**MINUTES**

**LOWER FLORIDA KEYS HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**AUGUST 5, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Ovide, Mrs. Sterling, Mr. Muir, Mrs. Spottswood, Dr. Chambers, Mr. Hammond, Mrs. Swift and Mr. Toppino

**ABSENT:** Dr. Thompson

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Fishman, and residents from the community (sign-in sheet attached to official minutes).

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman Ovide called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Ovide led the attendees to the pledge of allegiance.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on May 6th & June 12th, 2025, were reviewed as presented:

**Mr. Toppino motioned to approve the minutes be accepted from May 6, 2025, as presented, Mr. Muir seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Mr. Toppino motioned to approve the minutes be accepted from June 12, 2025, as presented, Mrs. Sterling seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Swift**

**CITIZEN INPUT:**

Chairman Ovide went over the citizen input guidelines as stated below:

Presentations to the Board are limited to three (3) minutes for each individual speaker and five (5) minutes for the representative of a designated group. Transfer of time between individuals and/or groups is not permitted. Letters submitted to each Board Member and/or the district

Administrator prior to a Board Meeting will not additionally be read into the record at the meeting. All statements must be directed towards the Board; no person may address or question Board Members individually, and Board Members will not engage in a dialogue with people making public comment. Furthermore, all speakers agree to abide by the Code of Conduct for Citizen Input and will begin their presentation by stating the full name and their city or town of residence for the record

**CHS HOSPITAL REPORT:**

Mr. Bigby submitted his report to the district board and addressed a few key highlights. The hospital safely delivered and transported (2) babies at 31 weeks. The hospital has gone 1,000 without a serious safety event. Mr. Bibgy provided updates on physician recruitment, equipment/plant investments and community engagement.

A copy of Mr. Bigny’s Report s attached to the official minutes.

**AKERMAN REPORT: MR. SLAVKIN/ MRS. NOWELS**

Mr. Slavkin and Mrs. Nowel attended via conference call and went over the report they submitted to the board. The report discussed general considerations, proposed timelines, consultant selection, RFP drafting, RFP issuance, Proposal and Deliberation and Selection.

The board discussed the timeline dates as they seemed the process was extending longer than they wish and Mr. Slavkin stated the timeline dates are adjustable. The board relayed to Akerman that they want them in attendance at the meetings and reporting to the community also on progress.

**Mrs. Swift motioned to approve the proposal/timeline presented by Akerman. Mrs. Sterling seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**BOARD APPOINTED FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE: DR. GERTH**

Dr. Gerth stated that the fact-finding committee would be meeting with Baptist and CHS in early September and has asked the board to approve Mt. Sinai also in their informal interview process. Dr. Gerth feels there is some pushback from the community and feels the process should be open and complete.

**ATTORNEY REPORT: MR. FISHMAN**

The District received a request, at the suggestion of Commissioner Kaufman, from Carolyn Thomson, an ACA certified Health Insurance Navigator serving Monroe County, apprising that the Navigation Program has been cut by 90% and she will lose her position as of August 25th, and Monroe County residents will lose the services of an Access to Care Advocate, who provides free assistance including health education and health literacy, assistance locating providers, insurance claims and enrolling in health plans. She was inquiring about seeking a funding request from the district. He apprised her that in 2004 the Rural Health Network approached the District for funding for insurance purposes and the then Board asked that I obtain an Attorney General Opinion if such request was within the ambit of the Enabling Act, and the Attorney General opined that the Enabling Act does not authorize the expenditure of public funds for such purpose, and that the provision of health insurance is distinct from the provision of health care services.

A copy of Mr. Fishman’s Report and Memo are attached to the official minutes.

**CHS ADVISORY BOARD REP: MRS. HARRISON**

Mrs. Harrison had no report to share at this time.

**NURSING HOME ASST. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: MR. KEIGHLEY**

Mrs. Rosado submitted the report to the district board and stated their census was at 99 and they are continuing to hire in all departments. They had a complaint survey conducted in June where they received (4) citations. All citations have been corrected and they are waiting on re-evaluation.

**NURSING HOME ADVISORY BOARD REP: MR. MUIR:**

Mt. Muir had no report to share at this time.

**NURSING HOME COMMUNITY REP: MRS. SMITH:**

Mrs. Smith had no report to share at this time.

**APPROVAL OF FINANCE COMMITTEE QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

**Dr. Chambers motioned to approve the financial report from PFM and the quarterly financial report for the quarter ending June 30, 2025, Mr. Muir seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Dr. Chambers motioned to approve the FY26 budget, Mr. Muir seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Swift-YES

Mr. Muir- YES

Mrs. Ovide-YES

Mr. Hammond- YES

Dr. Chambers-YES

Mrs. Spottswooed- YES

Mr. Toppino-YES

Mrs. Sterling-YES

A copy of the quarterly financial reports and FY26 budget are attached to the official minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS: AKERMAN PR$ESENTATION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mrs. Sterling discussed Akerman’s budget and their status.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business to come before the District Board, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Ovide at 5:20p.m.**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approved, Secretary Date