

**NACOGDOCHES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2025 @ 5:15 P.M.
NACOGDOCHES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
1204 MOUND STREET AUXILIARY CONFERENCE CENTER**

Minutes

BOARD IN ATTENDANCE:

Philip Blackburn, President
David Schaefer, Vice-President
John McLaren, Secretary
Ahammed N. Hashim, M.D.
Rikki Leigh Willoughby
John Sparks
Almarie Henderson Shumate

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Rhonda McCabe, CEO
James Pool, Interim CFO
Stacy Garcia, VP Clinical Operations / CNO
Noella Crayton, Compliance Officer / Zoom
Robert Spurck, Legal Counsel (Zoom)
Ella B. Nobles, Operations Manager

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Philip Blackburn, President, called the meeting to order @ 5:16 P.M.

2. **WELCOME:** Philip Blackburn welcomed visitors.

3. **COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

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

Public comments on any topic: Glenda Webb Schmidt, Greg Irwin, G.W. Jones, Teresa Fuller, Jacque Cleverdon, Bruce McNellie, Marion Strahan, Wade Blake.

4. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED TAX RATE

- 4.1 Open Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Rate (.03632 per 100)
- 4.2 Presentation of Proposed Tax Rate (same exemptions put in effect in 1991)
- 4.3 Comments from the Audience on Proposed Tax Rate

Public comments on the Proposed Tax Rate: James Stockman, Sammy Smith, Tom Belanger, Pam Wheeler, and Gary Griffin. All comments were in support of the property tax.

Closed Public Hearing on Proposed Tax Rate.

5. CONSIDER DISCUSS, AND POSSIBLE ADOPTION OF 2025 AD VALOREM TAX RATE FOR THE NACOGDOCHES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT.

Phillip Blackburn moved that the property tax rate be increased by the Adoption of a tax rate of \$ 0.03632 on each \$100 evaluation of all taxable property in the Nacogdoches County Hospital District, which is effectively a 100% increase in the tax rate. The motion was seconded by A. Hashim, M.D.

Philip Blackburn opened the motion up for discussion. David Schaefer asked Robert Spurck, Legal Counsel, Can the board take a straw poll from the audience? Mr. Spurck advised against the straw poll. The board should consider the motion among themselves, and we just heard from the public in the hearing.

David Schaefer asked for a show of hands in the audience, who were against the tax adoption. No one in the audience raised their hand.

John McLaren expressed to the board just like in the appointment of a board member to take the At-large position, the board did not feel comfortable making that decision, and now Mr. McLaren does not feel comfortable imposing taxes on the community. Mr. McLaren would feel comfortable putting a 9-cent, closer to what we need on the ballot to be voted on by the community. Mr. McLaren is not against the tax but wishes we got the tax we need.

After much discussion between Dr. Hashim, Rikki Leigh Willoughby, John McLaren, and other board members, Phillip Blackburn made a motion, and Ahammed Hashim, M.D., seconded the motion.

Vote Record:

Phillip Blackburn – Aye
David Schaefer – Aye
A. Hashim, M.D. – Aye
Almarie Henderson Shumate – Aye

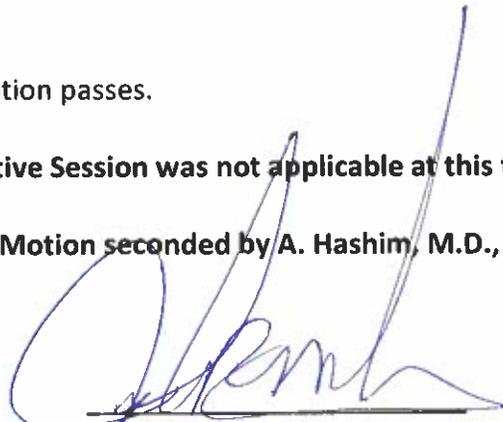
John McLaren – Nay
John Sparks – Nay
Rikki Leigh Willoughby – Nay

Results

The votes were four to three votes. The motion passes.

6. **CLOSED SESSION (AS APPLICABLE) @ Executive Session was not applicable at this time.**
7. **Motion made by David Shaefer to adjourn. Motion seconded by A. Hashim, M.D., meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.**


Phillip Blackburn, President


John McLaren, Secretary