REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
NACOGDOCHES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
April 29, 2025 @ 5:15 P.M.

Minutes

IN ATTENDANCE:
Philip Blackburn, President
David Schaefer, Vice-President
John McLaren, Secretary
Rikki Leigh Willoughby
Ahammed Hashim, M.D.

MEDICAL STAFF
Ahammed Hashim, M.D.

ABSENT
John Sparks

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:
Rhonda McCabe, CEO
Lynn Lindsey, CFO
Stacy Garcia, VP Clinical Operations / CNO
Noella Crayton, Compliance Officer
Robert Spurck, Legal Counsel
Joel Freeman, Livity Healthcare
Ravi Sharma, Livity Healthcare
Ella B. Nobles

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Philip Blackburn called the scheduled board meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

2. **WELCOME VISITORS:** Philip Blackburn welcomed all the visitors.

3. **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

Public comments on any topic at regular monthly Board meetings are encouraged. Individuals who wish to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting must sign in before the meeting.

- No one signed up to speak.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS- INFORMATION ONLY

4.1 Report from CEO: Rhonda McCabe

CEO Report – Presented by Rhonda McCabe

Ms. McCabe presented the CEO's report to the Board, highlighting the following:

Robert Spurck, a legal representative joining via Zoom, is based in Austin and brings strong experience in healthcare law, particularly with hospital districts. We are very fortunate to have his support and expertise.

Noella Crayton, Compliance Officer, was introduced to the Board of Directors.

The district has engaged Livity Healthcare to conduct an operational assessment and develop an improvement plan. Their insights will help us identify key opportunities to enhance our operational effectiveness. Ms. McCabe appreciates their candid evaluation of our organization and look forward to working collaboratively to prioritize the most critical issues, especially those that offer the greatest financial impact. Regardless of the challenges within the healthcare environment, our focus remains on what matters most: the patient and ensuring safe, patient-centered care in a healing environment.

On a positive note that highlights our focus on patient care, we completed our unannounced, four-day Joint Commission survey on April 18. I am incredibly proud of our staff. Whether they were directly involved in the survey or supported their colleagues behind the scenes, their efforts were essential to our success and reflect their hard work, commitment to excellence, and unwavering dedication to patient care and safety. I also want to thank Plant Operations and everyone who helped prepare our 400,000-square-foot facility. When we arrived a year ago, the hospital needed significant improvements. Staff spent countless hours cleaning and maintaining the building to get it survey-ready. Final preparations continued until 6:30 p.m. on Good Friday. Special thanks to Stacy Garcia and Jessica Stewart for their outstanding leadership throughout the process. Stacy will provide more details in her quality report.

4.2 Report for CFO: Lynn Lindsey

- Ms. Lindsey presented the financial reports to the Board of Directors.

4.3 Report from Stacy Garcia regarding Quality

- Ms. Garcia presented the Quality report to the Board of Directors.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE BOARD APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Any board member may request that any or all of the items on the consent agenda be removed and considered as a separate item. If no such request is made, all items on the consent agenda may be approved by a single action.

5.1 Minutes of March Meeting (03/25/25) and Special Board Meeting Minutes from (4 -21-25).

5.2 CFO Financial Report

5.3 Quality Report

Motion was made by John McLaren to approve Consent Agenda items 5.1. 5.2 and 5.3. The Motion was seconded by Dr. Hashim and approved by the board.

6. REPORT FROM MEDICAL EXECUTIVE STAFF COMMITTEE REQUIRING DISCUSSION, UPDATE, DELIBERATION, ACTIONS, AND/OR POSSIBLE APPROVAL.

6.1 Request for Approval of Medical Staff Appointments and Privileges

6.2 Bylaws Proposed Amendment

Motion was made by David Schaefer to approve the Medical Staff Committee report and Bylaws Proposed Amendment. The motion was seconded by John McLaren and approved by the board.

7. UPDATE FROM BOARD RETIREMENT COMMITTEE. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL APPROVAL OF RETIREMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 11, 2025.

Philip Blackburn updated the board on the Retirement Committee meeting held in April. He addressed concerns regarding the differences between the mission statement and the retirement charter and discussed the approval of the newsletter to share information with the community.

Mr. Blackburn also emphasized that the pension plan will not be terminated and stated that he is actively seeking opportunities to fully fund it.

Philip Blackburn made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2025, meeting, with corrections to the meeting date. The motion was seconded by John McLaren and approved by the board.

8. OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT FROM LIVITY HEALTHCARE.

Joel Freeman and Ravi Sharma of Livity Healthcare presented SOW #3: Operational Assessment, outlining key improvement opportunities and immediate priorities. Their proposed hybrid model of management and advisory services aims to deliver measurable impact and maximize ROI across NMH operations. No action was taken.

9. CLOSED SESSION: Adjourned to Closed Session at 6:32 P.M.

- **9.1** Tex. Gov't Code §551.071, .129 (consultation with attorney)
- **9.2** Tex. Gov't Code §551.072 (deliberation on issues with real property)
- **9.3** Tex. Gov't Code §551.074 (deliberation on personnel matters)
- **9.4** Tex. Gov't Code §551.076, .089 (deliberation on security issues)
- **9.5** Tex. Gov't Code §551.078, .0785 (deliberation involving confidential patient medical records)
- **9.6** Tex. Gov't Code §551.085 (deliberation on contract negotiations for services or product lines and relating to a proposed new service or product line)
- **9.7** Tex. Health & Safety Code §161.031, .032 (disclosure of medical information and peer review)

10. RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION @ 7:35 P.M.

11. BOARD REQUEST FOR NEW INFORMATION AND/OR REPORTS

An individual Board member may request a report or new information in a regular board meeting by majority vote of the Board. Rikki Leigh Willoughby requested that additional financial information be provided to the board members. The board approved the request.

12. ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Dr. A. Hashim to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by John McLaren, and the board approved. Adjourned @ 7:35.

Philip Blackburn, President

John McLaren, Secretary