

MINUTES
MORTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
1025 Morton, Elkhart, KS
Special Meeting
August 9, 2023

JW called the meeting to order at 3:57 p.m. with open doors.

Present: JW Finn, Chairman; Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman; Ed Anderson, Commissioner; David Thompson, County Counselor/Attorney (by phone); Gina Shores, County Clerk and Vicki Peacock, Treasurer. Hospital CEO Patrick Custer, incoming CEO Lisa Swenson, and board members Pam Lamb, Troy Barnett, Todd Johnson, and Karen Gates.

Special meeting to discuss Hospital funds and No Fund Warrants.

Hospital—Patrick Custer, CEO. He introduced the incoming CEO Lisa Swenson. She shared her experience and willingness to work through this and feels once the Hospital gets past this little rough patch the Hospital should be in a good position. Patrick explained in length the problem with CMS and Clover Medicare/Medicaid reimbursements that has caused the major cash flow problems. He feels this will get worked out but they continue to do take backs. Patrick and Richard have reached out to Senator Jerry Moran to see if they can take a look at this, as it is more than likely a problem for a lot of Hospitals. They encouraged the Commissioners to reach out to Senator Moran as well. Patrick and Lisa updated the Commissioners on the Critical Access Designation, they spoke to someone today that said they would be able to get that survey done soon and within 2 weeks to 60 days receive the Designation. The Hospital will need approximately \$600,000 to help them make it to the end of the year. When CAD, Geriatric Psychiatric Unit and full staff is in place this will make a big difference in the operations of the Hospital.

A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to approve to proceed with applying for No Fund Warrants \$500,000 and not to exceed \$3 million with bond counsel.

Vicki—Treasurer. Vicki explained she and Gina have went over County funds and also spoke with the County auditor, the cash on hand to give the Hospital today is \$80,000. This will keep the County in a good cash reserve status. A motion by Jim, seconded by Ed, UYV to give the Hospital \$80,000. From the General Fund for the operations of Morton County Health Systems.

A motion by Jim, seconded by JW, UYV to adjourn at 5:04.

JW Finn, Chairman

Jim Tucker, Vice-Chairman

Ed Anderson, Commissioner

Attest: _____
Gina Shores, County Clerk

