

**MINUTES**  
**GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, INC. ANNUAL MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011 5:00 PM**  
**CRMC – GADSDEN MEMORIAL CAMPUS**

**ROLL CALL:**

Craig McMillan, Chair	Present
Herb Sheheane, Vice-Chair	Present
Scott Whitehead	Present
Shelia Atkins	Absent
Jimmy Suber	Present via Conference Call
Dr. Charles Kent	Absent
Sen. Fred Dudley	Absent

**Staff Present:**

Arthur Lawson, Interim County Administrator  
Mike Glazer, GHI Attorney  
Jean Chesser, Deputy Clerk

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chair McMillan called the Annual Meeting of the GHI Board of Directors to order at 5:00 PM with a quorum present.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**(1) Approval of Minutes**

- a. March 15, 2010 (Regular Meeting – Signature Only)
- b. April 28, 2010 (Conference Call Mtg – Approval/Signature)
- c. February 22, 2011 (Joint GHI/BOCC Meeting – Approval/Signature)

**UPON A MOTION BY MR. WHITEHEAD AND A SECOND BY MR. SHEHEANE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF (MARCH 15, 2010, FOR REQUIRED SIGNATURE ONLY -- PREVIOUSLY APPROVED) THE APRIL 28, 2010, GHI CONFERENCE CALL MEETING, AND THE FEBRUARY 22, 2011, JOINT GHI/BOCC MTG., THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.**

**(2) Election of Officers – Chair McMillan**

Chair McMillan explained it is time to hold the annual election of officers for the GHI Board and after a brief discussion, the following action was taken:

**UPON A MOTION BY MR. WHITEHEAD THAT MR. CRAIG MCMILLAN CONTINUE AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THAT MR. HERB SHEHEANE REMAIN AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, THAT MR. JIMMY SUBER CONTINUE AS THE SECRETARY-TREASURER FOR THE**

**GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND UPON A SECOND BY MR. SHEHEANE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.**

**(3) Election of Potential New GHI Board Members - Chair McMillan**

Chair McMillan said he had been given two names for consideration as potential new GHI Board members; the first being Ms. Shaia Rene' Beckwith-James, Public Relations Director for the Gadsden County School Board. He explained he had had some discussions with the BOCC Chairperson and they felt this would be a great addition for the GHI Board. It would give them some diversity and at the same time Ms. Beckwith- James has a background in marketing which would be helpful to the GHI Board in marketing and spearheading a program when the Board decides if they want to do something with the remainder of the facility. Chair McMillan recommended the GHI Board make a recommendation to the BOCC that Ms. Beckwith-James be appointed to the GHI Board and Mr. Sheheane said he would second that.

Mr. Glazer explained he would like to make certain that everyone understands this will only be a recommendation to the BOCC. He said that the GHI Board serves at the pleasure of the County Commission and it would ultimately be the BOCC's call but he is certain the BOCC would want a recommendation from the GHI Board.

**UPON A MOTION BY CHAIR MCMILLAN THAT IT IS THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE GHI BOARD TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISISONERS THAT MS. SHAI A RENE' BECKWITH-JAMES BE APPOINTED TO SERVE AS A MEMBER OF THE GHI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND UPON A SECOND BY MR. SHEHEANE, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.**

Chair McMillan said they had originally made a recommendation for Ms. Laura Cruz, but since that time and in talking with Ms. Cruz it was learned that she lives in Tallahassee, is attending college in Tallahassee and is working temporarily with the Gadsden County School system in a school-based health program, but Ms. Cruz had said in her long term plans, that probably would not continue.

Chair McMillan explained in order to be a member of the GHI Board; the person must either live in Gadsden County or work in Gadsden County. He requested he be allowed/approved by the GHI Board to send a letter (presented a copy of proposed letter) to Ms. Cruz thanking her for her interest, etc. However, Chair McMillan said he feels that at this time the GHI Board should pass on recommending Ms. Cruz to the BOCC as a potential member of the GHI Board.

**UPON A MOTION BY MR. WHITEHEAD AND A SECOND BY MR. SHEHEANE THAT CHAIR MCMILLAN SEND THE LETTER AS PRESENTED TO MS. CRUZ, THE BOARD VOTED 4-0, BY VOICE VOTE, IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION.**

**(4) Hospital Update – Mr. Bud Wethington, CRMC**

Mr. Wethington said he had previously reported to the GHI Board that CRMC had seen around 9,200 patients at the ER from June 14 – December 31, 2010. He added that so far this year they have already seen over 6,500 patients and have created over 4,000 x-rays/Ct's (inaudible). Some days are busier than others but on an average it is running around 45-50 patients/day in the ER. He said they have had a couple of complaints which have been addressed and they are still running at 94-96-98% customer

satisfaction at the facility – they have employees calling patients at both this facility as well as the Tallahassee facility; they are very much aware of what is going on with the customers and their level of customer satisfaction at both facilities. Mr. Wethington explained the facility has been busy and it has built a good relationship with Gadsden County and CRMC is proud to be here. He said they are still looking for physicians to relocate or work here. He said Dr. Bradford a Urologist from Tallahassee does go to Blountstown one day per week and Mr. Wethington said he has spoken with Dr. Bradford and his group about the possibility of coming here to Gadsden but as of yet, he has not had any “takers” and it’s a fact that it’s easier on them if they don’t have to travel. He also said Dr. Murphy (nice young physician) is now located at CRMC’s clinic in Chattahoochee; Dr. Murphy loves to fish, has a boat and feels at home in the smaller community and he is seeing 30-35 patients per day.

Chair McMillan said he and Mr. Wethington have discussed one of the prime needs of this community being some place for people to come for urgent care other than just emergency care and he said he understands there are some legal ramifications involved. An example is the county employee or school board employee who may have a worker’s comp injury – injured on the job and these people basically have to go to a Patient’s First or a similar place because the costs are prohibitive at the emergency room.

Mr. Wethington explained that the contract is actually driving that. He said as he can understand from what he has been told, the Patient’s First has 500 worker’s comp contracts -- they have seven clinics in and around Tallahassee so they are driving all that business to them. He said Patient’s First is not open 24/7, so they can do it cheaper than CRMC; but that’s what goes on in a hospital – 24 hours/day. He said he would love to be able to address all the needs of every employee here in the community; county, city, where ever they may be. He also responded to questions from Mr. Glazer as to whether or not they are having a problem with a lot of patients coming in looking for primary care here in the ER and explained it is not much of a problem, and even though a lot of what they are seeing is not really true emergent type patients, there are some that do have problems and they end up going to one of the two hospitals in Tallahassee. However, he said there are still some that may have trouble getting into a primary care physician as there aren’t that many here so they do come to CRMC – some do pay, but some don’t pay. He said CRMC’s charges are going to be higher because they are open 24 hours/day and even though they have people who are busy, it is still a situation where from 12:00 midnight until around 10:00 AM, the ER may only see five (5) patients; yet CRMC is still paying around the clock and they have a physician on duty 24/7. He said CRMC’s pay-mix is remaining about the same but the self-pay has crept up more than they had budgeted – some people have become unemployed and have no benefits, etc. and he said the same situation is also happening in Tallahassee.

Chair McMillan expressed sincere thanks to Mr. Wethington for CRMC being in Gadsden County, and that he wished everyone understood just what type of huge burden CRMC has taken off of the County.

There was general discussion on the newly installed helipad and Mr. Wethington said if CRMC been open and had there been a helipad when there was the school bus crash last year – who knows what may have happened -- for the public better – certainly not for worse. The helipad is being used by Gadsden County and the surrounding counties transporting their patients to CRMC Gadsden Campus location for life-flight transport. The helipad is larger than it might otherwise have been and will accommodate some emergency disaster type planning for the county as well; can land larger helicopters in the event of a major disaster and with the large open piece of land this site has the potential to

further enhance the capabilities to the county. Mr. Wethington thanked the County for having the helipad installed and said it will certainly continue to prove very beneficial to the patients needing that service and it is a great asset for the facility/County.

**(5) Report on Lease of Beds – Attorney Mike Glazer**

Mr. Glazer said one of the last things Ashford did in spending money was the purchase of a lot (Mr. McMillan said 18 or 20) of brand new hospital beds which they never used. Even those these beds have been sitting back in storage (regardless of the fact that they are 5-6 years old) they are still brand new. He said CRMC in Tallahassee had a need for some additional beds and he and Mr. McMillan spoke with Mr. Lawson on this issue. He said, long story short, CRMC/Tallahassee is leasing twelve (12) of these beds and they have already been taken over to CRMC/Tallahassee. Mr. Glazer said this helps CRMC/Tallahassee out, puts the beds to good use, takes them off the County's hands and the lease is for \$360.00/month which is well within the ballpark for this type of lease agreement. CRMC/Tallahassee provided (bought) new mattresses for the beds and they will be responsible for all of the maintenance on the beds. He explained this will a little bit of income for the County and something they will not have to continue to store. Mr. Glazer said the lease has been signed by CRMC and hopefully will be on the July BOCC Meeting (Consent) Agenda for Board approval/signature.

**(6) Discussion of Old Hospital Equipment - GHI Chair McMillan, David Gardner, Executive Director and Frank Holcombe, President of the Chamber of Commerce Foundation.**

Mr. Gardner explained the Chamber has a foundation which they use for Community give back and they have done a good bit with the Boy Scout Camp. He said the Foundation is a 501-C3 and while they operate separately from the Chamber, they also work hand-in-hand with the Chamber. Mr. Gardner said Clyde Collins had first contacted them when Johnny Williams was County Administrator about everything that is stored at the facility. He presented a letter dated April 16, 2011, from Mr. Williams authorizing the Foundation to take the surplus equipment, but said he feels there could be some push back on it. He said Mr. Lawson suggested that the Foundation get the blessing of the GHI Board before doing anything. He also said Mr. Lawson had explained that the new hospital beds or anything that can be used in the CRMC Gadsden Campus facility -- those items should not be taken from the facility. He further stated he is hopeful Mr. Collins has a good understanding of all the items and they will work with Habitat – Boy Scouts, Senior Citizens and other not-for-profits in getting it distributed. He responded to Mr. Glazer's question as to how much of the items he could take by stating they have an ample storage facility and they could take it all. He said Mr. Collins has offered to help them load the items and Mr. Collins said (via conference call) that he would like them to take everything except anything that will require any type of registration or any type of bio-hazardous items (Old CT and X-ray machines which have to remain there until they are destroyed) and that none of the old medical records will be taken.

Chair McMillan said the GHI Board would certainly like to get all of that stuff cleaned out so they can begin thinking about what they can do with the rest of the facility. However, he did explain to Mr. Gardner that they will be a little bit particular about what beds are taken, and Mr. Gardner said they would take everything except the beds first and then GHI can decide –

Chair McMillan said there may be some older beds that Mr. Gardner could take and that Mr. Collins could explain which ones those are – which ones could be taken and which ones could not.

Mr. Gardner said they have identified some items the Wall Wood Boy Scout Camp is in need of, and those items would be immediate. There was brief discussion on some of the items – kitchen equipment -- and Mr. Lawson explained it was his understanding from Mr. Collins that the prior Administrator (Johnny Williams) had No intentions of getting rid of any of the kitchen equipment. He said he was certain the County would not just give away thousands of dollars of kitchen equipment.

Mr. Glazer referred to the minutes of the July 6, 2010, BOCC meeting authorizing the County Administrator to dispose of surplus property – basically including everything except the newer patient beds and medical imaging and financial records. He said even though it authorized the disposal, it did not specify how they were to dispose of it; that it is basically left pretty much open-ended.

Chair McMillan said the GHI Board would love to support what the Foundation is trying to do, that the GHI Board agrees with the County in disposing of the equipment to get it out of the hospital facility and that the Foundation is a good organization to do that through but that it is not GHI's equipment – it belongs to the County. Mr. Gardner stated the Foundation did not want to get caught in any type of political crossfire.

In response to comments from Chair McMillan, Mr. Lawson initially suggested the GHI Board may want to send a letter to the BOCC, pretty generic in context – that the GHI Board supports them in disposing of the surplus equipment (at the County's discretion) and agrees that the Chamber Foundation is a good organization to make the donation to. After additional discussion it was agreed that Mr. Lawson will inform – shoot an email -- to the BOCC that staff is in the process of disposing of the equipment and how they intend to do that and see what kind of response he gets and if the BOCC doesn't have any problems with it then they will simply proceed with the disposal. Mr. Gardner added that if there are any other legitimate not-for-profit 501-C3 organizations that need any of the equipment that they would certainly look at that also.

In responding to a question from Mr. Glazer, Mr. Wethington said there are more restrictions now than ever before on disposing of hazardous materials/equipment and he asked if Mr. Lawson had an asset list of what is stored. Mr. Lawson responded they are working on cleaning that up now as they will have to do disposal records on anything they get rid of. Mr. Wethington said if Mr. Lawson would send him a list of the equipment that he would be glad to see if he could find someone to dispose of it.

Chair McMillan updated everyone on a situation with a physician (team trainer for Karate –US Olympic Team) that had been working with him, Mr. Wethington and Mr. Gardner on renting some space at the hospital, but when it was all said and done, basically what the physician wanted was for them to put him in business and pay all of his office expenses. Chair McMillan said he and Mr. Collins are trying to come up with some figures on what it would cost to refurbish some of the areas in the facility that could be made available for rental or use by other agencies or individuals – possibly have one office refurbished to use as a “model” for interested parties. He said there has been some talk with Mr. Wethington about the possibility of taking back from under the lease the area of the old rehab facility to put a “model” office in that area. Chair McMillan said they have about \$240,000.00 they could use for this purpose and they plan to make a presentation to the BOCC as soon as they can get everything together so the BOCC can decide what direction they may want to go in because there are other people out there trying to get their hands on that money also.

There was a very brief discussion on the sprinkler system which needs to be installed at the facility and Mr. Lawson said Mr. Collins is working on it; that he has been pulled in so many different directions – but the sprinkler system has been moved up on the list and will be done as soon as possible.

Mr. Glazer reminded everyone that even though there is not much for the GHI Board to do at this time, it is still a Board of Gadsden County and the GHI Board members are still subject to the Sunshine Law and they need to refrain from talking about business that may come before the Board from time to time. He said if Ms. Beckwith-James joins the GHI Board he will cover all of that with her at that time.

**(7) Adjournment:**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE GHI BOARD AT THIS TIME, CHAIR MCMILLAN DECLARED THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:35 PM.**

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**Craig McMillan, Chair GHI Board of Directors, Inc**

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**Jean Chesser, Deputy Clerk**