

TITLE: Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
DATE/TIME: October 31, 2023 at 7:00 AM
LOCATION: Zoom and Valor Health Executive Board Room

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Valor Health Board of Trustees meeting was called to order at 7:01 a.m. by Dave Shaw. The meeting was held via Zoom.

Board Member Attendance: Dave Shaw (Chair), Earl DeFur (Vice Chair), Shane Roe (Vice Chair Elect), Judy Barbera, Anita Taylor, Lisa Resinkin, Matthew Tucker, Susan Morgan, Dr. Madison Beatty (President of the Medical Staff), Brad Turpen (CEO)

Staff and Guest Attendance: Corey Furin (CFO), Matt Godfrey (Exec. Dir. of Physician Services), Kathy Prindle (Exec. Dir. of Clinical Services), Victoria Mendoza (Executive Assistant/Med Staff Coordinator), Tahja Jensen, Dr. Bill Vetter, Mike Cummings, Jena Hacker, Bill Bazzaro, Kathleen Osborn, Dan Simmons (REH Presenters)

Absent: Kirk Wille

II. AGENDA AMENDMENTS – ACTION ITEM

III. STANDING AGENDA

A. Consent Agenda – ACTION ITEM

1. Approval of minutes
 - PICC 9/12/2023
 - Joint Finance/Planning 9/19/2023
 - Board 9/26/2023

Discussion:

Anita requested to remove the PICC minutes from the Consent Agenda and informed the group the PICC Committee is working on a process to note committee members that join Executive session late. Dave noted that the board minutes will need to be finalized as they are still red lined.

MOTION: Anita Taylor moved to approve the consent agenda without the PICC minutes. Shane Roe seconded the motion. No objections, the motion passed.

B. Public Comment Period

- REH Presenters Dan Simmons, Bill Bazzaro and Kathleen Osborn joined this Board meeting.

C. REH (“Rural Emergency Hospital”) Discussion

- This agenda item was moved up to accommodate the schedules of the guest presenters.
- REH Presenters Dan Simmons, Bill Bazzaro and Kathleen Osborn gave a brief introduction and joined this Board meeting to explain the REH designation and give an overview of how the financial model for Valor Health looks. This was done to follow the investigation recommendation from the Dolphin Tank Report. Some key points of this presentation included: As of January 2023, over 250 rural hospitals were at immediate risk of closure due to financial losses, inadequate revenue, low financial reserves.
- This REH cohort helps guide rural critical access hospitals in seeing if it is the correct designation for them.
- Pros:
 - REH Hospitals receive an additional 5% payment after the FFS (Fee For Service) for Medicare.

- An additional \$3.2M is received from CMS yearly.
- Cons:
 - No Swing bed or Inpatient program is allowed.
 - Not eligible for 340(B) program. In Valor Health's case this would be over \$300K a year.
- REH designation would require:
 - Emergency room services 24/7
 - Diagnostic Lab and Radiology Services
 - Pharmacy drug storage area
 - A transfer agreement with a level 1 or 2 trauma center
 - Observation patients' length of stay needs to be less than 24hrs.
- Bill Bazzaro mentioned the cohorts are designed to lead them to the REH designation during a 12-week period and continue to work with them beyond the 12-week period post conversion.
- Kathleen Osborn presented a Financial Overview of Valor Health if we switched to REH.
 - This was a brief overview that compared Valor Health's FY22 financials with REH financial model. There were three scenarios displayed, the first being our CAH FY22 financial model compared with the REH baseline model. The second scenario is the REH model with Medicare 5% payment reimbursement, CMS yearly payment only. The third scenario included both Medicare and Medicare Advantage in the REH Designation along with the 5% reimbursement increase and yearly CMS payment.
 - The analysis showed the REH designation is not financially advantageous for Valor Health.
 - Corey extended his gratitude to Dan, Bill, Hailey, and Kathleen for their time to present the REH Overview, but at this time Corey recommends not pursuing the REH designation as it does not make sense to our organization nor seem financially viable.
 - There could be an opportunity to further investigate years down the road if certain criteria change.
 - After the Board thoroughly reviewed the scenarios and financial statements, they agreed to not pursue the REH designation. Closing inpatient beds in our community would have a significant impact and, without a compelling financial case to do so, there is no reason to investigate any further.

Discussion:

Shane asked if there have been CAHs that have switched designations and it financially made sense. Shane also added it does not seem like the model would fit our community since it seems we would be taking away services, but not gaining enough revenue. Kathleen noted that there have been transitions and it was mainly due to those Critical Access Hospitals having extremely low inpatient and swing bed volumes.

D. Patient Story – Anita Taylor

- Anita shared a story about a patient recognizing his primary care provider, David Shuey. The patient stated he is alive because of David Shuey and his persistence in sending a referral to a specialist that helped detect the patient's illness in a timely manner.
- There was comfort provided for a patient and their family during the patient's final hours. Our Acute Care Manager, Billie Osterhoudt, shared, "this is why we all work in healthcare, the true feeling of helping a family in need and being that shoulder that someone needs to cry on."
- Anita also mentioned at the last PFAC meeting, the ladies shared a variety of great experiences as well as opportunities for improvement and offered suggestions.

E. Commissioner Update – Kirk Wille

1. Kirk was absent from this meeting.

F. Emmett City Council Update – Dave Shaw

1. Dave reported the re-construction of the City Council was built in honor and memory of

John Reynolds Lafordge who was an instrumental leader for the city.

G. Finance Committee – Earl DeFur

1. Committee Report

- Earl reported there are good plans in place to make it easier for patients to pay their medical bills such as Epic River. Corey is looking into a similar program called AblePay.

2. Financial Statements

- Corey gave a brief overview of the Operating EBIDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation and Amortization) spreadsheet. Some key highlights are:
 - At the October-February run rate, the operating EBIDA was a monthly loss between \$150K and \$388K. After the expense reduction plan began from March-September, the operating EBIDA has been positive except the month of July. This has shown the tremendous work across the leadership in departments.
 - In those 6 months we have lowered expenses by a total of \$1.3M and reached a 13-14% expense reduction in each of those months.
 - The total days for cash on hand grew from 34 days to 71 days and has maintained that level.

Discussion:

Dave asked if July was a negative month due to vacation time. Corey noted it was a low revenue month mainly due to provider vacation. The Board gave their kudos to the leadership team for their effort in this expense reduction plan.

3. Finance Dashboard

- This was not discussed.

H. Planning Committee – Judy Barbera

1. Committee Report

- Judy reported that the Planning Committee will begin to have separate meetings from the Finance Committee starting November 16.

2. Committee Dashboard

- The FY23 Planning Committee Dashboard ended with all objectives in green.

3. Board Goals Dashboard

- The CY23 Board Goals have items in yellow for Board participation in Valor Health events, but that is suspected to move to green after the Festival of Trees event.

4. FY24 Strategic Plan Update

- Brad reported there will be meetings to start work on the objectives for the FY24 Strategic Plan.

5. Valor Health Center Update

- No new updates given.

I. Performance Improvement Committee – Anita Taylor

1. Committee Report

- Anita reported that Emergency Department, Podiatry, and Valor Health Family Medicine all exceeded their patient experience “definitely recommend” goals for FY23.
- Lisa Isaksen, Dr. Trever Martin, Dr. Claussen, Dr. Madison Beatty, Dr. Jerod Hines and Dr. Robin Sebastian are over 90% as providers for “definitely recommend” in FY23.
- Great work by Beth Sutton as there are no controlled documents up for review for Infection Prevention and Control.
- Across Valor Health we are currently at an 84% completion rate for our competency assignments in MCN.
- There are currently 37 open events in ActionCue. This is a good thing as part of our culture is identifying issues to continue to learn and improve.

- Brad and Dr. Vetter will further review Value Based Care education and progress at the Quarterly Board meeting.
- Dr. Vetter and Matt will review the FY24 patient experience score goals that are suggested and determine whether they need to be increased.
- Anita noted the Compliance Management Plan and Code of Ethics did not make it into the packet but are ready to be approved at the Board for the next meeting.

J. Medical Staff – Dr. Madison Beatty

1. September Medical Staff Meeting Summary* (*reference only*)
2. Committee Report: MEC, Labor & Delivery
 - Dr. Claussen and Dr. Coleman were recommended for Board approval for their renewal of privileges. Both are fantastic contributions to our health system.
 - Stephanie Neys overviewed the Inreach program for our lab outreach services that will soon commence and went over the IHC (Integrative Health Centers) for the Tele-psych services that will start in 2024.
 - There was a decrease in referrals for our swing bed that was discovered to be because insurances believed Valor Health was out of network. This has since been corrected.
 - Dr. Beatty and Dr. Sebastian have been approved for privileges at West Valley for Labor and Delivery.
 - The Trunk or Treat and Meet event for Dr. Fox was a wonderful success for our community. It was a great turnout and there was excellent involvement with our providers, Board, and employees.

K. Valor Health Medical Group – Dr. Bill Vetter

1. General Update
 - Matt
 - The City and County are moving forward with using the BVA language provided for the contract for Valor Health Center.
 - Matt shared his kudos for Staci Hartline and Erika Perez for putting together the Trunk or Treat and Meet event for Dr. Zachary Fox.
 - There is the possibility of Dr. Howard Sill performing procedures at Valor Health.
 - Dr. Darren Pittard has started. He replaced Dr. Oliver and there will be a letter going out to patients promoting his gynecology services.
 - Matt is working with Integrative Health Centers (IHC) to begin tele-psych services at Valor Health. This is part of our strategic plan objective in focusing on those we serve, as mental and behavioral health is a much-needed service for our community.
 - Jeralyn Kunz is our new Urgent Care provider for VHFM that will begin on January 8th.
 - Kathy
 - Dr. Beatty and Kathy recently attended the University of Utah Symposium.
 - Three of our Registered Nurses have completed their SANE training, and these will be the first Valor Health has ever had.
 - There is still some traveler staffing utilization in nursing and radiology, but we plan to be fully staffed in November.
 - Kathy recently met with the PR2TA tech advisor to have an opportunity to connect with students in the phlebotomy, medical assistant, and CNA programs.
 - We are also affiliated with TVCC to collaborate and see if any students in those medical programs would like to do their training and externship hours with us.
 - We recently participated in a community-wide active shooter drill that helped the organization learn and find opportunities for improvement.
 - Kathy noted she would like transparency from the Board if there were certain reports from the staff that don't seem right and asks they come to her to investigate any underlying issues.

Discussion:

Matt Tucker asked what some opportunities for improvement were. Kathy noted it was the

process of communicating with EMS on a separate channel after the initial incident report and trying to create a good process for everyone's role.

L. Provider Privileging Approvals – ACTION ITEM

1. October 2023

MOTION: Dave Shaw recommended approving the listed providers. Anita Taylor moved to approve the provider privileging for:

- Michael Claussen, Family Medicine, VHFM
- Patrick Coleman, Cardiology, Affiliate

Shane Roe seconded. No objections. The motion passed.

M. Board of Trustees

1. General Update

- Dave reported there will be the Quarterly Board meeting this Thursday, November 2. It will be a good opportunity for more education and training for the Board.

2. Other Upcoming Meetings

- Medical Staff – November 7 at 7:30 a.m.
 - Earl DeFur will attend and report for the Board.
- PFAC – November 16 at 12 p.m.
 - Dave Shaw will attend and report for the Board.

3. Agenda Items – Submit by November 6

N. Foundation Update – Brad Turpen

- There is a big focus on the Festival of Trees. November 16 there will be a story time with Santa. The Gala will be on November 18 with dinner and a silent dessert auction commencing at 6:30pm.
- Valor Health has purchased two tables for this event. Valor Health has also partnered with PR2TA, and Valor purchased two trees. The PR2TA students will decorate these trees.

O. Administration

1. General Update

- Brad noted we are releasing the first capital item purchases which include a new EPOC Machine, ISTAT analyzer, power exam tables for the clinic, and a special table for Dr. Howard Sill to do interventional radiology procedures at Valor.
- Brad gave kudos to Stephanie Neys for the effort she put into Healthcare Quality Week. Several providers scored above 90% top box for patient experience, “definitely recommend”, including Lisa Isaksen, Dr Martin, Dr Claussen, Dr Bastian, Dr Sebastian, Dr Hines, and Dr Beatty.
- Yaquelin Fonseca, the Patient Access Lead for VHFM won the Non-Clinical Customer Service Award, Lisa Vandeburgh, the Medical Assistant for Orthopedics won the Clinical Customer Service Award and Dr. Beatty for the second year in a row won the Provider Customer Service Award.
- Brad recently had lunch with the new employees for Valor, it was a good turn out and the plan is to continue to do these lunches to connect and learn more about the new hires' experiences at Valor Health.
- This last Department Head was focused on expanding the Speed of Trust to the organization. There will be 4 main categories focused on increasing trust in the workforce.
- Valor Health staff are volunteering to ensure we will have a float in the Main Street Christmas lights parade.
- Brad and the team will present at the City Council and provide a brief update on Valor Health Center.

Discussion:

Dave asked if a brief education can be provided on Value Care Organization. Brad noted he would provide this education at the Quarterly Board meeting on Thursday, November 2.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Executive Session – None

V. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:47 a.m.