact Mr. Louie Pellegran with General Electric with the following questions.

- a. Will we ever have a need for the A-Bus at Prevost Memorial Hospital?
- b. Should we consider trading the A-Bus for the new organ ultrasound equipment?
- c. Is \$40K a fair trade-in for an unused A-Bus?

A follow-up report will be given at the next regular meeting.

On March 23, 2023, representatives from the Baton Rouge General Hospital/LIHNC visited to explain some of the membership benefits and invite Prevost Hospital to join. Following a discussion, the board agreed to have Mr. Larry Buquoi review the LIHNC Operating Agreement, Dues Resolution and Joiner for Prevost Hospital. A follow-up report will be given at the next regular meeting.

Each board member was given a copy of an email received on March 29, 2023 from Mr. Mike Medine. This email served as his official resignation from the Prevost Hospital Board of Commissioners. Following a discussion, the board asked Mr. Cataldo to notify Ascension Parish Government of this resignation.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Mr. John Marchand and a second by Mr. A. J. Gomez.



Dr. Michel Hirsch, Board Chairman



Mr. Vince Cataldo, Administrator/Secretary