

SAMARITAN HOSPITAL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
February 22, 2022
5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Keith Maloney, Patricia Knowles, Rusty Neill, Via Zoom Jim Simon
Members Absent:
Others Present: Jill Williams, Carli Taylor, Sarah Middleton, Dr. McDowell, Jane Young

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes from the January 25, 2022 Meeting
- B. Accounts Payable
- C. Accounts to the Attorney
- D. Quality Assurance
- E. Patient Satisfaction Results

Rusty motioned to approve the consent agenda. Patricia seconded and passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. Covid update** - Jane shared a current Covid update. Community and state rates are declining and at this time the Ba.2 sublineage of the omicron is slowly increasing. Still having more than 2,000 deaths per day in the US so Omicron is not proving to be milder. More than 850 children have died from Covid averaging 3 deaths per day in the US. Surgical Guidelines - Our hospitalists and surgeons are looking at our Covid testing guidelines for surgical procedures to determine what our policy will be going forward. Visitor Policy Changes - We have currently reverted to our pre-Covid visitation policy including restrictions for patients on isolation. So active Covid patients will continue to have restrictions as any other infectious disease patient. There may be upcoming changes as we attend further educational offerings from MHA later this week. We are no longer required to track exposure even though the national data shows more hospital acquired infections in patients with Omicron. Treatment - We are still providing Sotrovimab monoclonal antibody on a limited basis as it remains on allocation. We have some anti-viral medications available in our community also on a limited basis for those at risk of severe disease and hospitalization.

Rusty made a motion directing management to conduct a thorough policy review to identify any policies, both formal and informal, that were put in place due to the Covid pandemic and present these at next month's Board meeting. He would also like a list of those rescinded and/or a recommendation and rationale for continuance of any current Covid policies, procedures, and protocols. Only those specifically required to maintain CMS funding and explicitly approved by the hospital's board of trustees shall remain in force. Examples for discussion 1) No mask requirement or screening measures of any kind to enter the hospital. 2) Only employees or direct caregivers will be subject to the vaccination mandate. Volunteers, including any members of a board clergy or chaplaincy, will not be subject to the vaccination requirement. Further effectively communicate to the entire staff the board's position that only those policies required to maintain CMS funding will be required going forward. Jim seconded the motion. Voting in favor was Rusty, Jim and Keith. Nah- Patricia motion carried.

- B. Other Old Business** - None

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Equipment Request** - Carli presented three options for new Digital Radiology Equipment. Patricia moved to approve the purchase of the GC85 Samsung Digital Radiology equipment/service agreement for \$249,389. Jim seconded. Motion carried.

Infinitech switches for \$21,675 - The switches presented were reviewed. The board would like more information from our IT department. They requested end of life information. Administration will ask IT Director for additional information and bring this item to the March meeting.

- B. Procurement Action Plan** - Edward Jones requires that the Board of Trustees formally approve the Procurement Action Plan Annually for the 403B retirement plan. Jim motioned to approve the Procurement Action Plan as presented. Patricia seconded and passed unanimously.
- C. Medical Staff Minutes/ Applications** - Dr. McDowell reviewed the minutes from the January 26, 2022 meeting. The new applications as well as the renewals were reviewed. Jim motioned to approve the applications as presented. Rusty seconded and passed unanimously.
- D. Medical Staff By-Laws** - The red-line version of the Medical Staff by-laws were discussed and reviewed. The changes were approved at the January 26, 2022 Medical Staff meeting. Dr. McDowell recommended approval as presented. Patricia motioned to approve the by-laws as presented. Jim seconded and passed unanimously.
- E. HR Report** - Reviewed by the board.
- F. Public Participation** - None.
- G. Other New Business** - Sprinkler system - Jill informed the board that we had to shut off the water to a section of the sprinkler system due to a rusted pipe that burst. Tony Winkler, Plant Operations Director, contacted the local fire chief for guidance. The Assistant Fire Chief came on site and stated that we would not need to do a 24-hour fire watch, as there are still fire alarms that are working in these areas. Mr. Winkler is working to get repair quotes. One would replace the rusted pipe under the south parking lot and the other would be to tie into our new sprinkler system in another part of the hospital. Tying into our new system would be his preference. The repair quotes will be presented at the March meeting.

Rusty asked Administration for an update on the Ambulance Department. Jill stated that she continues to communicate with the staff frequently and in her opinion, morale has improved. The director has been out on FMLA but Jill has conducted open position interviews in his absence.

Complaint reports 12-18 from 2021 were shared with the board.

With no further business, Patricia motioned to adjourn. Jim seconded and passed unanimously.