

1) **The Regular Board Meeting was called to order on Tuesday June 24, 2025, at 5:17 p.m.**

2) **Roll Call**

Board Members Present

Liz Dahl – Linden Grove
Mike Enzmann – Field
Judy Pearson – Beatty
Shirley Conaway – Camp 5
Karis Antikainen – City of Orr

Don Potter – Unorganized St. Louis County
Eric Pederson - City of Cook
Marge Hyppa – Owens
Wendy Long – Leiding

Board Members Excused

Kathy Weiand – Portage
Jodell Driggs – Crane Lake
Karen Baxter – Unorganized St. Louis County

Theresa Martinson – Angora
John Stegmeir – Kabetogama
Denise Parson – Willow Valley

Staff Members Present

Teresa Debevec - CEO
Stephanie Maki – CHRO
Kaylee Hoard - CFO

3) **Pledge of Allegiance**

4) **Approval of Minutes – 06/24/2025**

- a) A motion to approve May 27, 2025, regular board meeting minutes as presented was made by Marge Hyppa and seconded by Wendy Long. The motion was approved unanimously.

5) **Administrators Report – Teresa Debevec**

a) **Thank you, Letter:**

- Debevec read a letter from a patient expressing heartfelt gratitude for the care received in the Emergency Room, along with a \$1,000 donation sent in appreciation.

b) **Facility Staffing:**

- Active recruitment efforts are ongoing for multiple positions throughout the facility.

c) **Marketing:**

- The Health Fair was very well-attended and positively received by members of the community.
- The CHNA survey will be distributed to the community in the coming weeks.
- The facility's newly redesigned website is now live and available for viewing.

d) **Critical Access Nursing Facility (CANF) Program:**

- The facility has been approved for additional funding through the CANF program, aimed at improving quality and rebalancing long-term care.
- Effective July 1, 2025, the facility will receive \$13.67 per resident per day through June 30, 2027.

e) **Medical Imaging North:**

- A termination letter was sent to Medical Imaging North following the execution of a new contract with Radiological Associates of Duluth, Ltd..

f) **Pain Clinic Partnership:**

- An agreement has been signed between Community Memorial Hospital and Cook Hospital for a collaborative pain clinic partnership.
- Initial coverage will include one clinic day and one injection day per month, with a goal to expand to two days per month for each.

g) **Rural Health Redesign Center:**

- After an in-depth analysis, it was determined that transitioning to an REH (Rural Emergency Hospital) designation would not result in cost savings.
- Rural Health Redesign has agreed to conduct a service line and growth opportunity analysis for the facility.

h) **Elopement Drill:**

- Lesemann conducted a facility-wide elopement drill to evaluate the effectiveness of current protocols and staff response in the event a resident were to leave the facility without authorization. The drill helped identify areas of strength and opportunities for improvement in ensuring resident safety and timely response.

i) **Survey Solutions:**

- Debevec will begin providing board members with a monthly dashboard overview that highlights survey results from multiple departments across the facility. The dashboard will offer insights into patient satisfaction, service quality, and areas for improvement as data becomes available.

j) **Minimum Staffing Law:**

- The Minimum Staffing Law, which would have mandated specific staff-to-patient ratios in healthcare facilities, has been legislatively struck down.

k) **Heiam Event:**

- The Heiam event will be held on August 23, 2025, at the Lake Vermilion Fire Brigade.

6) **Committee Reports**

a) **Executive Committee – 06/24/2025 – Liz Dahl**

- Dahl expressed appreciation to the Hospital for the successful Health Fair.
- Goodwill Township has officially been formed from the previously unorganized area of St. Louis County. Board members were informed that recruitment will begin as a replacement for Don, as he may serve as a representative for the newly established township.

b) **Legislative Committee – 06/24/2025 – Teresa Debevec**

- Debevec provided a Legislative update to the board.

c) **Finance Committee – 06/24/2025**

• **Financials – Kaylee Hoard**

- May 2025 financials were provided to the board.

• **Mike Enzmann – Capital Items – Action Needed**

- A recommendation was made by the Finance Committee to accept the following capital item:

- Amsco Steralizer – Not to exceed \$70,000.00.

(MCU) All in Favor

• **Propane Bids – Maintenance Building – Mike Enzmann – Action Needed**

- A recommendation was made by the Finance Committee to accept the bid provided by Lakes Gas of \$1.249 contingent on their commitment to provide maintenance.

(MCU) All in Favor

7) **Credentialing – 06/12/2025 -Teresa Debevec – Action Needed**

- a) A motion was made by Judy Pearson, seconded by Wendy Long to accept the following appointments and reappointments:

- Appointments – Babek Imanuel, DO; Heidi Malling, MD; Kristen Miller, MD; Miguel Palos, MD
- Re-appointments – Jennifer Block, MD; Kelcy Elsass, MD; Toseef Khan, MD

(MCU) All in Favor

8) **New Business & Correspondence**

a) **EMTALA Survey – Teresa Debevec**

- The Emergency Room received an EMTALA complaint, prompting a two-day on-site survey. While the facility was not cited for the complaint itself, a deficiency tag was issued related to the ER log documentation.

b) **EMTALA Education – Teresa Debevec**

- Debevec provided education to the board members on EMTALA (Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act), a federal law that requires hospitals to provide a medical screening exam and necessary stabilizing treatment to anyone seeking emergency care, regardless of their ability to pay or insurance status. The education included an overview of EMTALA's core

requirements, the facility's responsibilities under the law, and a summary of findings from the recent survey, including the ER log documentation deficiency.

c) **Community Healthcare Roundtable – June 18, 2025 - Liz Dahl**

- Debevec, Stegmeir, Dahl and Keith Harvey (Scenic Rivers) attended a Community Healthcare Roundtable at the Cook Community Center to discuss the proposed Medicaid cuts and their potential impact on both the facility and the broader community. The discussion included concerns raised about financial sustainability and access to care.

9) **Next Board Meeting – 07/22/2025**

10) **Questions or comments**

11) **Board Meeting Evaluations – Liz Dahl**

- a) Provide meeting feedback to Debevec or Dahl

12) **Adjourn – Liz Dahl**

- At 6:12, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eric Pederson, seconded by Don Potter.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephanie Maki, Human Resources Director – Approved by Teresa Debevec.