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Edmond Medical Center appoints new CEO

By Greg Elwell
Staff Writer

EDMOND — Edmond Medical Center will have a new chief executive officer Sept. 10.

Tayo Fichtl will take over as CEO of the hospital next month, replacing interim CEO Rhonda Hanan. The previous CEO, Sally Steffen, left the hospital Aug. 10 for a job in El Paso, Texas. She held the position for about 16 months.

Fichtl is currently the CEO of Texas Orthopedic Hospital, a 49-bed facility in Houston. While at Texas Orthopedic, he completed a \$9 million expansion of the surgery center, according to a news release.

"Mr. Fichtl is not only an experienced hospital administrator, he is a keen businessman with extensive knowledge of market trends," said Mark Neighbors, chairman of the Board of Trustees. "We are thrilled that he will lead Edmond Medical Center and know he will move both this hospital and community forward."

Fichtl visited the hospital last week and said the community has a lot to offer.

"Edmond just screams out as a great place to bring your family," he said. "There's a lot of excitement and enthusiasm at the medical center, and I think it's my role to work with that and maybe provide a little direction."

During his visit, he heard several opinions on where the hospital needed to grow, including the return of obstetrics services, he said.

"Several people mentioned the OB program and it's definitely something to look at," he said. "If we're going to do it, we have to do it first class. It's definitely near the top of the list."

Fichtl earned his Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Administration degree from the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona. He also earned degrees in psychology and marketing from the University of Arizona.

He has served in a variety of positions in health care organizations throughout Arizona, Colorado and Texas. In addition to his health care management experience, Fichtl served as a second lieutenant in the 2nd Battalion, 108th Field Artillery of the Arizona Army National Guard, the press release said.

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