

## **2010 hospital budget approved**

Written by Chris Lee

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Other than approving the 2010 budget, East Phillips County Hospital District board members were met with a relatively normal agenda at their Nov. 24 meeting.

MMH CFO Greg Was walked everyone through the budget and said it was a very conservative and tight budget.

The hospital expects a gross revenue of \$10.76 million with the net revenue of \$9.2 million. Total expenses are budgeted at \$9.49 million with a net income of \$356,000.

With Dr. Danielle McClellan being hired as a full-time physician back in July, the hospital has seen an increase in traffic which increased the budget in areas.

Some of the bigger things on the budget were bed replacements, whirlpool tub, video kaleidoscope and computers.

Administrator John Ayoub said he felt very comfortable with the budget they presented to the board. He also mentioned he appreciated the work Was put into it.

Ayoub also said they involved department heads much more than in the past while working on the budget.

“Everyone was looking out for the best interest of the hospital,” Was said. “It was very encouraging.”

Ayoub added they looked at the HUD (Housing and Urban Development) requirements while planning the budget to ensure compliance during the next fiscal year.

## **Administrator reports activity**

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Ayoub said MMH purchased a new dictation and transcription system for physicians to use throughout the hospital. He said the units can be connected to computers and the information is dictated and stored on the computer. He said the old units were outdated and worn out and the new ones will cut back on expenses budgeted to repair the old units. The new system was purchased \$1,500 cheaper than what it would've cost to repair the old units, according to Ayoub.

The clinic held the first mini clinic for the H1N1 vaccine Tuesday, Nov. 24 and Ayoub said as they continue to receive doses they will continue to offer it to the public.

An agreement with the Prairie Winds Art Center has been in the works to purchase the modular specialty clinic at the old hospital. It is the same group who purchased the old hospital building so there will not be any expenses related to moving the unit for the hospital.

Ayoub said part one in a four-part prenatal care class was well attended and expects numbers to increase in the future based on the evaluations.

With the recent headlines about healthcare reform, Ayoub presented board members with a small summary of where the bill stood so they would be as updated as could be. He presented them with a three-page summary. The actual piece of legislation is around 2,000 pages long.

Sharon Greenman, Human Resources Director, spoke about her duties within the hospital and presented board members with the tasks and duties she performs each day. Each meeting, different department heads let board members know what their department does and who is involved.

The MMHF report was given by Ayoub and Steve Young. They said there was a nice turnout for the "Legacy of Thanks Celebration" held Sunday, Nov. 21. They also gave an update about the donor bricks, explaining there will be different sizes for different amounts donated.

Sheryl Farnsworth reported the community linkages committee met with members of the Hispanic population. Some topics discussed were language barriers, trust between the cultures

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and lack of educational opportunities. An idea was to include Hispanic materials. Farnsworth noted it was eye opening and very beneficial.

Board members held an executive session to discuss strategy for negotiations. There were no motions made after the session.

### Other business

In other business Nov. 24, the hospital board:

—approved the monitoring reports.

—appointed and voted Steve Young to sit on the MMHF board.

—noted the next meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec. 22.

—accepted six credentialing approvals.

—approved the 2010 balanced scorecard.

—listened to an update from Young who sits on the CHA (Colorado Hospital Association) board. He highlighted some topics discussed at the retreat including healthcare reform.