

DRAFT

**BOARD OF MANAGERS
NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025**

The Nueces County Hospital District Board of Managers met at 12.:00 p.m., September 23, 2025 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
Adam Robison	Legal Counsel
Melissa Quintanilla	Executive Assistant/Human Resources
Carmina Hernandez Moreno	Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Shani Italiya	Corpus Christi Emergency Physician
Patricia Shipton	Lobbyist – via Zoom
read.ai meeting notes	- via Zoom platform

1. WELCOME

2. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

☐ Y__ Belinda Flores, Chairman
☐ Y__ Vishnu V. Reddy, Vice Chair
☐ Y__ Sylvia Tryon Oliver
☐ X__ Mariana Garza
☐ X__ Efrain Guerrero, Jr.
☐ Y__ Georgia Neblett
☐ Y__ Karen O'Connor Urban

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3. CALL TO ORDER, CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM, VERIFICATION OF MEETING POSTING, AND CLOSED MEETING NOTICE:

A. Call to order – Belinda Flores, Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

B. Establish quorum – Belinda Flores, Chair.

A quorum was present with five members in attendance.

Belinda Flores, Chairman – PRESENT

Vishnu V. Reddy, Vice Chair – PRESENT – via Zoom

Sylvia Tryon Oliver, Member – PRESENT

Georgia Neblett, Member – PRESENT

Karen O'Connor Urban, Member – PRESENT

Mariana Garza, Member – ABSENT

Efrain Guerrero, Jr., Member – ABSENT

C. Confirm posting of the meeting's public notice in compliance with Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

D. Notice is hereby provided that the Board of Managers may convene in closed meeting session(s) during this meeting to consider any agenda item, when permitted under the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551.

4. NOTICE REGARDING BUDGETS. The Hospital District's Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 budgets have been duly adopted by the Board of Managers and approved by Commissioners Court. At this meeting, the Board may discuss either of these budgets. The budget and the required taxpayer impact statement for Fiscal Year 2026 are available for public review by clicking the "Annual Budget & Taxpayer Impact Statement" link on the front page District's official website at <https://www.nchdcc.org/>.

5. ANNOUNCEMENT ON DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. Any Conflict of Interest, or Appearance of a Conflict of Interest, relating to items on this agenda shall be disclosed at this time. Members declaring a conflict shall abstain from voting and are requested to refrain from participation in discussion of the affected item. Any conflicts identified during the course of the meeting shall be disclosed immediately upon discovery.

No Conflicts of Interest.

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6. REGULAR SESSION

A. PUBLIC COMMENT - Opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on matters within its jurisdiction. In-person attendees must sign the "Agenda Item Request to Speak" form at least five (5) minutes before the meeting begins. Remote attendees must notify the presiding officer when called upon. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes (six [6] minutes with translator). The presiding officer may further limit the number of speakers or time allowed. The Board may act only on items listed on the agenda. Materials submitted will not be returned; at least ten (10) copies, labeled with the commenter's name and agenda item number, must be provided for distribution.

No one to speak for Public Comment.

B. CONSENT AGENDA - The Consent Agenda consists of those agenda items which are routine, administrative in nature, not in need of separate attention, and which a member of the Board has not requested be discussed separately. If requested to be discussed separately, that agenda item will be removed from the Consent Agenda by the presiding officer to the Regular Agenda and discussed as a part of the Regular Agenda at the appropriate time. All remaining items listed under the Consent Agenda will be voted upon in a single vote:

1. Approve Board of Managers minutes:
 - a. Regular Meeting of August 26, 2025; and
 - b. Public Hearing of August 26, 2025.
2. Receive summary payment information on Nueces County health care disbursements for Fiscal Year 2025 year-to-date:
 - a. Salaries, benefits, and supplies at/for the City of Corpus Christi/Nueces County Public Health District;
 - b. Emergency medical services provided in unincorporated areas of Nueces County;
 - c. Supplemental and jail diversion program funding for Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities;
 - d. Medical services provided at County correctional facilities:
 1. Nueces County Jail; and

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2. Nueces County Juvenile Detention Center;
- e. Funding for alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs:
 1. Cenikor (Charlie's Place); and
 2. Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse;
- f. Funding for diabetes prevention and supporting programs; and
- g. Public health grants. *(Finance Committee)*
3. Receive summary of imputed claims information for medical and hospital care services provided to the Nueces Aid Program population, consistent with the CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Amended and Restated Membership Agreement, for fiscal year-to-date period-ended August 31, 2025. *(Finance Committee)*
4. Receive fiscal year-to-date Specified Annual Percentage-related revenue reports; revenue receipts pursuant to CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Amended and Restated Membership Agreement, Section 5.03. *(Finance Committee)*
5. Receive statement of fiscal year-to-date deposits to and withdrawals from the Local Provider Participation Fund, made pursuant to the Board of Managers Order authorizing participation in a health care provider participation program under Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 298C, as amended. *(Finance Committee)*
6. Receive summary report of cumulative actual intergovernmental transfers (IGTs) made in support of local and other healthcare providers participating in Medicaid directed and supplemental payment programs sponsored by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), and receive estimates of provider payments resulting from the IGTs:
 - a. Directed Payment Programs - IGTs to HHSC for Medicaid managed care payments to providers that promote Medicaid program goals and objectives:
 1. Aligning Technology by Linking Interoperable Systems for Client Health Outcomes Program (ATLIS);
 2. Comprehensive Hospital Increase Reimbursement Program (CHIRP);
 3. Network Access Improvement Program (NAIP); and
 4. Texas Incentives for Physicians and Professional Services (TIPPS); and

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b. Supplemental Payment Programs - IGTs to HHSC for Medicaid payments to hospitals, made separately from and in addition to base payments, to incentivize achievement of specified goals or to support providers serving significant numbers of uninsured or low-income patients:

1. Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH);
2. Graduate Medical Education (GME);
3. Hospital Augmented Reimbursement Program (HARP); and
4. Hospital Uncompensated Care (UC). (*Finance Committee*)

7. Receive reports relating to Nueces Aid Program enrollment for the month ending August 31, 2025:

- a. Total Persons and Households Enrolled;
- b. Enrollment Summary;
- c. Denials;
- d. Application Processing Summary; and
- e. Enrollment by Zip Code. (*Finance Committee*)

Consent Agenda Approved. Motion by Karen O'Connor Urban and seconded by Sylvia Tryon Oliver. MOTION CARRIED.

C. REGULAR AGENDA - Items that are non-routine, non-administrative, or require individual attention. Each item will be considered and, if action is needed, voted on separately:

1. Finance Committee:

a. Receive Commissioners Court-approved Fiscal Year 2026 (October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026) Tax Rate and Annual Budget for Nueces County Hospital District. (*INFORMATION*)

b. Consider receipt and approval of unaudited financial statements for the month and fiscal year-to-date ending August 31, 2025. (*ACTION*)

Motion by Karen O'Connor Urban and seconded by Sylvia Tryon Oliver. MOTION CARRIED.

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2. Legislative Matters:

- a. Receive and discuss reports from Legislative Consultants on the 89th Texas Legislature's Special Sessions and related matters. *(INFORMATION)*

Patricia Shipton gave an update.

3. Board of Managers Business:

- a. Discuss and consider deferring action on the election of Board of Managers Officers and the appointment of Committee Chairs and members for Fiscal Year 2026 until after the Commissioners Court acts on Board reappointment(s) or appointment(s); annual officer elections and committee assignments pursuant to Board of Managers Bylaws, §2.2.A. *(ACTION)*

**Motion by Georgia Neblett and seconded by
Sylvia Tryon Oliver. MOTION CARRIED.**

4. Administrator's Actions:

- a. Ratify Administrator's action(s) performed as part of his duties directing the affairs of the Hospital District and/or as required by the Board of Managers; duties established pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code, §281.026(e):

1. Extension of General Counsel Services Letter Agreement to May 31, 2026. *(ACTION)*

**Motion by Georgia Neblett and seconded by
Karen O'Connor Urban. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. Administrator's Briefing:

- a. House Bill 1522 (89th Texas Legislature, 2025) relating to the open meeting law. *(INFORMATION)*
- b. Next scheduled regular meetings of the Board of Managers and Board Committees (all meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change):

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1. Finance Committee: Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 11:00 AM in NCHD Board of Managers Meeting Room at 555 North Carancahua Street, Room 950-A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401;

2. Board of Managers: Tuesday, October 28, 2025, 12:00 PM in NCHD Board of Managers Meeting Room at 555 North Carancahua Street, Room 950-A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401. **(INFORMATION)**

7. CLOSED MEETING – The Board of Managers may, at any point during this meeting, convene in closed session to deliberate any agenda item as permitted under the Texas Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code Chapter 551. The Board reserves the right to discuss any listed agenda item in closed session when legally authorized, regardless of prior practice distinguishing items for public deliberation from those for executive session. The presiding officer will announce the statutory authority under the Act for each closed session item. Any final action, decision, or vote will be taken in open session either upon reconvening of this meeting or at a subsequent public meeting, as required by law. The Board anticipates entering closed session on the matters identified below pursuant to §551.071 of the Texas Government Code.

A. Consult with attorneys on matters related to CPS Energy; and related matters.

B. Consult with attorneys on legal issues regarding the Corpus Christi Housing Authority's tax-exemption; and related matters.

Belinda Flores, Chair, called for Close Meeting at 12:15 p.m.

8. 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.

Belinda Flores, Chair, called for Open Meeting at 12:46 p.m.

A. Consider final action, decision, or vote on matters considered in the Closed Meeting:

1. Discuss and consider engaging the law firm of Bickerstaff, Heath, Delgado, Acosta LLP—either jointly or independently—to initiate legal action against the Corpus Christi Housing Authority's tax-exemption scheme and potential Texas Open Meetings Act violations, including but not limited to any contractual arrangements; authorize the Administrator to determine the form of engagement and execute the

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necessary engagement and related documents. *(ACTION)*

2. Discuss and consider authorizing immediate legal action against the Corpus Christi Housing Authority challenging the validity of the contracts related to the Authority's tax exemption scheme and potential Texas Open Meetings Act violations, including, but not limited to any contractual agreements. *(ACTION)*

3. Discuss and consider any action, decision(s), or vote necessary related to any item(s) taken up during Closed Meeting. *(ACTION AS NEEDED)*

**Belinda Flores, Chair, Motion No Action was taken in
Closed Meeting. 8. A. 1., 2., 3.**

9. ADJOURN

**Belinda Flores, Chair motion to adjourn meeting.
Sylvia Tryon Oliver motion to adjourn and seconded by
Karen O'Connor Urban. Meeting adjourned at 12:46 p.m.**

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PRESIDING OFFICER:

Belinda Flores, Chairman

ATTEST:

Jonny F. Hipp, Secretary
Board of Managers
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