Audubon County Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2026, at 12:00 pm (Noon)
Community Health Center

ATTENDANCE			
Board of Trustees:		**Staff:**	
X	Michelle Sprague, Board Chair	X	Callen Weispfennig, CEO
O	Brett Irlmeier, Vice Chair	X	Melanie Larsen, COO
X	Marlene Ballou, Secretary/Treasurer	X	Melinda Alt, CFO
X	Sam Graeve, Trustee	X	Amy Blackwell, Executive Assistant
X	Genelle Deist, Trustee		
X	Anne Miller, Trustee		
O	Brady Griffin, Trustee		
Others Present:			
X	Jenny Johnson, Private Wealth Advisor		

I. CALL TO ORDER

Michelle Sprague, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

II. AGENDA APPROVAL

Anne Miller made a motion, seconded by Genelle Deist To approve the agenda, in accordance with the Code of Iowa Open Meetings Law. Motion carried.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Comments.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

The Board of Trustees reviewed the following items:

a. Meeting minutes from August 27, 2026
b. PAC Policies x 10 (attached).
c. Avel Emergency and Teledigm Health Report
d. Summary of Operations Report
e. Medical Staff/ Credentialing Report

Michelle raised a concern that moving credentialing to the consent agenda could cause any hits or concerns to be missed. A process will be established to flag these issues separately.

Sam Graeve made a motion, second by Anne Miller to approve all items listed above. Motion carried.

V. ASSCENDANT WEALTH MANAGEMENT GROUP-ENTERPRISE FINANCIAL UPDATE

Jenny Johnson, Private Wealth Advisor, gave annual investments report. (See attached)

VI. OATH OF OFFICE

Michelle Sprague, Board Chair, administered the Oath of Office to Sam Graeve.

VII. FINANCIAL REPORT

Melinda Alt, CFO, reviewed the financial reports, budget scorecard, balance sheet, monthly cash summary, and accounts receivables. The financial report for the month of August 2026 Operating Statement had a negative margin of $57,112 with a YTD negative margin of $180,511.

Discussion occurred regarding August showing a net loss, though it was an improvement over July. The loss is related to increased contract staffing in radiology due to shortages. September volumes are strong and September is projected to be a better month and potential recovery.

Melinda presented that 2 CDs matured 9/14/26 at Landmands Bank. General Fund CD#23703 for $573,093.31 and Plant Fund CD#23702 for $672,920.26. Renewal rates for 12 months were Landmands Bank at 4.14%, Audubon State passed on bidding and Exchange State Bank at 3.96%. CDs were kept at Landmands.

Callen and Melinda discussed the audit with Eide Bailly that occurred last week. The cost report is currently in progress, and Jeremy will present the full audit findings to the board at the October 2026 meeting. Positive impacts are expected from contractual adjustment and an IFRS actuarial entry.

Discussion occurred regarding plans to recognize a percentage of DPP Funds for the current fiscal year to neutralize budget variances from unexpected costs.

Discussion was held regarding health insurance renewal and associated costs. Gallagher (formerly Assured) provided an update indicating that the organization's health plans have been classified as Tier C, resulting in an 8.3% premium increase across the two Wellmark plans. Proposed design changes were discussed, including correcting an existing disparity in employer contributions that disproportionately favors the family coverage tier. This adjustment, combined with the premium increase, could potentially double the biweekly premium for employees enrolled in the high-deductible family plan.

To help mitigate the impact on employees, the addition of a third, lower-cost HMO plan was suggested. Looking ahead, a comprehensive evaluation of self-insurance options will begin after January 1, 2027, with potential implementation during the following renewal cycle. Open enrollment is planned for early November 2026, with the new plan year effective January 1, 2027.

Genelle Deist made a motion, seconded by Sam Graeve to approve the August 2026 financials. Motion Carried.

VIII. COMLIANCE/QUALITY/RISK MANAGEMENT

Melanie Larsen presented the Compliance/Quality/Risk Management Reports. (See attached).

IX. APPROVALS

a. Approval & Signature for New Nutrition Services Manual for Med Surg and Nutrition Services Q 5 Years: Melanie Larsen presented the updated Manual for review and approval. Nutrition Services Manual will be updated every 5 years.

Anne Miller made a motion, second by Marlene Ballou, to approve Nutrition Services Manual for Med Surg and Nutrition Services as presented.

b. Melanie Larsen presented the PAC polices and procedures for review and approval. (see attached)
   - Emergency Department Patient Room Cleaning & Turnover- Environmental Services (New)

- Patient Observation and Safety Monitoring- Nursing Services (New)
- External Death Notifications- Medical Staff (New)
- Naloxone (Narcan) Distribution Program- Pharmacy (New)
- Naloxone (Narcan) Distribution- Rural Health Clinics (New)
- Temporary Healthcare Decision Maker- Risk Management (New)

Marlene Ballou made a motion, second by Genelle Deist, to approve PAC policies as presented.

X. ONGOING BUSINESS

Callen provided an update regarding the ongoing review and modification of the Board of Trustees Bylaws. Several proposed revisions were discussed including:

- Revising the requirement for Board orientation from within 10 days to within 60 days.
- Michelle recommended revising the language for Emergency Expenditures to require the CEO to notify the board of unbudgeted emergency capital expenditures as soon as practical in addition to reporting at the next board meeting.
- Revisions to the language regarding capital expenditure authority were discussed.
- The Board discussed the contract approval limit, including provisions related to automatic renewals and situations in which a contract term or dollar amount exceeds the established limit. Modification was recommended to remove the specific financial and term limits from that clause.
- Marlene noted that the current Bylaws addressed Medical Staff attendance at Board meetings. It was discussed that Medical Staff would be invited to attend when a matter requires their presence. Anne recommended removing the specific attendance requirement from the Bylaws. Suggestion was made to revise the Bylaw language regarding the Chief of Staff to clarify the role of communicating with the Medical Staff and serving as a liaison between the Medical Staff and the Board. The Chief of Staff may be invited to attend meetings when appropriate.

A final draft of the revised Bylaws will be included in next month's Board packet.

Callen discussed the "Day in the Life" Facility Tour and its intentions. The tour is conducted to provide an objective assessment of the facility and serve as a data point when considering long-term facility needs of individual departments, future space requirements, and potential approaches to facility improvements.

Comments and feedback from the tour evaluations were reviewed. The Laboratory was identified as a potential capital need, with anticipated changes in space requirements. The current chemo infusion space was also discussed as a priority. The tour and evaluation will provide as a tool to assist in objectively evaluating departmental needs and determining future facility investments.

The potential purchase of the nearby church property was also discussed, as acquisition of the property could impact future facility planning and space needs. Further discussion was deferred pending additional information regarding the potential purchase.

XI. CEO REPORT

Callen Weispfennig, CEO provided the following report:

Callen provided an update on provider recruitment efforts. Jackson Physician Search has initiated recruitment efforts and posted the physician opportunity.

A physician has expressed interest in engaging with ACMH and a meeting has been scheduled.

The Foundation was presented with two potential projects for consideration as its Annual Giving Initiative: A Courtesy Shuttle Van and a dedicated helipad. The Foundation discussed potentially splitting the cost of the Courtesy Shuttle Van, contingent upon approval by the Board of Trustees.

The Foundation showed interest in the helipad project. Further evaluation would be needed, including engaging engineers and assessing the proposed hill location for the helipad. Discussion was help regarding the Foundation's upcoming Gala and whether the Board of Trustees would support the helipad project as a potential Foundation campaign. Genelle commented that the project would likely receive community support. Michelle emphasized the importance of ensuring the project is practical and financially reasonable.

The board acknowledged that supporting the fundraising is a commitment to the project. If the Foundation selects the helipad as its Annual Giving campaign, the Board of Trustees indicated support for the project but recognized that it would not be completed in 2027 and would more realistically be a 2028 project.

Callen reported that the hospital will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2027. One of the planned anniversary projects is an update to the hospital's history wall. An open house is being considered to allow the community to view the updated history wall along with the new mammogram machine. A preliminary concept for wall design was shared with the Board. The updated history display will also incorporate prehospital medical history to provide a more comprehensive representation of the hospital and its history. Community engagement will be explored.

XII. BOARD COMMENTS

A call for Board comments was made.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Sam Graeve made a motion, second by Genelle Deist, to adjourn the meeting at 2:07 p.m. Motion Carried.

Michelle Sprague, Board Chair

Marlene Ballou, Board Secretary/Treasurer