



**Missouri River Medical Center**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**April 27, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Missouri River Medical Center was held on April 1st, 2021 by utilizing online phone and video conferencing. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mike O’Hara at 01:36 PM.

**Members:** Members present were Mike O’Hara, Roger Pugh, and Nikki Stovall.

Also present were Louie King, CEO; Shane Clark, CFO, Janice Woodhouse, and Bryan Cartwright, Recorder.

Guests: Brian Solan, Angela Wagner with Ameresco

**Comments from the Floor:** None

**Foundation Report:** None

**Minutes:** Minutes of the April 1st, 2021 board meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION:** **The MRMC Board of Trustees approved the minutes from the April 1st, 2021 meeting as presented. Motion was made by Roger Pugh, second by Nikki Stovall. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Board Action Items:**

- **CARES Act / Provider Relief Funds Discussion as it relates to the current Laundry Construction Project**
  - At the last board meeting, a Billings Gazette article titled “Montana Critical Access Articles expand, remodel, using CARES Act funds”. Ross had ready the article and forwarded to each board member to discuss. Louie King at that time said that he would research the article and what other CAHs are doing in MT and bring it to this board meeting. Louie King started by discussing how several other facilities have been using the Cares Act funds for building improvements. The deadline to use the funds is June 30<sup>th</sup>. The board discussed how the Laundry project would work with Cares Act funding since it would help mitigate the spread of infectious diseases and Covid-19. Brian Solan with Ameresco did a report on the current Laundry facility finding concerns such as no ventilation, not enough space, and infectious surfaces, etc. Louie added an issue with exposed pipes in the current laundry which electric heat units need to be used in the winter to prevent the pipes from freezing is also a taggable item for

- State Facility Certification surveys. The 2.5 Million received by MRMC in Cares Act funds are being held in the county bank account and will probably have to be returned by July 31 if none of it is spent by June 30, 2021. The Laundry Project will be completed by mid-May with a cost of \$730,000. Brian Solan at Ameresco stated that other CAHs he is working with are using CARES funds on facility upgrades to mitigate future COVID outbreaks and he does not see why the Laundry project would not qualify.
- Louie Stated that using these funds would be a MRMC Board decision. Benefis management advises to be cautious in using these funds. The Feds have not been specific/clear is stating these funds could be used for facility upgrades due to COVID.
  - **MOTION: The MRMC Board of Trustees moved to use the CARES Act / Provider Relief Funds Discussion on the current Laundry Construction Project. Motion made by Nikki Stovall, second by Roger Pugh.**
    - Louie stated that Brian Solan, Shane Clark and Mike O’Hara held a conference call with MFFA to discuss the loan for \$730K that had already been approved. MFFA advised to lock in the rate right now if we decide not to use this loan for the laundry project. Mike O’Hara discussed increasing the loan from \$700k to 1 Million for building a new clinic, which they agreed to. This means we gained funds toward building the New clinic. Louie stated that the current clinic is from 1955. Brian Solan researched requirements for Clinics, and Mike stated again the finding was that the new Clinic would be considered a Covid related expense. Brian Solan stated that the new Clinic construction is an easy justification to make for the Cares Act Funding. Mike O’Hara asked if a part of the Clinic project could be funded by CARES Act Funds, and if so how could we spend those prior to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Brian Solan and Angela Wagner with Ameresco shared a spreadsheet on the updated cost of the new Clinic since the estimate was over a year old. See Attached (the new cost of the clinic is approximately \$2.5M. Brian Solan stated that technically MRMC has started the Clinic project with the Drainage, Sidewalks and Parking lot work already completed. Also, the new power and HVAC hookups for the Clinic in the current Laundry project. Angela Wagner added that contractors are not guaranteeing quotes for over a week right now due to material prices on very high increases. Dick Anderson Construction said their quote would only be valid for 5 days. Roger asked for numbers to look at before the next board meeting on the new Clinic. Mike said we have a good opportunity to move forward with the clinic right now and we need to charge forward. Roger said, Let’s do it.” Louie also stated that negative pressure rooms are what some Hospitals are adding with the Cares Act funds allowing them to take patients with Covid.
    - Angela Wagner stated that the laundry project is nearing completion with the ceiling tiles going in today, and the flooring to be done next week. She is working to coordinate the moving of equipment, which scheduling has been difficult. The Reach room is also near completion.



- **Nursing Services - COO Report:**

- Janice stated we currently have 2 Swing Bed Patients and 20 Long Term Care patients, with one swing bed possibly moving to Long Term Care. We have taken care of several trauma patients, which Benefis called and said patients transferred from MRMC were taken care of very well, which made a good impact for the patient's well-being. Currently preparing for surveyors. Managers have been asked to complete employee evaluations. Brenda Thune is working in payroll to help get employee files in order for the survey.

- **Financial Report:**

- Shane Presented March financial statements see attached. 26 CT Scans, 10 of which Janice explained were with Contrast. 340 Clinic visits which is the first high since November 2020. Shane mentioned that the PPE Loan was turned into the bank, still waiting to hear back. Attached are the financial statements.

- **CEO's Report:**

- Louie discussed a ransom virus that was noticed by night staff on the night of the April 6<sup>th</sup>. Bryan Cartwright received the notice and both computers were taken offline. Brian Enseleit with Entech Computers was contacted as a consultant. Janice Woodhouse called insurance and opened a claim for a Cyber Security claim. A group of Attorney's named VedderPrice were contacted recommended by our insurance company. There was a slight chance- estimated at less than 5% that there was a data grab which would be more costly to correct. Forensic investigation was started to determine if information was accessed (data grab). Brian Enseleit used to manage IT Services at Teton Medical Center before being managed by Benefis and Louie recommends him highly to help MRMC in their IT platforms. Bryan Enseleit is on retainer to help Bryan Cartwright and to take call when Bryan Cartwright is on vacation.

**MOTION: The MRMC Board of Trustees move to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Nikki Stovall, second by Roger Pugh. Motion carried.**

**The next meeting is scheduled for May 25th, 2021 at 1:30pm via Online Meeting.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mike O'Hara, Chairman

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Bryan Cartwright, Recorder