

**Board of Directors  
WEST CONTRA COSTA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT**

A Full Board meeting of the Board of Directors of the **WEST CONTRA COSTA HEALTHCARE DISTRICT** was called to order at 5:15 p.m. on Tuesday, June 28, 2005, at the Doctors Medical Center Auditorium at 2000 Vale Rd., San Pablo, CA.

**Roll Call**

Present: Directors Campbell, Wallace, Casazza and Carson  
Absent: None

**Also Present:**

Irwin Hansen, CEO  
Dev Mahadevan, CFO  
Paul Ryan, M.D.  
Collin Coffey, Legal Counsel  
John Compagno, M.D.

**Consent Calendar**

Director Wallace motioned to approve the consent calendar as presented. Director Casazza seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.

**Items Removed from Consent Calendar**

No action required

**Use of Specialized DNA Testing to Detect for Infectious Disease**

Mr. Hansen requested to move Dr. Compagno's presentation to the beginning of the report; with the Board's approval Dr. Compagno began his presentation.

There has been a substantial transition in the past few years with Pap smear tests. No other tests have been as effective at preventing cancer deaths, as has the papsmear. They were able to initiate wide spread cancer screening using very simple methods by getting cells from the cervix and placing them on a slide, which this has been the method for the last couple of years. There has been a change in taking the cells and looking at them on a microscopic glass slide to the liquid based method. The liquid base method uses the same technique, but instead of putting the cells on a glass slide they are put in a small jar of liquid, which has eliminated a series of complications. With today's DNA testing they are able to take the residual cells left in the vile, extract the DNA from the cells and from that DNA they are able to more testing more efficiently.

**Administrative/Operations Report**

Mr. Hansen discussed the administrative reports for the month of May and June. Admissions in May were below budget, average length of stay for inpatients in May was 5days. Outpatient procedures at San Pablo were on budget where as Pinole was 24% below budget. The Emergency Department continues to experience higher volumes than budget with a total of 3,739 visits in May, which was 9% higher than that in May 2004.

On June 1, the J.C. Robinson Cancer Center was surveyed for accreditation by the Commission on Cancer. In the summation remarks, the surveyor said that he found no deficiencies and a number of commendable ratings on the Commission standards. While operating revenues are down, expenses are higher than budget.

The nice weather has allowed the Community Outreach and Business Development program to reach a lot of community members at various events. Some of these events include dissemination of information about the hospital and health screenings (blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol and body fat).

In the month of June we participated in two significant community events: the Filipino Cultural Festival and the Juneteenth Family Day Festival. There was also a Sleep Awareness Fair at the Pinole Campus where over 100 people learned about sleep disorders and the variety of treatments through lectures and booths.

Dr. Rodriguez was interviewed on television on Father's Day about prostate cancer and Dr. Nachtewy was interviewed about sleep disorders. The Sleep Awareness Day was promoted through public service announcements on both radio and television.

McKesson and Cerner negotiations continue through the month. Our goal is to finalize a contract with one and bring to the Board of Directors for a decision by early July. The Contra Costa Department of Emergency Services is conducting an internal analysis and will be preparing a report that is expected to be completed by the end of June. They will share this report with us as soon as it is available.

Mr. Hansen gave an update on Neurosurgery availability that Director Carson had brought up a few board meetings ago. The general conclusion is that it would be better in the community if we worked out an arrangement with a better organization that had a neurosurgery coverage on a regular basis to normalize the way we treat neurosurgical emergencies. Eden Medical Center has a new Neurological center where it's easy for us to transfer patients there since they have many full time Neurosurgeons. We are continuing discussions with Eden that would allow us to transfer patients from Doctors Medical Center to their hospital in emergency situations.

Director Carson questioned East Bay Neurology withdrawing themselves from the ER call schedule. Peggy Lipper added that we still have Dr. Fox available for Neurosurgery coverage every Thursday that there are a number of specialties where we don't have coverage every day but we manage to provide proper care for all of our patients here.

### **Tax Exemption Appeal**

Mr. Hansen brought the denial of Tax Exemption Appeal from John Aalto (a letter was enclosed). He has been before the board twice regarding property tax, and he wishes to appeal to the board of directors to the board to not change the classification of the property, from medium commercial industrial, to small commercial industrial. Mr. Hansen recommended for the Board to deny the claim since we do not have the authority to make the decision in this matter.

**Director Wallace moved the approval to deny the Tax Exemption Appeal. It was seconded by Director Casazza and approved by the board unanimously.**

Mr. Hansen continued his discussion where he handed a memorandum out to the Board of Directors regarding the casino adding class 2 slot machines that would be non-regulated slot machines. Administration believes this brings the risk of having the same traffic and congestion problems that were going to be associated with the Casino's regulated slot machines. The memo is to notify the board and other members of the hospital about the likely traffic problems.

#### **Financial Statement May 2005**

Mr. Mahadevan gave a financial overview for the month of May 2005. The loss for the month was just under \$1 million. The loss is due to a combination of lower volume, lower net revenue and higher expenses than budget. With losses at this level, we will exhaust our reserves in four months. Administration has reviewed each department and has met nearly everyday to review opportunities for saving expenses. The goal is to reduce expenses by \$50,000 per month and meet the original budget by the year-end.

#### **Information Management Plan & Evaluation**

Mr. Mahadevan reported that the Information Management Plan is used for gathering, storing and communication of all information concerning patients and the operations of the hospital. It addresses HIPPA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) concerns and regulations. It includes Information Technology strategy for the hospital but is more than just that and the systems replacement project. The Board approved it unanimously on June 23, 2005

#### **Resolution #852 for Tax Levy**

Mr. Mahadevan asked the Board for approval of this resolution since it's an essential part of the process for levying the annual parcel tax for the County to collect. The board passed resolution #852 unanimously June 23, 2005.

#### **Leadership Academy Contract**

Melissa Ridlon, VP of Human Resources, reviewed the leadership academy and it's program for the management education of Doctors Medical Center. She shares the board members concerns about cost expenditure in the hospitals time of cost consciousness and saving, but saw this program as an investment in our managers' education that would pay dividends and save money. The Board approved the Leadership Academy Contract unanimously June 23, 2005.

#### **Discussion**

Debbie Fuller, R.N., presented two programs that would save energy and telephone costs for the district. Since she was acting as a representative this matter was referred to Administration.

### **Institute for Healthcare Improvement**

Paul Ryan, M.D. stated that the institution is an independent organization that is trying to improve safety in the hospital. We can participate in this organization at no cost to the hospital. The organization has structured ways (6 changes) to deal with specific problems;

- Deploy rapid response teams
- Deliver reliable, evidence-based care for acute myocardial infarction
- Prevent adverse drug events
- Prevent central line infections
- Prevent surgical site infections
- Prevent ventilator-associated pneumonia

The institution feels that if this is done throughout enough hospitals that combined we can save over 100,000 lives over a year or even 18 months.

### **Quality Management Report**

The trend in inpatient discharges is constant, emergency room visits have increased, and in-patient surgery has slightly decreased where outpatient surgery has slightly increased. The risk management error rate is unchanging or slightly decreasing. One area that is increasing is security incidences, but this is not updated information however they are collecting data in order to produce better statistics on these events. We are achieving goals across the board and improving overall as well.

### **Patient Safety Plan**

This has not particularly changed from previous years but is simply presented on an annually basis that is a plan that describes how we deal with risks in the hospital and problematic outcomes.

### **Pharmacy & Therapeutic Committee**

Dr. Ryan reported the Pharmacy has added a new medication called Zofran, which is used for patients with Chemotherapy induced nausea and vomiting, or post-operative nausea and vomiting.

### **Operative Reports Policy**

The Operative reports policy is a policy where the technician can look over data on a day to day basis to make sure operative reports are done in a timely fashion and monitor which doctors have not completed them as specified.

Director Casazza commented on it being a great idea to join the Institute for Healthcare Improvement.

**Director Casazza moved the approval of the Medical Executive Report. It was seconded by Director Wallace and approved by the board unanimously.**

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was called to adjourn to close session Tuesday, June 28, 2005 at 6:40 pm.