

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Lakeland Health Care Center Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 22, 2021
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114
100 West Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Kenneth Monroe.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present: Chair Kenneth Monroe; Vice Chair Kathy Ingersoll; Supervisors Brian Holt, Ryan G. Simons, and Joseph H. Schaefer. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance:

County Board Supervisor: Nancy Russell.

County Staff: County Administrator Mark W. Luberda; Superintendent of County Institutions Carlo Nevicosi; and Nursing Home Administrator Denise Johnson.

Members of the Public: Gary Wagner.

On motion by Supervisor Simons, second by Supervisor Schaefer, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Supervisor Ingersoll, second by Supervisor Simons, the minutes of the July 21, 2021 Lakeland Health Care Center Board of Trustees meeting were approved.

Public Comment – Gary Wagner from the Town of Geneva appeared at the meeting and spoke in opposition of the proposed daily rate increase for private pay residents; citing the comparison done between Lakeland Health Care Center (LHCC) and other nursing homes in the area is not a fair assessment. Wagner stated that LHCC is publicly supported and receives almost \$2.5 million in tax levy. This alone puts LHCC ahead of other facilities in the area. Wagner pointed out that residents are not receiving the personal attention they had in the past due to staff shortages. He believes it is not right to request an increase when the level of service supplied in the past is not able to be upheld as of today.

New business

7a. 2022 Budget Presentation

Nursing Home Administrator Denise Johnson gave a brief summation of the presentation: 2022 Budget Request – Lakeland Health Care Center, which was included in the packet (Pages 4-11); highlighting:

- Budget Comparison
- American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding
- Tax Levy Analysis
- Resident Payer Mix
- Medicaid Reimbursement Increase
- Billing Rates
- Supplemental Payment Revenue
- Certified Public Expenditures (CPE) Revenue
- Managing Resident Accounts
- Wage & Shift Premium Increases
- Pandemic Positions
- Senior Meals Program

Supervisor Schaefer offered a motion, second by Supervisor Simons, to accept the 2022 Budget Request for Lakeland Health Care Center. Motion carried 5-0.

Reports

8a. COVID-19 Update

Johnson referenced her Memorandum found on Page 12 of the packet; stating two staff members tested positive for COVID-19 in August, however neither had any contact with residents. Johnson shared that guidance has changed in reference to testing for COVID-19 subsequent to an individual testing positive. She stated that if an individual in a specific unit tests positive, now only individuals within that unit require testing,

not the entire facility. Johnson shared that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is now reporting “Rate of Transmission” as opposed to “Positivity Rate.” She advised this is now the number she will report going forward.

Johnson stated that the coordination planned with Health and Human Services (HHS) to administer booster shots to staff and residents come November has been put on hold due to the change in guidance stating the booster will only be for immunocompromised individuals.

Johnson shared that as of September 6, LHCC learned of new eligibility for COVID-19 funding. Johnson plans to start the application process and will report back to the Board when she obtains more information.

Johnson declared a Memorial Service for residents lost in 2020 was held last Thursday. LHCC partnered with an Eagle Scout who planted a tree and hydrangeas in the front parking lot areas, and created a plaque of remembrance.

8b. Business Activities Report/Hiring Update

Johnson reviewed the Nursing Home Administrator’s Report – July 2021 included in the packet (Page 13); citing three employee injuries with 1.75 hours lost. Johnson noted the County Safety Specialist reviews all injuries and follows up with those employees to ensure no further injury occurs. Johnson noted overtime increased as shifts needed to be covered by staff to ensure resident’s needs are being met.

Nevicosi referenced the vacancy report on Page 15; highlighting that there are currently zero Registered Nurse (RN) vacancies at LHCC and there were six new CNA hires. Nevicosi cautioned that since the report retention is still a challenge due to the competitive nature of the job market for CNA’s. He noted the CNA Trainer/Mentor position has been filled and with this extra point of contact for training and orientation of new hires hopes to see improved staff retention.

Nevicosi shared concerns in regards to a vaccine mandate and the effect it would have on staffing. Nevicosi reiterated that 60% of LHCC staff are vaccinated at this time. He stated that leadership is putting together a worst case scenario plan in the event a mandate results in a detrimental loss of staff.

Correspondence –

9a. Gary Wagner’s Email

Nevicosi referenced Mr. Wagner’s email and reiterated that the actual cost per day for a resident in the nursing home is greater than the billed amount per day even with the proposed increase.

Announcements – Mr. Wagner shared a positive experience at LHCC today, having witnessed jovial staff. He attributed the upbeat environment to there being four CNA’s on duty which is considered fully staffed.

Upcoming Events – There was none.

Confirmation of next meeting: The next meeting was confirmed for October 20, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

On motion and second by Supervisor Simons and Supervisor Schaefer, Chair Monroe adjourned the meeting at 1:46 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.