

May 23, 2024

Dear KMHC Board of Trustees,

Our medical staff and medical directors thank you for your generous volunteering of time and energy to support our hospital. We are grateful for the amount of time, energy, effort, and sacrifice each and every board member has demonstrated to serve our hospital and community. Each of us takes great pride in our work here and our ability to serve alongside you to provide healing, promote better health, and care for the people within our footprint of KMHC.

The purpose of this letter is to inform the KMHC Board of Trustees of the recommendation of our medical directors and medical staff as we have investigated and contemplated the future stewardship of our hospital.

The true question at the base of this decision tree is how does KMHC improve the health and quality of life for our communities moving forward: as an ACT 47 hospital or as an Independent Not for Profit 501c3 hospital?

As a medical staff, we strongly and unanimously believe that the best way we navigate into the future is as an Independent Not for Profit 501c3 Hospital. This would be created/ designed to retain community involvement and input but also become more flexible and able to withstand the inevitable changes in healthcare systems that are out of our control. We want to be able to continue to use financial investments of our community to improve the quality and breadth of healthcare that we deliver.

As an Independent Not for Profit Hospital, we will be allowed greater flexibility in the healthcare markets that are ripe with nuance. We still want to pursue a close working relationship with Munson Healthcare, and this status allows us to pursue that, but to also protect ourselves if that synergistic relationship changes, or if Munson Healthcare were ever to be absorbed by a bigger unknown entity. In addition, it allows us the ability to seek and consider joint ventures with other healthcare systems to expand the specialty services that would better support our community. This creates opportunities for continued growth and quality in the care we deliver.

We also are so grateful for this community and the ownership and personal pride that has become the foundation and reputation of our hospital. We are so thankful for those who decades ago came up with creative solutions and changes to position us where we are now. We hope and strongly feel that this decision to adjust our course will be looked back on decades from now as the move that protected our independence, financial viability and community and prevented us from being absorbed or sold into other systems like so many of our counterpart facilities.

Our hope is that you are able to come along-side us in support of this transition. We hope that personal views can be laid aside to see and appreciate that this decision is not about supporting individual(s), but is more about how we keep our hospital positioned to continue to grow and improve for decades to come.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness and commitment to us and our community.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy K. Holmes, DO  
Chief Medical Officer

Sally Ancel, DO  
ER Medical Director

Andrew Cole, MD  
Vice Chief of Staff

Douglas Gentry, MD  
Acute Care Medical Director

Richard Hodgman, MD  
LTC Medical Director

Natalie Okerson-Sparks, MD  
Teen Health Clinic Medical Director

Nathan Sailor, DO  
RHC Medical Director

Michael Delaney, MD  
Family Practitioner

Edward Craven, MD  
ER Practitioner

Rachael Hume-Reichardt, DO  
Family Practitioner

Elizabeth Godfrey, MD  
Family Practitioner

Tyler Humphrey, MD  
ER Practitioner

Jennifer Leino  
Family Practitioner

Andrew Long, DO  
Family Practitioner

Satya Pillay, DO  
Family Practitioner

Jennifer Polanic, MD  
Family Practitioner

Cynthia Smith, MD  
Pediatric Practitioner