

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF MANAGERS  
NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
SPECIAL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

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The Nueces County Hospital District Board of Managers met at 1:30 p.m. November 15, 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	Asst. Administrator, Admin. Services
Donna Littlefield	Director, Accounting & Finance
Mary Esther Guerra	Assistant County Attorney
John B. Martinez	General Counsel
Melissa Quintanilla	Executive Assistant/Human Resources
Carmina Hernandez Moreno	Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Adam Robison	Attorney
Ernest Buck	M.D.
Julie Herrick	Nueces County Resident
John Herrik	EM Residency
Monica Chapa MD	EM Residency
Michael Brodeur	EM Residency
Marilyn Brodeur	EM Program
Alainy Tomanel	EM Program
John Canbron	EM Program
Kimberly Leeson MD	EM Faculty
Ben Leeson MD	EM Residency
Shani Italyn	EM Residency
Makayiah Chaves	KRIS 6
Roy Hinojosa	KRIS 6
B. Burns	KIII 3
Veronica Wilson	

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**As follow also present – via Zoom:**

Cassidy Willie	Gjerset & Lorenz
Hilda Dalfonso	Corpus Christi Medical Center
Daniel Tran	EM Residency
Justin Hacnik	EM Residency
Liz Sullivan	EM Residency
Shaun Antonio	EM Residency
Kayla Shorten	- via Zoom
Alex Rogers	- via Zoom
Peter Richman	- via Zoom
Lynn & Gina	- via Zoom
Layla Embree	- via Zoom
Griffin	- via Zoom
Elizabeth	- via Zoom
Simmons	- via Zoom
Colin	- via Zoom
Debbie	- via Zoom
Tyler	- via Zoom
Douglas	- via Zoom
Kristy	- via Zoom
Debbie	- via Zoom
Tanner	- via Zoom
Dominic	- via Zoom
My PC's IP	ip address 162.224.64.110 – via Zoom

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**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 – Dr. Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman.  
The meeting was called to order by Dr. Reddy at 1:35 p.m.
- B. Establish quorum – Dr. Reddy, Vice Chairman.  
A quorum was present with six members in attendance.

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

- 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. ANNOUNCEMENT ON DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.** Any Conflicts of Interest or Appearance of a Conflict of Interest with items on this agenda shall be declared at this time. Members with conflicts will refrain from voting and are asked to

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refrain from discussion on such items. Conflicts discovered later in the meeting shall be disclosed at that time.

**5. 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 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.

**Ernest Buck M.D.  
John Herrick**

**6. 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 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, §551.071.

A. Consult with attorneys on matters relating to support of CHRISTUS Spohn Health System's Emergency Medicine Residency Program, and related matters.

**Dr. Reddy, Vice Chairman called for Closed Session at 1:47 p.m.**

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7. **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.

**Dr. Reddy, Vice Chairman called for Open Session at 3:21 p.m.**

A. Discuss and consider approving an Emergency Medicine Residency Program Support Term Sheet to serve as the basis for a future agreement with CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation relating to continuation of its Emergency Medicine Residency Program. (***ACTION***)

**Motion by Mr. Granado. In light of the information the Board of Managers has learned during public comments and through other means, the Board of Managers moves to not approve the 5-year Emergency Medicine Residency Program Term Sheet as set forth in Agenda Item 7.A and authorizes Administrator Jonny Hipp to engage with Spohn, as appropriate, to attempt to pursue an alternative and more sustainable solution for Spohn's Emergency Medicine Program, consistent with the District's mission and public purpose. Seconded by Mr. Guerrero. MOTION CARRIED.**

8. **ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourn by Dr. Reddy, Vice Chairman.  
Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.**

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**PRESIDING OFFIERS:**

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Dr. Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman

**ATTEST:**

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