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For Immediate Release

Luray, VA – Page Memorial Hospital has engaged American Health Facilities Development in Nashville, Tennessee, to complete a Master Facilities Study for the hospital. The study will evaluate the hospital’s physical campus to determine which areas need to be addressed in order to meet the current and future needs of the community.

“Evaluating a healthcare facility is a complicated process requiring specialized knowledge and experience,” says Dave Yount, chairman of the board of directors at Page Memorial. “As laypeople, we need expert assistance and opinions, and we believe we’ve found the best people in the country to guide us.”

As the name implies, American Health Facilities Development (AHFD) is a programming and development firm exclusively focused on hospital planning, design and construction. Since 1989, the company has overseen hundreds projects nationwide including the development of critical access facilities. Page Memorial made the decision to contract with AHFD as part of a three-year strategic plan approved by the board in 2006.

“As we developed a strategic plan for the hospital, we considered the fact that more than 50% of our facility was built in the 1950’s when core services were focused on in-patient care,” says Yount. “In today’s healthcare environment, the core has shifted to outpatient services and, as a result, we need to make sure we move forward with a design principle that ensures customer convenience, safety and satisfaction.”

“The evaluation process will be a three-pronged approach,” adds Yount. “The first phase will be an analysis of the existing facility, followed by a look toward the future to consider services we’re most likely provide and space requirements for any corresponding technology. In the final phase, recommendations will be made based on those findings, and recommendations could range from a bare bones systems upgrade to the construction of a brand new facility.”

Yount stresses that the hospital is only in the information gathering phase of the project and has no capital improvements planned at the present time.

“It’s only practical that we do our homework before committing any resources to capital improvements,” says Yount. “And we want the public to know that we’re turning over every stone, looking carefully at every option, and using every resource available to put together a viable plan. We will share our progress with the community as plans progress.”

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