

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2025

Presiding Chairperson: Harlan Holste, Chairman

Secretary: Rosalie Ross

Attendance:

Board Members present:

Harlan Holste, Chairman
Matt Wolters, Vice Chairman – out at 6:50
Cedric Green
Rosalie Ross, Secretary
Karen Fikan, Treasurer
Dr. Tamara Robbins
Loren Erway – out at 6:50
Scott Ross

Members absent:

Dan Fields

Guests:

Gimmie Jo Jansonius, USDA

Administrative Team Staff Present:

Bethany Marintzer, Controller
Heather Prideaux, Regional CFO
Ryan Marvin, Support Services Director
Amie Powell, Chief Operations Officer – via Teams
Gail Shepherd, HR Director
Jennifer Thompson, Director of Community Outreach
Lucretia Stargell, CEO
Allison Mulch, CCO

RCHC Staff Present:

Bre McEwen, Executive Assistant

Community Members Present:

Call to Order:

- Board Chairman, Harlan Holste, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.
- Recognition of Special Guests and Announcements: Gimmie Jo Jansonius with USDA office
- Ms. Robbins moved, and Ms. Ross seconded to approve the agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.
 - Discussion: none.

Public Comment:

- Harlan Holste asked if there was any public comment: None.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes from April 28, 2025, regular meeting presented for approval.
- Reminder of the next regular scheduled board meeting date of Monday, June 23, 2025, at 5:30 pm.
- Reports contained in separate report packet.
- Ms. Ross moved, and Mr. Erway seconded, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation

- Gimmie Jo Jansonius, state director of rural development with USDA, was on site last Friday and had a tour of the facility. Had good open conversation about where Rawlins County has been and plans to head. Hoping to bring stability to some of the instability within the program. Moving forward with Dan, a 21 year USDA employee as well as Gimme Jo within the USDA. Actively working on the currently submitted application. All documents have been properly uploaded, just waiting on next steps. Gimmie Jo here today to answer any questions the board may have. The process between now and getting approval of the loan is explained. In a waiting period right now for approval. In the meantime, just have to keep current with what is going on with congressional spending. One approved, all financials will have to be resubmitted as they have to be current within 90 days. Interest rates will be going up July 1st. Current rate is set at 4.25%. Anticipating it going up above 5%. Able to close at the then current rate if it is lower than what is set. Funding is determined based on scoring through different aspects of the application; population served, number of beds, median household income, etc. Then it becomes a first in line situation. Amount of current loan request means it won't have to go up the ladder under more scrutiny. Community facilities are at the top of the list of priorities. Funding is typically an all or nothing approval. There is potential of having to complete another feasibility study with the increased interest rate.

Board Committee

- Building Committee: Ryan Marvin gave an update on the building project. Reviewed the same presentation from last year to cover the 'why' of this project and what it's proposed to look like along with the feasibility study. There have been multiple projects done to upgrade the hospital from 2007 through 2018 with some spots still original to the build. Current proposal includes enclosing the ER bay, specialty clinic move and addition, surgical suite phase 3 upgrade for pre- and post-op, connecting corridor to new rehab space, new build for rehab space, and additional parking. This project operates around the ability to recruit and retain personnel. It's about meeting industry standard of care with space. With all the changes in numbers, it is suggested to get another feasibility study to have a more accurate view of what's expected. Estimated to be a 2-year project start to finish. Will need to put together the new estimated cost of construction prior to updating the feasibility study. Will gather more information and hold a special meeting prior to the next regular board meeting to discuss. Need to rebuild the building committee with new board members. Scott Ross has volunteered for the committee.
- Finance Committee: Per Ms. Fikan, on a level path, looking good.
- By-Laws Committee:

SLT Department Updates

- Chief Operations Officer/Clinics – Amie Powell
 - Overall volume trends for the rural health clinic and specialty clinic are looking good. Dr. Denny ended up coming twice in April due to how the calendar fell. May will show a zero for him. Physical therapy had a great month overall in all the service lines.
- Chief Clinical Officer – Allison Mulch
 - KS state board of pharmacy came and inspected the pharmacy of RCHC, ran by Darla, came back with zero deficiencies.
- Human Resources Director – Gail Shepherd
 - Currently have 67 full-time and part-time employees. Hospital Week was last week filled with events for the employees. RCHC's 75th Anniversary events went over splendidly. Have three Nex-Gen inters planning to come this summer. Will start mailing birthday cards to all employees.
- Director of Community Outreach and Education – Jennifer Thompson
 - Reviewed different events attended last month. Have some upcoming events in June. Working on the golf tournament planning and grant research. Will be dropping off goody baskets for EMS week.

Financials

- Days liquid cash on hand: 276
- Heather Prideaux presented the April 2025 financials. Had 16 acute admissions, doubling from last year at this time. 1% increase in patient days compared to last year. Cash collections are 10% higher. Will start the 2026 budget planning. Will meet with each department head to help get everything put together and bring to the board in June. State budget will be ready in July. Up 9% in patient revenue compared to last year. Almost double the net income against budget compared to last year.
 - Questions:
- Average Daily Expense: \$28,292 2025 YTD Projected.
- Average Cash Collections: \$36,159 for the month of February.

Medical Executive Report

- No Medical Executive committee this month.

Common Spirit Report

- None.

Administrative Reports:

- Allison Mulch presented a quote for a new ER cot to be paid for by the help of the foundation. Total cost of the cot is \$13,239.76. This was put in the capital budget. Foundation is willing to pay \$7,400 towards this. They already purchased the first cot and are willing to pay for part of the second one as well. Motion to approve the purchase of the cot up \$5,839.76 to cover what the foundation doesn't pay by Ms. Robbins, second by Mr. Ross. Motion carried unanimously.

CEO Report:

- Have been holding Walk and Talks with staff around the lake over lunch. These have been going well. The department stat spreadsheets have been very helpful to everyone. Keeps department heads on track to see where they are and what needs to be done to reach year end goals.
- Would like to send appreciation to the community and everyone who helped with the 75th anniversary celebration!

Chairperson Report:

- None.

Other New Business:

- None.

Executive Session

- Motion to enter into executive session for 15 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matter of non-elected personnel with the board and Lucretia by Ms. Ross at 7:12pm, seconded by Mr. Green. Motion carried unanimously.
- Reconvened into open session at 7:27pm. No action was taken.

Adjournment:

- There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:28pm

Rosalie Ross, Secretary

Bre McEwen, Recording Secretary