



**Missouri River Medical Center**  
**Board of Trustees**  
**December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Missouri River Medical Center was held December 20th, 2022, in the MRMC Reach Room, and by utilizing online phone and video conferencing. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Mike O'Hara at 1:33 PM.

**Members:** Members present were Mike O'Hara, Nikki Stovall, Ross Rettig, Roger Pugh, and Tricia Juedeman. Also, present were Louie King, CEO, Janice Woodhouse, DON/COO, and Bryan Cartwright, Recorder.

Guests: Bruce Houlihan and Mindi Payne.

**Minutes:** Minutes of the November 17th, 2022, board meeting were reviewed.

**MOTION:** The MRMC Board of Trustees approved the minutes from the November 17th, 2022, meeting as presented. Motion was made by Ross, second by Nikki. Motion carried unanimously.

**Comments from the Floor:** Bruce Houlihan introduced himself, and discussed staffing changes at Benefis, and introduced Mindi Payne as the BHS Financial Controller, and discussed Aaron Radonich's role in the financial department. Bruce stated that Mindi and Aaron will fill the previous MRMC CFO position at this time. Louie discussed how Aaron has already been exposed to many of the things that Shane was doing, and that we are glad to have Mindy's assistance as well now. Louie also discussed the other Benefis members that are a resource to MRMC with Jamie and Whitney in Billing, and Betty Cole in Credentialing. Mike O'Hara welcomed Mindi and discussed the benefits of having the Benefis Management Contract.

**Foundation Report:** Mike O'Hara stated that Ron and Barb were unable to attend the Board Meeting today, but that approximately \$10,000 had been received to date in response to the annual fundraiser letters that were sent out.

**Board Action Items:**

**Ameresco Update:** Louie King discussed postponing the review of the Medical Office Building plans until January. Louie noted that it has been difficult to find available contractors. Louie stated that the designs for MOB are completed. Louie also discussed the future Phase 3 plans with the board.

Janice shared the improvements that the new Clinic has brought, including the improved work flows, and advantages for Infection Control. Mike discussed the parking improvements. Louie shared the increased number of Clinic visits in the first months of the opening of the new RHC.

### **Nursing Services – DON/COO Report**

- Janice discussed the recent Covid outbreak at MRMC over the Thanksgiving holiday. With 11 residents and 19 staff members testing positive. Patients were confined to patient rooms, with no communal activities or dining. Janice stated this was a hard time for Residents, but there were no serious illnesses or deaths with the outbreak. In addition, a review of the clinical response was completed, to determine if any processes could be improved, and the only finding was cleaning goggles on every exit to a resident room. Janice stated that MRMC now is all clear, with no present cases. Janice also stated that within an hour of the being diagnosed, that patients had received treatment. Janice discussed the Laboratory Departments ability to do inhouse tests with the new testing equipment, which reduces travel time to Great Falls, and much more timely results.
- Janice stated that the MRMC Christmas Party has been delayed until January due to recent illnesses. All employees appreciated the Benton Bucks, Christmas Bonus and Coffee Mugs.
- **Financial Services Report**
  - Bruce Houlihan presented the November Financial Reports. He discussed 300 Swing Bed days which were over the budgeted 150. And the 17.3 average Long Term Care days under the budgeted 22. A discussion was held on trying to increase the number of LTC patients. Janice discussed lowering the Budgeted LTC days. Bruce, discussed higher expenses due to traveling nurses, rather than being able to higher locally.
- **CEO Report**
  - Louie King stated that Janice Woodhouse did a great job in response to the recent Covid outbreak. Louie thanked Bryan Cartwright with researching Government electronic health interfaces, and keeping up with the ever changing demands of CMS Promoting Interoperability requirements. Louie shared recent concerns for Malta's Nursing Home closure. He discussed our successful 25 bed CAH financial model. Louie made several highlights to the 2022 calendar year including the completion of the new Rural Health Clinic in October. Louie stated that two clinic Providers were replaced this year which was a great accomplishment. Louie reminded the Board of the successful completion of the Single Audit, and having changed Audit Firms. The 340b drug program has been successful, which put about \$750,000 back into the community's pockets. We have had excellent new hires this year including, Tami Stine in HR, Coleman Axman in Maintenance, and Brady Farwick who has been great help to Bryan. We have had a great financial year, Louie stated.



However, the number one best addition in 2022 was the new John Deere tractor, Louie stated. Louie thanked the Board for their support, and reminded everyone that MRMC is here to save lives, and that we have a great new ER provider Jeff Smith. Louie then thanked Everyone.

**The next regular board meeting is scheduled for January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 1:30PM in the MRMC Reach room and via Zoom.**

**MOTION: The MRMC Board of Trustees moved to go into closed session. Motion was made by Roger second by Ross. Motion carried.**

**MOTION: The MRMC Board of Trustees moved to come out of closed session. Motion was made by Roger second by Ross. Motion carried.**

**MOTION: The MRMC Board of Trustees moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Roger second by Ross. Motion carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Mike O'Hara, Chairman

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Bryan Cartwright, Recorder