COOK HOSPITAL & CARE CENTER

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www.cookhospital.org

1) **The Regular Board Meeting was called to order on Tuesday September 23, 2025, at 5:13 p.m.**

2) **Welcome new Board Member – Heather Brandon – Liz Dahl**
   a) Introductions were provided and a warm welcome was provided to Heather.

3) **Roll Call**

Board Members Present

Liz Dahl – Linden Grove
Mike Enzmann – Field
Judy Pearson – Beatty
Karis Antikainen – City of Orr
Karen Baxter – Unorganized St. Louis County
Heather Brandon – Unorganized St. Louis County
Don Potter – Town of Goodwill
Eric Pederson - City of Cook
Shirley Conaway – Camp 5
John Stegmeir – Kabetogama
Jodell Driggs – Crane Lake
Denise Parson – Willow Valley

Board Members Excused

Kathy Weiand – Portage
Wendy Long – Leiding
Theresa Martinson – Angora
Marge Hyppa – Owens

Staff Members Present

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

4) **Pledge of Allegiance**

5) **Approval of Minutes – 09/23/2025**
   a) A motion was made by Mike Enzmann, seconded by Judy Pearson, to approve August 26, 2025, regular board meeting minutes as presented.
      - The motion was approved unanimously.

6) **Administrators Report – Teresa Debevec**.
   a) **Facility Staffing:**
      - Active recruitment efforts are ongoing for multiple positions throughout the facility.
      - A new Dietary Manager has been hired. With the extensive culinary experience this chef brings, we are anticipating significant improvements to the Dietary Department and food offerings.
   b) **Physician Update:**
      - Josephine Gable, MD, has begun independent practice at Scenic Rivers, as well as taking call in our Emergency Room, it has been reported to be doing an excellent job.
      - Molly Vail-Jackson, MD is scheduled to begin in October 2025.
   c) **Endoscopy Re-design:**
      - The redesign project has not yet started but is expected to begin by the end of October 2025.

d) **Pain Clinic:**
- The first tentative clinic date has been set for October 28, 2025.

e) **PIPP – Performance Incentive Payment Plan:**
- The facility has been approved by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) for participation in the Performance Incentive Payment Plan (PIPP).
- Effective January 1, 2026, the facility will receive $16.86 per resident per day to support quality improvement projects.

f) **MDH Survey – Imaging (X-Ray & CT):**
- On September 3, 2025, MDH conducted a survey in the Imaging Department. Several deficiencies were identified.
  - Incomplete training requirements for staff members
  - Missing shield plan for the X-Ray room
  - Lack of documentation for CT Training
  - The daily QC for the CT system has not been completed on multiple days prior to the use for patient imaging.

g) **University of Minnesota-Duluth:**
- The Duluth campus has expanded its Medical School program from 2 years to 4 years.
- Debevec and Scenic Rivers will meet with the Dean to discuss opportunities for student inters at the facility.

7) **Committee Reports**

a) **Executive Committee – 09/24/2025 – Liz Dahl**
- **Physicians and Scenic Rivers**
  - Dahl provided Heather Brandon with a brief overview of the facility's relationship with the physicians and Scenic Rivers, explaining that the facility contracts its physicians through Scenic Rivers to provide medical coverage and support patient care in the Hospital and Nursing Home.

b) **Legislative Committee – 09/24/2025 – John Stegmeir**
- Stegmeir provided a Legislative update to the board.

c) **Finance Committee – 07/22/2025**
- **Financials – Kaylee Hoard**
  - Hoard provided the August 2025 financials to the board.
- **Mike Enzmann – Capital Item – Action Needed**
  - The Finance Committee made a recommendation to accept the following capital item:
    - Reverse Osmosis – Additional Funds – Not to exceed $65,000.00.

(MCU) All in Favor

8) **Credentialing Committee – 09/09/2025 – Teresa Debevec**

a) A motion was made by Judy Pearson, seconded by Jodell Driggs to approve the following reappointments:

- **Appointments:** Ana Gonsorowski, PAC; Molly Vail-Jackson, MD; Sergy Lemeshko, MD; Michael Semotuk, MD; Joshua Heaton, MD; Dakota Orvedal, MD
- **Reappointments:** Alice Mann, MD; Kent Donelan, MD; Steven Vanderwerf, MD MCU (All in Favor)
  (MCU) All in Favor

9) **New Business & Correspondence**

a) Resolution to apply for and accept funding from IRRR – Liz Dahl – Action Needed

- Approval was requested for Debevec to apply for IRRR funding in the amount of $500,000.00 to support the boiler project. A full-roll call vote was conducted with the following results:

Votes:
  - Karen Baxter – Yes
  - Karis Antikainen – Yes
  - Liz Dahl – Yes
  - Mike Enzmann – Yes
  - Don Potter – Yes
  - Eric Pederson – Yes
  - Judy Pearson – Yes
  - Shirley Conaway - Yes
  - Denise Parson – Yes
  - John Stegmeir – Yes
  - Jodell Driggs – Yes
  - Heather Brandon – Yes

Absent:
  - Margie Hyppa
  - Wendy Long
  - Kathy Weiand
  - Theresa Martinson

Motion approved unanimously by members present.

b) Policies – Teresa Debevec – Action Needed

- A motion was made by Karen Baxter, seconded by Karis Antikainen to approve the Disaster Emergency Privileges Policy.
  - (MCU) All in Favor

c) Community Health Needs Assessment – Teresa Debevec

- Debevec reviewed the Community Health Needs Assessment report and identified three focus areas:
  - Improving access to mental health services
  - Facilitating community education
  - Connecting the community with specialty services

10) **Next Board Meeting – 10/28/2025**

11) **Questions or comments**

12) **Board Meeting Evaluations**
    a) Provide meeting feedback to Debevec or Dahl

13) **Adjourn – Liz Dahl**
    - At 5:58pm, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Eric Pederson, seconded by Heather Brandon. Motion carried.

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