August 14, 2024

Dear Members of the Health Facilities and Services Review Board:

I am writing to provide my support for the affiliation of KSB Hospital with OSF HealthCare. As a member of the KSB Board of Directors, I have the opportunity to work with hospital leadership and personnel to assure the hospital is fulfilling its mission to restore, maintain, and enhance health by providing superior care now and in the future.

As the chair of the KSB Board of Directors, I led discussions that resulted in our decision to affiliate with OSF HealthCare. This decision became easier and easier as we learned more about OSF. Of particular importance is the commitment of OSF to treat all patients and never deny health care to anyone who needs it, meaning people in the Sauk Valley will have access to OSF HealthCare no matter their ability to pay.

As a Dixon resident who, along with family members, has used KSB's services many times, I know firsthand the excellent quality of care provided by KSB personnel and know the high regard KSB is held in the Sauk Valley.

I am proud to have played a small role in KSB's history and am very excited about the future of healthcare in the Sauk Valley as a result of the affiliation of KSB Hospital with OSF HealthCare.

Please let me know if I may provide additional information about my support for this affiliation.

Sincerely,

David M. Hellmich, Ph.D.

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President

Sauk Valley Community College

Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and scholarship while engaging the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development.