

**MINUTES  
LOWER FLORIDA KEYS HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

**PRESENT:** Mrs. Ovide, Mr. Levin, Dr. Thompson, Mr. Muir

**ABSENT:** Dr. Chambers, Mr. Hammond

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr. Hill, Mr. Clay, Mr. Fishman (via phone), Mrs. Harrison, Mr. Krenke, Mrs. Merrill, Mr. Kaufman, Mrs. Miano, Mrs. Vanfleet, Mrs. Deen, Mrs. Torres

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Dr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Thompson led the attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**MINUTES:**

The minutes of the Board of Commissioners meeting held on December 11, 2023, were reviewed as presented:

**Mrs. Ovide motioned to approve the minutes to be accepted as presented, Mr. Muir seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: DR. THOMPSON**

Dr. Thompson went over the citizen input guidelines, so everyone was clear on the rules for public comment.

**CITIZEN INPUT:**

Mr. Spencer Krenke spoke on behalf of a group of local citizens and was allotted the 5-minute timeframe. Mr. Krenke submitted a written report that was distributed to the District Board and will be attached to the official minutes. Mr. Krenke spoke about CHS debt, credit ratings of other healthcare providers and disclosures. There were some questions that Mr. Krenke put in his report that the District board will answer and send back to them.

Mrs. Susan Merrill also spoke and said she was concerned moving forward if there was a sufficient medical environment here for her and her husband to stay here.

Mr. Sam Kaufman introduced himself as the Vice Mayor of the City of Key West and stated that everyone wants to work together. Mr. Kaufman wants to get a better idea of the structure of governance on who can make the decisions and what power the interested parties and the Lower Florida Keys District hospital board have. Mr. Kaufman was asking for transparency on that issue for the residents of the city.

**HOSPITAL CEO REPORT: MR. CLAY**

Mr. Clay stated that the hospital is still a 4-star facility and amongst other hospitals in the region they are above most and equal to the rest. In 2016 Mr. Clay stated the hospital had a 1-star rating and that is when he was called to come in and take over and he stated the residents of the city deserved better and made that his mission. In 2023 the hospital will be ranked as a 4-star facility and has remained there since. The star rating takes into consideration the patient engagement scores and are hoping to become a 5-star hospital in the near future.

The hospital is up for recertification with a joint commission survey in the upcoming year and in the last survey that was conducted they received no conditional findings.

Patience experience ratings are up 4% from 2022 scores and also the google rating scores are up 4.4%. The hospital continues to recruit physicians and has an Ortho PA, General Cardiologist, OBGYN and a Interventional Cardiologist joining the team. They are still actively recruiting an ENT, Pulmonologist and Cardiologists. The Cath Lab renovation upgrade is complete and waiting for AHCA approval. The hospital donated funds to the college so they could receive state grant marching funds for the nursing program.

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

**DELEGATE TO CHS BOARD: MRS. HARRISON**

There was no report from Mrs. Harrison.

**NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATOR REPORT: MRS. ROSADO**

There was no one in attendance from the nursing home.

**AUDITOR'S REPORT: MR. HILL:**

There was no report from Mr. Hill to the board, he stated at the next meeting he will be presenting the FY23 draft financial statements.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT: MR. FISHMAN:**

Mr. Fishman provided his report to the board and updated the board that there have been no further updates on appointments except for anyone who wanted to be reappointed to submit their applications. Mrs. Ovide stated that our state rep Rhonda Lopez is working tirelessly to assist the board in getting our reappointments also.

Mr. Fishman received an unsolicited email from the General Counsel for the Portopiccolo group who are the owners/operators of the nursing home. The email stated that Portopicciolo group had entered into a letter of intent to sell the nursing home to a new operator that would take over operations for 12 months and then complete the purchase and assume the ground lease. Mr. Fishman stated his disappointment due to the good working relationship between the district and them but sent them a list of items that were needed before any transaction could occur. They acknowledged receipt and stated they would get the items gathered and Mr. Fishman has heard nothing since then. Mr. Levin asked him to reach out to the local nursing home administrator to see what information they have.

Mr. Fishman researched the attendance requirements from a question posed at the last meeting and the bylaws state that any board who misses 3 consecutive meetings in a fiscal year would resign from the board. Mr. Fishman stated the bylaws haven't been updated since 2004 so he redlined the bylaws to reflect our current stature and operations. The bylaws state that the board can approve changes to the bylaws in a meeting but must have received them 10 days prior to be able to vote upon them. Mrs. Cranney-Black will send them out 10 days prior to the next meeting for approval of the changes at the May meeting.

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

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

There was no one present from PFM to give the quarterly report.


**Mr. Levin motioned to approve the financial report from PFM pending them being sent from PFM and the quarterly financial report for the quarter ended December 31, 2023. Mrs. Ovide seconded, and motion carried unanimously.**

Mrs. Ovide had some questions for Mr. Clay in regards to the Cancer center and if there was room for a center on hospital grounds. Mr. Clay is waiting for more information on the pending bankruptcy case before they can move forward with any plans.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**There being no further business to come before the District Board, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Thompson at 3:53 pm.**

  
Approved, Chair

  
Date