Cochran County Hospital District
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2025

Cochran Memorial Hospital
201 E Grant Ave
Morton, Texas 79346

ATTENDANCE

<u>Board of Directors</u>
Betty Lyon
John Schmidt
Ray O'Brien
William (Bill) Albus
Matt Patterson

<u>Hospital Administration</u>
Kody Kitchens

<u>Minutes Taker</u>
Mary McKnight

<u>Guests</u>
Grant Turner
Robert Garza

1. **Opening**
   a. Quorum present
      i. Meeting called to order 5:03 p.m.
   b. Invocation led by John Schmidt.
   c. Public Comments
      i. John Schmidt stated Frontier Ambulance sold the 2002 EMS unit to Borden County EMS for $5,000. Title is executed and unit is in possession of Borden County EMS.
      ii. John also stated Frontier Ambulance will advertise for bids for the 1997 EMS Unit.
   d. Review and Consider Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
      i. Motion made to approve the January 15 2025; regular session meeting minutes as read. Motion seconded. Four (4) votes in favor of approving minutes; zero (0) votes against. Motion passed; minutes approved as read.
2. **Matters for Discussion and/or Action.**
   a. Cochran County Foundation request for assistance with food pantry & Meals on Wheels
      i. Contract has been drawn up between Cochran Memorial Hospital and the Cochran County Foundation for meal preparation and reimbursements. Members of the Board of Directors were presented the contract for review.
      ii. Inquiry was made about the reimbursement of $5.00 per meal.
         i. Mary McKnight stated meals, our cost, are on average, approximately $4.80 per meal.
         ii. Kody Kitchens stated that the price could be renegotiated in the future if costs were to increase.
      iii. Motion was made to approve the contract between Cochran Memorial Hospital and the Cochran County Foundation as presented to the Board of Directors. Motion was seconded. Four (4) votes in favor of approving the contract; zero (0) votes against. The motion passed. The contract between Cochran Memorial Hospital and the Cochran County Foundation was approved as presented to the Board of Directors. Members of the Board of Directors signed and dated the contract and returned it to Kody Kitchens.

b. Cochran Memorial Hospital District Board of Directors member service on Frontier Ambulance Board of Directors
    i. Motion made to appoint John Schmidt to serve as the Cochran Memorial Hospital District Board of Directors representative on the Frontier Ambulance Board of Directors. John accepted the appointment. Motion was seconded. (Three) votes in favor of appointing John Schmidt to the Frontier Ambulance Board of Directors, zero (0) against. Motion passed. John Schmidt is appointed to the Frontier Ambulance Board of Directors as the Cochran Memorial Hospital District Board of Directors representative.

c. Hold public hearing regarding adoption of a resolution establishing a tax abatement program and establishing/adopting tax abatement guidelines and criteria pursuant to Texas Tax Code Chapter 312. Interested members of the public may participate in the public hearing by oral testimony, limited to five (5) minutes in the interest of time and to permit maximum participation by others. Rules of Decorum will apply.
    i. Discussion held regarding the presented proposal.
    ii. Request was made that Kody Kitchens call Garrett Peters to give an overview of the proposal. Kody called Mr. Peters on speaker phone and requested Mr. Peters give the Board of Directors an overview. Mr. Peters explained that this allows the hospital district to negotiate directly with the energy company in regards to the tax abatement. He also explained that we must have a policy in place that lays out the criteria and guidelines, and that the pages presented did so. Mr. Peters stated that it in no way means a deal has been reached, it simply allows it to be discussed.
    iii. Schedule for a public hearing was discussed between the Board of Directors, Kody Kitchens, and Garrett Peters. All were in agreement with scheduling a public hearing on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the lobby of Cochran Memorial Hospital.
    iv. Motion was made to hold a public hearing regarding adoption of a resolution establishing a tax abatement program and establishing/adopting tax abatement guidelines and criteria pursuant to Texas Tax Code Chapter 312 on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the lobby of Cochran Memorial Hospital, 201 E. Grant Avenue, Morton, Texas 79346. Interested members of the public may participate in the public hearing by oral testimony, limited to five (5) minutes in the interest of time and to permit maximum participation by others. Rules of Decorum apply. Motion was seconded. Four (4) votes in favor; zero (0) votes against. Motion passed. A public hearing will be held Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. in the lobby of Cochran Memorial Hospital, 201 E. Grant Avenue, Morton, Texas 79346 regarding the adoption of a resolution establishing a tax abatement program and establishing/adopting tax abatement guidelines and criteria pursuant to Texas Tax Code Chapter 312. Interested members of the public may participate in the public hearing by oral testimony, limited to five (5) minutes in the interest of time and to permit maximum participation by others. Rules of Decorum apply.

d. Consider and take action concerning adoption of a resolution establishing a tax abatement program and establishing/adopting tax abatement guidelines and criteria pursuant to Texas Tax Code Chapter 312.
    i. Motion made adopt the presented resolution establishing a tax abatement program, including the presented tax abatement guidelines and criteria pursuant to Texas Tax Code Chapter 312. Motion was seconded. Four (4) votes in favor; zero (0) votes against. Motion passed. The presented resolution to establish a tax abatement program, including the presented tax abatement guidelines and criteria pursuant to Texas Tax Code Chapter 312 has been adopted and signed by members of the Cochran Memorial Hospital District Board of Directors.

3. Reports

a. Financials
    i. Uncompensated Care
        i. CMS will be recouping $363,183.41, due March 15, 2025, from 2021.
            a. Kody stated he will be refuting this amount.
            b. Reason CMS is recouping money is due to the previous CEO's incorrect reporting.
    ii. Opioid Abatement
        i. It was originally stated this money could be used however the facility needed to, however, it has since changed. After we accepted the abatement, we received a letter outlining four (4) options to use the money. These options are not feasible for our facility and we will be returning the money.
    iii. Check Registry
        i. Line items discussed.
            a. Line 11:
                i. New company contract for radiology readings.
            b. Line 54: Dr. Hughes $43,000
                i. Kody unsure what this is for, will need to check with Maggie Ramon for an explanation.
            c. Line 61:
                i. Remodeling two (2) bathrooms.
            d. Line 87: Ashley Davidson
                i. Reimbursement for training.

b. Administrator's Report
    i. Financial Computer System
        i. We are in the process of switching from FMS to Multi-View. This has been a difficult and time-consuming task for Maggie Ramon, Chloe Barton and Kody Kitchens. Dianne Moore, a consultant, has been hired to help with this transition.
        ii. Most of the reports we need to run for this transition are incorrect and the data has to be manually corrected. This data is also needed by the auditors, so once everything is corrected, it should lower the cost of our annual audit.
        iii. Go-live is scheduled for March 3, 2025.
        iv. There is a possibility that our financial information will be incomplete for the March 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

ii. 340B Program
    i. Starting to see money come in for the hospital from this program which was started in November 2024, however, payments run a couple months behind. Cochran Memorial Hopital's net profit for November 2024 through December 2024 was $19,259.46. January 2025 through February 15, 2025 is $15,276.71. We have received a portion of these payments, but we get bi-monthly payments.
    ii. This program helps to keep the outside pharmacy open and lowers the cost of certain medications for patients while bringing a profit for the hospital.

iii. Measles Outbreak
    i. Ongoing measles outbreak in our area. Hospital has purchased Titer tests for employees to check their levels of immunity. Several employees will need to be re-vaccinated. Titers are not completely covered by insurance, but Kody authorized the hospital to cover this cost to help ensure employee safety and health.

iv. Cochran County EMS
    i. EMS is still unable to bill for services. Kody has completed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services forms last week. Emergicon has assured us that we should be able to begin billing in May 2025.

v. Dietary Department
    i. Laura Molinar has been hired to work in the dietary department. She has a current food handlers certificate and previous experience.

vi. Clinical Report
    i. Will be adding a clinical report to report on the number of patients seen in the clinic and emergency department. These numbers will be broken down by provider to show trends.

4. Personnel

a. No new business

5. Open Forum

a. No new business

6. Adjournment

a. Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded. Four (4) votes in favor; zero (0) oppose. Motion carried.
    i. Meeting adjourned 6:14 p.m.

Cochran Memorial Hospital CEO	Date
Cochran Memorial Hospital President, Board of Directors	Date