

**MINUTES  
LOWER FLORIDA KEYS HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FEBRUARY 4, 2025**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Ovide, Dr. Thompson, Mrs. Sterling, Mr. Muir, Mrs. Spottswood, Dr. Chambers, Mr. Hammond

**ABSENT:** Mr. Toppino

**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 3:03 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 November 4, 2024 and January 7, 2025, were reviewed as presented:

**Mr. Hammond motioned to approve the minutes be accepted as presented with the addition of Stephen Hammond being added as present to both sets of minutes, Dr. Thompson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**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 EPORT: MR. MASON**

Mr. Mason provided the board with a 1-page report and discussed their intentions to renew the lease agreement and show their commitment to the capital funds they are willing to commit to show their intent.

Mr. Mason's report is attached to the official minutes.

**BOARD APPOINTED FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE: MR. BATTY**

Mr. Batty presented as the Chair of the committee and stated the committee held a meeting on 1/22/2025 from 2:30-3:30pm. The next meeting will be held on 2/6/25 in the chambers at City Hall. All members of the committee were present except Dr. Gerth who had a patient day. Mr. Batty requested authorization for funding to research an attorney to bring back to the District Board.

**Mr. Sterling motioned to approve the fact- finding committee to move forward with doing the research to move forward with proposing an attorney to the board, Dr. Thompson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Mrs. Spottswood-yes  
Mr. Muir-no  
Mr. Hammond- no  
Mrs. Ovide- no  
Dr. Thompson-yes  
Dr. Chambers- yes  
Mrs. Sterling- yes

The vote passed with 4-3 votes.

**ATTORNEY REPORT: MR. FISHMAN**

The board instructed Mr. Fishman at our last meeting to reach out to Bobby Sanchez with Kennedy Drive Investors to see where they stand. Bobby Sanchez stated that they have no interest in selling and that they are not committed to CHS or a particular hospital and are open to speaking with anyone interested in operating the hospital.

The district board directed Mrs. Cranney-Black to advertise a solicitation to invite any hospital operators interested and/or consultants to come and present before the district board at the next meeting.

Mr. Fishman prepared a resolution for board approval that stated each board member is bonded with a \$5,000 premium that the district board is responsible for the reoccurring bond renewal payments.

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: MRS. ROSADO**

Mrs. Rosado submitted her report to the district board and stated the population of the nursing home was at a census of 89 and welcomed any questions anyone may have.

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

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

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

Mrs. Smith feels that the nursing home offers a good atmosphere for the residents but that they are lacking the sense of patient advocacy and would like to see that addressed. She noted some issues in her report due to staff and family communication lack and also some discomfort with the care the doctor is providing at the nursing home as it appears to be selective based on certain views.

A copy of Mrs. Smith's report is attached to the official minutes.

**MEDICAL STAFF PRESENTATION: DR. NORRIS**

Dr. Norris presented to the District board and stated he had a sense of relief and felt better that he is seeing progress made. He talked about his role as Chief of Staff at that hospital and services he feels should be here but said he has good working relationships with all the hospitals interested and just wants what is best for the community as whole.

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

**Dr. Thompson motioned to approve the financial report from PFM and the quarterly financial report for the quarter ended December 31, 2024, Dr. Chambers seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

**Dr. Thompson motioned to accept the revised Investment Policy Strategy from PFM, Mr. Muir seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.**

A copy of the quarterly financial reports and investment policy are attached to the official minutes.

**NEW BUSINESS: APPOINT (4) MEMBERS TO HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD**

The district board appointed the following members to the Health Systems Board to keep the entity active and for report filing purposes:

1. Mary Spottswood
2. James Muir
3. Kathy Ovide
4. Stephen Hammond


**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were several members from the community that spoke, which included the following individuals:

Sam Kaufman  
Dr. Dudlar  
Steven Breines  
Al Czerwinski  
Susan Merrick  
Alexander Mendez  
Spencer Krenke

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business to come before the District Board, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Thompson and seconded by Mrs. Sterling at 5:05 pm.**

  
Approved, Secretary

  
Date