

**MINUTES
LOWER FLORIDA KEYS HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JUNE 12, 2025**

PRESENT: Mrs. Ovide, Mrs. Sterling, Mrs. Swift, Dr. Thompson, Dr. Chambers and Mr. Toppino

ABSENT: Mrs. Spottswood, Mr. Muir, Mr. Hammond

ALSO PRESENT: Mr. Fishman, see sign in sheet

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ovide called the meeting to order at 2:30p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

APPROVAL OF FY24 AUDIT REPORT:

CBIZ presented the FY24 audit report to the district board and stated that there were no findings and it was a clean opinion.

Mr. Toppino motioned to accept the FY24 audit report as presented. Mrs. Sterling seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: MRS. OVIDE

Mrs. Ovide gave a report based on matters of the district and stated that the appointed board members are responsible for the decision making and selecting the hospital provider. Mrs. Ovide spoke about the role of the fact-finding committee and didn't want any confusion on who had the decision-making authority. Mrs. Spottswood was appointed as the liaison to that committee but hasn't been able to attend their meetings so the board suggested district board members could rotate attending to have a district board member in attendance. Mrs. Ovide stated that due to the time frame she would like to start seeing progress being made.

ATTORNEY REPORT: MR. FISHMAN

Mr. Fishman spoke about the outside counsel that has been retained. The firm is reviewing the lease documents and believes there is room for a consultant to work with them through the process. Akerman will provide the board with their recommendations on how to move forward and with a plan. They will have three attorneys dedicated to the district account that specialize in healthcare, government and transactional law.

RECEIPT & DISCUSSION OF FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE REPORT:

The district had initially approved \$12,000 for legal expenditure, in which the committee only expended \$10,000 and had a balance left available of \$2,000. They also requested an additional budget of \$4,300, in which they had pre-existing approval of \$2,000, so the board just needed to authorize an additional \$2,300.00. There was a vote of confidence to keep the fact-finding

committee actively working and engaging with the public to collect data and assist with creating a quality lease.

Mr. Toppino motioned to approve the vote of confidence and additional funding of \$2,300. Mrs. Swift seconded, and the roll was called, and the roll was called and the motion carried unanimously.


Dr. Thompson-yes
Mrs. Swift-yes
Mr. Toppino-yes
Mrs. Ovide-yes
Dr. Chambers-yes
Mrs. Sterling-yes

The fact-finding committee sent out letters to the hospitals that presented to the district and invited them all to submit proposals by certain dates by time. Mrs. Ovide didn't feel it was the place of the committee to conduct these interviews and was going to reach out to these hospitals and let them know who has the final selection authority so there is no confusion.

Mrs. Sterling motioned to authorize Mr. Fishman to send out an email clarifying that there was no formal RFP had been issued and explain who the authoritative body is in selecting the new hospital operator. Mr. Toppino seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the District Board, the meeting was adjourned at 4:26pm.


Approved, Secretary *Chairman*

9-10-25
Date