

Hospital Authority of Houston County – Meeting Summary, February 2007

DURING THEIR REGULAR SESSION MEETING THIS EVENING, THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF HOUSTON COUNTY DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS:

RECOGNITION

The Houston County Volunteer Medical Clinic was recognized by the Hospital Authority for their outstanding work in providing medical care to more than 500 working uninsured adults in Houston County since opening in January 2005. Mr. David Campbell, Executive Director of Physician Services/Managed Care and member of the Clinic's Board of Directors, recognized the efforts of more than 35 nurses at Houston Healthcare who are volunteers of the clinic along with several local physicians including Dr. Kathy Keebaugh and Dr. Dan Callahan.

UTILIZATION AND FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Frank Powell, Chief Financial Officers, reported that Houston Healthcare experienced increased inpatient admissions compared to budget during the month of January, with inpatient volumes rising more than four percent at both Perry Hospital and Houston Medical Center. Emergency department visits during January were above budget level by more than five percent at Perry Hospital, while nearly seven percent below budget at Houston Medical Center. Inpatient and outpatient surgeries were below budget by one percent at Houston Medical Center and below budget by over 12 percent at Perry Hospital during the month. Newborn deliveries increased by more than nine percent over budget at The Women's Center.

Many of Houston Healthcare's outpatient service areas experienced increases in patient volumes when comparing January 2007 to budgeted volumes:
Houston Lake Med-Stop visits up by 1.27% Pavilion Med-Stop visits up by 5.74% Perry Hospital Outpatient visits up by 7.65% Houston Medical Center Outpatient visits up by 2.83% Pavilion Rehab visits up by 11.27% Pavilion Diagnostic Center visits up by 5.36%

Net Patient Revenues for the month of January for Houston Healthcare exceeded \$17 million, above the budgeted amount of \$14.9 million. The organization ended the month with Net Funds Available of \$2.7 million, as compared to a budgeted amount of \$1.2 million.

During January, Houston Healthcare incurred more than \$2.3 million in uncollectible, indigent and charity care deductions, close to the budgeted level of \$2.4 million.

Through eleven months of the fiscal year, net patient revenues exceeded \$164.5 million, compared to a budget of \$158.2 million. Net Funds Available for capital improvements exceeded \$20.7 million, compared to a budget of \$9.9 million.

Mr. Powell recognized the hard work of the Health Information Management, Business Office and Revenue Management Departments, along with physicians assisting in chart completion, to reduce the Net Accounts Receivable (AR) days.

Capital equipment items to be purchased during the month totaled \$53,310 at Houston Medical Center; \$96,634 at Perry Hospital; and \$62,366 through Long Range Strategic Planning for a security camera system at Perry Hospital.

Mr. Powell also presented a report to the Authority provided by VHA Georgia for financial and operational benchmarks. Houston Healthcare compared very favorably among the 24 hospitals throughout the state included in the report, indicating that our organization is positioned well financially for our expansion project and future bond issue.

The Authority approved an amendment to the Defined Benefit Plan which will allow employees to become fully vested in the plan after five years of employment. Currently the plan requires employees to be employed at least 10 years before becoming fully vested. The cost to amend the plan will be approximately \$28,000.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORTS

Dr. Daniel Deighton, Houston Medical Center Chief of Staff, reported that the medical staff recently presented a token of appreciation to each of the nursing department employees who were awarded RN, LPN and Ancillary Staff and Boss of the Year. Dr. Deighton and Dr. Cabasares, Perry Hospital Chief of Staff, both reported that the physician electronic signature system was working well.

PATIENT SATISFACTION

Ms. Mary Jane Kinnas, Executive Director of Marketing & Community Relations, presented the inpatient and emergency department patient satisfaction scores for 4th Quarter 2006. She also presented information to the Authority regarding several recent initiatives to increase patient satisfaction including the Patient Care Tech program, Think Noon Discharge campaign, Patient TV Channel, Nursing Team Huddles and the daily "Good Morning" information sheet distributed with complimentary newspapers to patients at both hospitals.

ENVIRONMENT OF CARE

Ms. Lora Davis, Perry Hospital Administrator, presented the Perry Hospital Environment of Care quarterly summary.

HOUSTON MEDICAL CENTER EXPANSION UPDATE

Mr. Skip Philips, Houston Medical Center Administrator, presented an update on the Tower Expansion project. Temporary work in the Dietary Department for storage as well

as the relocation of the dietary loading dock to the Materials Management loading dock will begin in March. A groundbreaking ceremony for the expansion has been scheduled for April 10th. Demolition of the existing Dietary loading dock will occur April 30 - May 25. The excavation work for the site and tower basement also will begin April 30th. The tower crane will be erected between May 7 and May 15. Over the next 70 days, the campus will lose a total of 150 parking spaces -- about half from employee parking and the other half from patient/visitor parking. Administration is looking at several different alternatives for parking including the construction of a new 130-space lot near Sunset Drive as well as the possibility of offering a shuttle service.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Authority approved Reverend Pearly E. Walters of Deliverance Tabernacle Holiness Church in Warner Robins and Curtis S. Thomas, pastor of Three Angels Seventh Day Adventist Church in Warner Robins and Dublin to the Houston Medical Center Chaplaincy Program. The Authority also approved the Houston Medical Center Auxiliary Bylaws.

Ms. Davis reported that Perry Hospital had recently undergone a random unannounced survey from the Georgia Department of Human Resources with no findings. The State Fire Marshall did note a few issues in the facility that are being addressed. Ms. Davis also reported that Perry Hospital had a successful Joint Commission survey in December.

The Authority approved an Employee Performance Award to include a discretionary contribution to every eligible employee's VALIC accounts as well as a cash award to employees who have worked at least 500 hours during the past fiscal year in recognition of the organization's successful year and many achievements.

The Authority approved the Nominating Committee's recommendation of Mr. Sonny Watson as Chairman of the Authority; Dr. Deighton as Vice-Chairman of the Authority and Dr. Tony Alford as Secretary of the Authority for the coming year. The Authority thanked Mr. Ed Dyson for his leadership as Chairman for the past two years.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.