

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023**

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The Nueces County Hospital District Board of Managers met at 12:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 24, 2023 in the NCHD Board Room at 555 N. Carancahua, Suite 950 – A Corpus Christi, Texas.

**HOSPITAL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES:**

Jonny F. Hipp	Administrator/CEO
Belinda Espinoza	Assistant Administrator, Administrative Services
Donna Littlefield	Director, Accounting & Finance
Mary Esther Guerra	Assistant County Attorney
Melissa Quintanilla	Executive Assistant/Human Resources
Carmina Hernandez Moreno	Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Bert Ramos	Christus Spohn
Craig Desmond	Christus Spohn
Andrea Kovarik	MHID
Mark Hendrix	MHID
Mike Davis	MHID
Govind Nadkarin	MHID
Shawn Barnes	CCPD
John Michael	Hanson
Adam Robinson	King & Spalding / Attorney
Jerry Kramer	CLK Architects & Associates
Jeff Schmidt	Nueces County Attorney's Office
Dr. Xavier Gonzales	Nueces County Director of Mental Health
Hilda Dalfonso	CCMC – via Zoom
Ronica Hutchison	Gjerset & Lorenz – via Zoom
Aaron Diaz	Deputy Director of Mental Health Programs-via Zoom
Richard Schechter	Attorney – via Zoom
13617611400	CCMC phone number – via Zoom

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MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

1. WELCOME

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF MANAGERS

- John E. Valls, MBA, Chairman
- Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman
- Sylvia Tryon Oliver
- Belinda Flores, R.N.
- Judge Mariana Garza
- Efrain Guerrero, Jr.
- Arthur Granado

3. CALL TO ORDER, ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM, MEETING POSTING CONFIRMATION, AND CLOSED MEETING NOTICE

A. Call to order – Mr. John E. Valls, Chairman  
The meeting was called to order by Mr. Valls at 12:09 p.m.

B. Establish quorum – Mr. Valls  
A quorum was present with all members in attendance.

**John E. Valls, MBA, Chairman – PRESENT**  
**Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman – PRESENT**  
**Sylvia Tryon Oliver, Member – PRESENT**  
**Belinda Flores, R.N., Member – PRESENT – via Zoom**  
**Judge Mariana Garza, Member – PRESENT**  
**Efrain Guerrero, Jr., Member – PRESENT**  
**Arthur Granado, Member – PRESENT**

C. Confirm posting of Meeting's public notice in accordance with Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

D. Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Managers may elect to go into Closed Meeting session(s) at any time during the meeting to discuss any matter(s) listed on the agenda when so authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - Persons attending in-person and wishing to comment on any item(s) on the agenda or any subject within the Board's responsibilities must sign-in on the "Agenda Item Request to Speak" form provided at the entrance of the Board meeting

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

room at least five (5) minutes prior to commencement of the meeting. Persons attending via audio or video conference and wishing to comment on any item(s) on the agenda or any subject within the Board's responsibilities must verbally notify the presiding officer of their desire to comment when the officer calls for public comment from those attending via audio and video conference. Commenters shall limit their comments to three (3) minutes, except that Commenters addressing the Board through a translator shall limit their comments to six (6) minutes.

**No one to speak in public comment.**

**5. CONSENT AGENDA** - The Consent Agenda consists of those agenda items which are routine, administrative in nature, not in need of separate attention, and which a member of the Board has not requested be discussed separately. If requested to be discussed separately, that agenda item will be removed from the Consent Agenda by the presiding officer to the Regular Agenda and discussed as a part of the Regular Agenda at the appropriate time. All remaining items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted upon in a single vote:

A. Approve Board of Managers Regular Meeting minutes of November 17, 2022 and December 13, 2022.

B. Receive annual listing of vendors as of January 18, 2023; listing provided pursuant to Board of Managers Bylaws, §2.1.B and Texas Local Government Code, Chapter 176.

C. Receive summary payment information on Nueces County health care disbursements for Fiscal Year 2023 year-to-date:

1. Salaries, benefits, supplies, and intergovernmental transfers at/for City of Corpus Christi/Nueces County Public Health District;
2. Emergency medical services provided in unincorporated areas of Nueces County;
3. Supplemental and jail diversion program funding for Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities;
4. Medical services provided at County correctional facilities:
  - a. Nueces County Jail; and
  - b. Nueces County Juvenile Detention Center;
5. Funding for alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs:
  - a. Cenikor (Charlie's Place);
  - b. Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; and

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

- c. Palmer Drug Abuse Program;
  - 6. Funding for diabetes prevention and supporting programs;
  - 7. Public health grants; and
  - 8. Legal and professional fees. (*Finance Committee*)
- D. Receive summary imputed claims information on medical and hospital care provided to the Nueces Aid Program population consistent with the CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Amended and Restated Membership Agreement for fiscal year-to-date periods-ended November 30, 2022 and December 31, 2022. (*Finance Committee*)
- E. Receive fiscal year-to-date Specified Annual Percentage-related revenue reports; revenue receipts pursuant to CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Amended and Restated Membership Agreement, Section 5.03. (*Finance Committee*)
- F. Receive monthly statement of escrow amounts deposited and/or withdrawn by CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation; deposits pursuant to and consistent with Schedule 1 to CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Amended and Restated Membership Agreement; receive statements for months-ended November 30, 2022 and December 31, 2022. (*Finance Committee*)
- G. Receive statement of amounts deposited to and/or withdrawn from Local Provider Participation Fund for fiscal year-to-date; deposits and withdrawals pursuant to Board of Managers Order authorizing participation in a health care provider participation program pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 298C, as amended. (*Finance Committee*)
- H. Receive summary report of cumulative estimated provider payments and actual intergovernmental transfers made in support of local and other healthcare providers participating in Medicaid supplemental and directed payment programs sponsored by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC):
- 1. Directed Payment Programs - Medicaid managed care organization payments to healthcare providers that support overall Medicaid program goals and objectives:
    - a. Comprehensive Hospital Increase Reimbursement Program (CHIRP);
    - b. Network Access Improvement Program (NAIP);
    - c. Texas Incentives for Physicians and Professional Services (TIPPS);

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

d. Uniform Hospital Rate Increase Program (UHRIP); and

2. Supplemental Payment Programs - HHSC-directed payments made to hospitals for achieving certain goals or to support health care providers that see significant numbers of uninsured or persons without much money:

- a. Disproportionate Share Hospitals (DSH) program;
- b. Graduate Medical Education (GME);
- c. Hospital Uncompensated Care (UC) pool; and

3. Phase-Out Programs:

- a. Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) pool. (*Finance Committee*)

I. Receive reports relating to Nueces Aid Program enrollment for the months-ended November 30, 2022 and December 31, 2022:

1. Total Persons and Households Enrolled;
2. Enrollment Summary;
3. Denials;
4. Application Processing Summary; and
5. Enrollment by Zip Code. (*Finance Committee*)

**Consent Agenda approved. Motion by Mr. Guerrero and seconded by Judge Garza. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. **REGULAR AGENDA** - The Regular Agenda consists of those agenda items which are non-routine, not administrative in nature, or are otherwise in need of separate attention. Each Regular Agenda item will be voted upon separately if action is required:

A. **Finance Committee**:

1. Financial Statements:

- a. Receive and approve unaudited financial statements for the months and fiscal year-to-date periods ended October 31, 2022, November 30, 2022, and December 31, 2022. (**ACTION**)

**Motion by Ms. Oliver seconded by Mr. Granado. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Request per Mr. Hipp to reopen item at 1:08 p.m., approved by Mr. Valls, Chairman. Item reopened, Motion remains as above.**

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

2. Investment Report:

- a. Receive Quarterly Investment Report for fiscal quarter-ended December 31, 2022. (**INFORMATION**)

3. Receive notice of Commissioners Court's approval of Hospital District budget amendment relating to additional funding of \$67,000 for Nueces County Juvenile Department detainee health care costs during Fiscal Year 2023. (**INFORMATION**)

**B. Legislative Committee:**

1. Receive information on 88th Texas Session Legislative Agenda. (**INFORMATION**)

**Mr. Granado reiterated what was said during the Legislative Meeting regarding Item B. 1.**

2. Discuss and consider amending 88th Texas Session Legislative Agenda. (**ACTION**)

**No Action taken, Motion by Mr. Valls, Chairman.**

**C. FEMA Cost Recovery Applications:**

1. Receive update on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) DR-4485-TX (COVID-19) Public Assistance Project Applications:
  - a. Appeal of FEMA Application #674808 denial relating to recovery of Social Determinants of Health Study costs (Hagerty Project #1); and
  - b. Submission of FEMA Application #679441 relating to recovery costs associated with community testing contracts, staff personal protective equipment and materials, and other related costs (Hagerty Project #2). (**INFORMATION**)

**D. Memorial Medical Center Demolition:**

1. Receive, view, and discuss information on Memorial Medical Center demolition project being conducted by CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation; demolition project located at 2606 Hospital Boulevard, Corpus Christi, Texas:
  - a. Report from Hanson Professional Services, Owner's Representative; and

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

b. CHRISTUS Health OxBlue Construction Time-Lapse Camera video feed. (*INFORMATION*)

**John Michael updated on Memorial Medical Center demolition and Jerry Kramer discussed on HPG expansion.**

**E. Community Mental Health Initiatives:**

1. Receive and discuss information presented by Nueces County's Director of Mental Health Programs on Hospital District-funded and other mental health programs. (*INFORMATION*)
2. Receive and discuss report and information from Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities ("MHID") relating to work performed under agreements between Nueces County, MHID, and Hospital District for the fiscal quarter ended December 31, 2022. (*INFORMATION*)

**MHID discussed reports and information.**

**F. Other Business:**

1. Discuss and consider amending Board of Managers and Board Committees 2023 Meeting Schedule. (*ACTION*)

**Motion by Mr. Valls, Chairman, to leave alone.**

2. Discuss and consider scheduling future Mental Health Workshop to be presented by Nueces County's Director of Mental Health Programs on Hospital District-funded and other mental health programs. (*ACTION*)

**Motion by Dr. Reddy and seconded by Mr. Granado.  
MOTION CARRIED.**

**G. Administrator's Actions:**

1. Ratify Administrator's action(s) performed as part of his duties directing the affairs of the Hospital District and/or as required by the Board of Managers; duties established pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code, §281.026(e):
  - a. Renewal of Agreement with Texas Medical Foundation Health Quality Institute for Nueces Aid Program-related Quality Assessment, Utilization

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

Review, and Coding Review Services; renewal through December 31, 2024.  
(**ACTION**)

**Motion by Ms. Oliver and seconded by Mr. Granado.  
MOTION CARRIED.**

**7. ADMINISTRATOR'S BRIEFING:**

A. Next scheduled Board of Managers and Board Committee regular meetings (all meetings' dates, times, and locations are subject to change):

1. Finance Committee: February 28, 2023, 11:15 AM in NCHD Board of Managers Meeting Room at 555 North Carancahua Street, Room 950-A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401;
2. Legislative Committee: February 28, 2023, 11:45 AM in NCHD Board of Managers Meeting Room at 555 North Carancahua Street, Room 950-A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401; and
3. Board of Managers: February 28, 2023, 12:00 PM in NCHD Board of Managers Meeting Room at 555 North Carancahua Street, Room 950-A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401. (**INFORMATION**)

**Mr. Valls, Chairman called a five minute break at 2:11 p.m.  
Mr. Valls, Chairman called meeting to commence at 2:18 p.m.**

**Mr. Valls, Chairman called for Close Session at 2:20 p.m.**

**8. CLOSED MEETING** - Public Notice is hereby given that the Board of Managers may go into closed meeting session(s) at any time during the meeting to discuss any matter(s) listed on the agenda, when so authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551. *To the extent there has been a past practice of distinguishing items for public deliberation and those for executive session, the public is advised that the Board is departing from that practice and reserves the right to discuss any listed agenda items in a closed meeting when authorized by law to do so.* When the Board goes into closed session(s) regarding an agenda item(s), the section(s) of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the closed session will be publicly announced by the presiding officer. Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in closed session(s), then the final action, final decision, or final vote shall be either: (a) in the open meeting covered by the Notice upon reconvening of the public meeting; or (b) at a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon



MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

notice thereof, as the Board shall determine pursuant to applicable laws. The Board specifically expects to go into a closed session(s) on the matters listed below pursuant to the Act.

A. Consult with attorneys on matters relating to Hospital District litigation against opioid drug manufacturers, promoters, and distributors, including related settlements and other related matters, pursuant to Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, §551.071.

B. Consult with attorneys on matters relating to the Amended and Restated Membership Agreement with CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation and the related 1996 Transaction Agreements entered and effective September 30, 1996, including the Master, Lease, and Indigent Care Agreements; and the Memorandum of Understanding dated November 18, 2015, pursuant to Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, §551.071.

C. Consult with attorneys and deliberate matters relating to Hospital District-owned real property located at 14202 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, Texas 78418, pursuant to Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, §551.071 and §551.072.

D. Consult with attorneys and deliberate matters relating to Hospital District-leased real property located 555 North Carancahua Street, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401, pursuant to Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, §551.071 and §551.072.

9. **OPEN MEETING** - Following the Closed Meeting, the Board of Managers will reconvene the Open Meeting prior to taking any action(s) on matters considered in the Closed Meeting or adjourning the meeting.

**Mr. Valls, Chairman called for Open Session at 3:17 p.m.**

10. Consider final action, decision, or vote on matters considered in the Closed Meeting.  
**(ACTION AS NEEDED)**

**No Action taken**

11. **ADJOURN**

**Meeting adjourned by Mr. Valls, Chairman at 3:17 p.m.**

MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 24, 2023

**PRESIDING OFFICER**

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John E. Valls, MBA, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

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Jonny F. Hipp, Secretary  
Board of Managers  
Nueces County Hospital District

**ABSENT**

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Wm Dewitt Alsup, General Counsel  
Nueces County Hospital District