GRAND TRAVERSE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

1000 Pavilions Circle, Traverse City, MI 49684

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 25, 2021 MEETING

PRESENT:	Cecil McNally, Ralph Soffredine, Gordie LaPointe	Board
	Kory Hansen, Rose Coleman, Robert Barnes, Lindsey Dood, Darcey Gratton	Staff
	Penny Morris	Commission
ABSENT:		
GUESTS:	Sherrie Moseler	PACE North ED

As permitted pursuant to MCL 15.263a and the current public health concerns posed by gatherings of people, the Grand Traverse Pavilions Board meetings will be held remotely until further notice. Grand Traverse Pavilions provided a link on its website for public participation electronically or telephonically with the ability to make public comment. This meeting was recorded and saved on the Grand Traverse Pavilions website.

The regular meeting of the Grand Traverse County Department of Health and Human Services Board was called to order remotely at 9:00 am by Board Chair Cecil McNally.

First Public Comment

Andi Gerring

County Liaison Report – Morris stated she is learning her new role as County Commissioner and had nothing to report at this time. LaPointe offered to share his experience as the County's DHHS Liaison with Morris.

Approval of Agenda – Chair McNally asked if there were additions, changes or corrections to the agenda. Motion was made by LaPointe to approve the Agenda as presented, seconded by Soffredine and carried unanimously.

The purpose of the **Consent Calendar** is to expedite business by grouping items to be dealt with by one Board motion without discussion. Any member of the Board or staff may ask that any item on the **Consent Calendar** be removed and placed elsewhere on the agenda for discussion. Such requests will be automatically respected.

REVIEW AND FILE

(1) Regular Board Minutes - 1/28/21
(2) Closed Session Minutes - 1/28/21
(3) Clark Thank You
(4) Smith Thank You
(5) Rankin Thank You
(6) Glaspie Thank You
(7) Anderson Thank You
(8) Schmuckal Grant
(9) Northern Healthcare Management Grant
(10) Media Report – January

Motion was made by Soffredine to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Motion seconded by LaPointe and carried unanimously.

Items Removed From Consent Calendar – none

Staff Presentation – Dan Butler, Information Systems Director – Butler provided an overview of the operations of the Information Systems department regarding current technology being used, cyber security and future projects.

COVID-19 Update – Coleman provided an update on the on-going status of COVID-related topics that affect the operation of the Pavilions. Coleman stated that as of February 22, CMS's published positivity rate for Grand Traverse County has dropped to 3.7%. Coleman also discussed the process of indoor visitations which is guided by CMS and MDHHS. Coleman reported that the 2nd vaccination clinic occurred during the first week of February. 98% of residents and 60.6% of staff received their vaccine.

2020 OPEB Actuarial Report – Dood reviewed the updated year-end 2020 Other Post Employment Benefits (OBEB) report prepared by the actuarial firm, Watkin Ross. Discussed.

Pension Bond meeting with County Commission – The DHHS Board discussed holding a study session with the County Board of Commissioners to review the Pavilions plan for Pension Bonds, especially for new commissioners as well as the other commissioners to address any further questions they may have. DHHS Board members agreed to first hold a special meeting to establish a plan of what would be discussed in the joint meeting.

Chief Executive Officer Report – Hansen reviewed his monthly report for January and answered board member's questions.

Financial Report – Dood reviewed the financial operations report for January 2020. Dood outlined revenue and expenses compared to budget for each of the Pavilions' programs that include the Medical Care Facility (skilled nursing), The Cottages (Assisted and Independent Living) and Adult Day Services. Additional information was provided on respective census and accounts receivable along with the total cash ending balance. Dood summarized the review of vouchers for the month that were in order without exception. The Social Accountability Summary was reviewed indicating the amount of uncompensated care provided and volunteer hours for the month. Motion made by Soffredine to accept the financial operations report as presented. Motion seconded by LaPointe and carried unanimously.

Request to Purchase – Dryer – Hansen reviewed the need to purchase and replace the third of four commercial dryers that are over 20 years old. Three bids were received and the recommended bid was to A & B Equipment based on lowest bid price. Motion was made by LaPointe to approve the purchase of one new commercial dryer as presented for $10,385. Motion was seconded by Soffredine and carried unanimously.

COVID-19 Temporary Wage Adjustment Extension - Resolution 2021 - 2 - Hansen reviewed the proposed COVID-19 Wage Adjustment Extension. The Michigan legislature is considering a Supplemental Budget Bill (SB114) which included an appropriation to extend the temporary wage increase to $2.25 per hour for direct care workers in skilled nursing facilities through June 30, 2021. Hansen proposed including all other workers, as originally excluded from the SB 114, a similar temporary wage increase. After further discussion, Board members agreed to exclude the executive management staff from the resolution. Motion was made by LaPointe to approve

the COVID-19 Wage Adjustment with the additions/changes as presented. Motion seconded by Soffredine and carried unanimously.

Grand Traverse Pavilions Announcements -

(1) January Service Excellence Award - Hansen reviewed weekly winners

Second Public Comment

Andi Gerring
Claudia Bruce

Meeting adjourned at 11:13 am

Signatures:

Cecil McNally – Chair
Grand Traverse County Department of Health and Human Services Board

Korvyn R. Hansen, Assistant-Secretary

Date: March 25, 2021 Approved
_____ Corrected and Approved

February 25, 2021 GTP DHHS Board Meeting

Public Comments: Andi Gerring

First Public Comment:

Last Wednesday's, (February 17) UPNORTHLIVE 6:00pm news, reported an interview with Deborah Allen regarding: **GTP nursing home now allowing scheduled visitations**

(link to the story https://upnorthlive.com/amp/news/local/area-nursing-home-now-allowing-scheduled-indoor-visits)

The report stated: "**Out of its nearly 320 residents, 99% of them, including staff, have been vaccinated."** It leads one to believe that 99% of residents and staff have been vaccinated. I hadn't found any clarification from GTP of this news information in the days following. I called the newsroom to say how misleading this information is to the community and reported the correct numbers as 98% of residents and 46% of staff from Rose Coleman's Covid report in the January meeting.

Also, in Rose Coleman's Covid report in today's packet under **vaccine** she does not report the **current** percentage of residents and staff that have received a first and second vaccine or the percentage of staff that have now decided to receive the first vaccine.

From today's packet covid-report:

Vaccine

The Pavilions has partnered with Walgreens Pharmacy to administer vaccine to our residents and staff. The second vaccination clinic was held on February 1-3, with both residents and staff receiving their second dose as well as many receiving their first dose. The third and final clinic, scheduled for March 1st, and per the guidelines has availability for those wishing to now be vaccinated to receive their first dose. Obtaining the second dose is not clear at this time however we have been informed that it should be available through local pharmacies (much like the influenza vaccine) in the near future so staff will be able to go to a Walgreen's to obtain their second dose. Our facility pharmacy is partnered with the vaccine program to receive an allotment and hopefully will be able to vaccinate new admissions and those needing a second dose. Vaccination does not preclude staff or residents from adhering to current infection control practices or allow staff from wearing required PPE.

Under Visitation Rose writes, that there are many rules surrounding these visitations, but does not go into detail. She also writes that "we have found that there are many families who do not wish to physically come into the building at this time and would like to keep to the window vestibule visits. The website information on the procedural documents involved in a physical visit is overwhelming. It would have been helpful to

include the documents in the packet. I wonder if these forms and procedures are State mandated.

The hurdles will be great for anyone wishing to do so and it is understandable that many will stick to window vestibule visits for now. Covid vaccination rate of staff would be important information for family members to know before they take the time to follow all of the procedures. The risk of coming into the building should be made clear on the website information about visiting procedures. It should be made clear that there is a risk of contracting the virus from a high percentage of unvaccinated staff.

I wonder what the policy will be in hiring new staff. Will there be preference to those already vaccinated?

From today's packet covid-report:

Visitation

We continue with a large volume of electronic visits between the residents and their families. The county level per the MI Start Map dropped to a level D on February 4, 2021. We are now able to have some limited indoor visitations. There are many rules surrounding these visitations and we are just about to finish up the first trial week. We will look at those processes that were a bit cumbersome and make changes as needed. We have found that there are many families who do not wish to physically come into the facility at this time and would like to keep up with the window vestibule visits. We have adjusted the visitation schedule to accommodate this request understanding there are limits to what we can offer and accomplish on any given day. Our policy and forms are posted on our website under the Weekly Family Update. As they are revised we update this section so that the most current form is posted.

Final Public Comment:

I wasn't sure of the current percentage of staff vaccination. Is it 50.5% or 60.5%.

Claudia Bruce
DHHS Board Meeting Public Comment
February 25, 2021

Public Comment:

For members of the community the nature of the relationship between PACE North and GTP is very unclear.

A *Record-Eagle* article last August attempted to explain the relationship to its readers. It quoted Deborah Allen who said that the "Pavilions sponsored PACE, had a management agreement with the nonprofit [that ended] and ran a fundraising campaign but that the two are now separate entities. She stated that "Kory Hansen sits on their board but that's about the extent of it."

However, her statement appears to be untrue. Just this morning Dan Butler described the work that he and some of his GTP staff do at PACE North. Some former GTP key employees, including the medical director at the time, transferred to PACE North when it opened. Classified ads and the respective websites show that the two facilities continue to compete in their recruitment of staff. The logos and websites of the two facilities are nearly identical, which only adds to the public's confusion.

Clarification of the relationship through whatever means possible would assist the public in making the best health care decisions for themselves and their families.