

Winnebago County Board
River Bluff Board of Directors Meeting
River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation
4401 North Main Street, Finch Room
Rockford, IL 61103

Tuesday, December 17, 2024
3:00 PM

Present:

Frank Perrecone, **Chairperson**
John Butitta
Jay Ferraro
Teresa Gobeli
Jim Knutson
Bernice Marinelli (arrived at 3:03 pm)
Bob Nieman

Others Present:

Patrick Thompson, Winnebago County Administrator
Steve Schultz, Winnebago County Chief Financial Officer
Laura Schaffer, Administrator, River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation
Laura Doise, Assistant Administrator, River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation
Maggie Lewis, HR Representative, Human Resources

Absent:

Tim Delany

AGENDA:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Approval of November 19, 2024 Minutes
- D. Public Comment– This is the time we invite the public to address the River Bluff Health & Rehabilitation Board with issues and concerns. We ask you to limit your comments to three minutes. Personal attacks or inappropriate language of any sort will not be tolerated. We will allow a maximum of five speakers on a first come basis with sign-up at the meeting. Speakers may not address zoning matters which are pending before the ZBA, the Zoning Committee, or the County Board. Personnel matters or pending or threatened litigation may not be addressed in open session. An individual may speak a maximum of three times per calendar year on the same topic. This prohibition shall include the repetition of the same topic in a statement on what is purported to be a different topic. After acknowledgment by the Chairman, please stand and state your name. Thank you.
- E. Discussion Item – Administrators Report (Laura Schaffer)
 1. Census
 2. HMO Status
- F. Discussion Item – Financial Report (Steve Schultz)
 1. Financial Statements (see attachment)
- G. Other Matters
- H. Adjournment

Call to Order

Chairperson Perrecone called the River Bluff Board of Directors meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Chairperson Perrecone yes, Mr. Knutson yes, Mr. Butitta yes, Mr. Ferraro yes, Ms. Gobeli yes, Mr. Nieman yes.

A quorum is present.

Approval of November 19, 2024 Minutes

Chairperson Perrecone called for a motion to approve the November 19, 2024, minutes.

Motion: Mr. Nieman. Second: Mr. Butitta.

Chairperson Perrecone called for any discussion, corrections, or additions.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Public Comment

Chairperson Perrecone omitted reading the Public Comment Section of the Agenda due to there being no one present to speak.

Roll Call

Ms. Marinelli arrived at 3:03 p.m.

Discussion Item – Administrators Report (Laura Schaffer)

IDPH/CMS

No new IDPH complaint surveys have been submitted since last month's meeting.

Staffing

Ms. Lewis reported that five new CNAs have been hired, one dietary position has been filled, and one dietary position remains open. The housekeeping and Activity departments are fully staffed, and additional CNA and RN positions remain open.

Census

The current census is 148 individuals. The coverage distribution is as follows: 82.4% are on Medicaid, 5% are on Medicare A, and 12.8% are privately paying, with an increase in hospice cases. Ms. Schaffer, Ms. Doise, and the management leadership team hosted a luncheon at Swedish American to share information about River Bluff with the Case Management Team.

- Discussion followed.
- In the future, Medicare Part C numbers will be included in the breakdown.

CMS Star Rating

A review of the components aimed at improving the CMS Star Rating is currently being conducted.

Quality Measures

Quality Measures are broken down into long-term and short-term stays. Areas for improvement have been identified, and teams and subcommittees have been designated to work on them.

Monthly Operations

Traci Kline, the newly hired Director of Nursing, started this month. Laura Doise has been promoted to Assistant Administrator. The job description for the open Director of Marketing position is under review and will soon be posted.

Census Growth Task Force

The Task Force is currently focusing on networking and marketing for referrals, establishing additional facilities, and receiving a significant number of referrals from the community rather than from hospitals.

- Discussion followed.

Room Renovations

Bids were received to renovate ten rooms in each of the Cardinal and Blue Jay units to make the rooms private for short stays in Medicare A. The board members were directed to Ms. Schaffer's handout.

- Discussion followed.

CMS Certification

CMS requires recertification for Medicaid and Medicare every five years. The recertification submissions have been completed. Policy reviews and revisions continue.

MDS Consultant Contract

The MDS Consultant contract options were shared with board members.

- Discussion followed.

Relias

The new Relias contract for cloud-based storage and compliance, which includes the implementation and subscription fees, was approved and goes live on January 8, 2025.

Winnebago County Board Presentation

The River Bluff Board reviewed the presentation set for the Winnebago County Board on January 23, 2025.

- Discussion followed.

Chairperson Perrecone called for any questions regarding the Administrator's report.

HMO Status

The HMO status has been put on hold temporarily.

Discussion Item – Financial Report (Steve Schultz)

1. Financial Statements (see attachment)

The Budget for the month ended October 31, 2024, was reviewed with the Board.

- Discussion followed.

Chairperson Perrecone called for any other questions or comments.

Other Matters

- The State's Attorney's Office issued a ruling concerning the Endowment Fund. It has been determined that the county government's operations are incompatible with those of a public charity. However, establishing an auxiliary group called Friends of River Bluff is allowed as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Additionally, consultations will be held with Dekalb, DuPage, and Monroe counties.
- Board meetings will continue on the third Tuesday of the month.

Adjournment

Chairperson Perrecone called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Mr. Nieman. Second: Mr. Butitta.

The motion was passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy K. Bleile
Executive Assistant