

DRAFT

**BOARD OF MANAGERS
NUECES COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 26, 2024**

The Nueces County Hospital District Board of Managers met at 12:00 p.m. March 26, 2024 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:

Danielle Converse	Port of Corpus Christi
Randy Almaguer	Corpus Christi Regional Economic
Dom Domingez	Corpus Christi Christus Spohn
Cassidy Willie	Gjerset & Lorenz, LLP – via Zoom
Jodi Harrell-Salmon	Corpus Christi Medical Center – via Zoom
Eric Evans	Corpus Christi Medical Center – via Zoom
Becky Rios	Corpus Christi Christus Spohn – via Zoom
Kidney Specialists	- via Zoom

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1. WELCOME

2. ROLL CALL OF BOARD OF MANAGERS

- John E. Valls, MBA, Chairman
- Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman
- Sylvia Tryon Oliver
- Belinda Flores, R.N.
- Judge Mariana Garza
- Efrain Guerrero, Jr.
- Arthur Granado

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

A. Call to order – Mr. John E. Valls, Chairman.
The meeting was called to order by Mr. Valls at 12:07 p.m.

B. Establish quorum – Mr. Valls, Chairman.
A quorum was present with all members in attendance.

John E. Valls, MBA, Chairman – PRESENT
Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman – PRESENT @ 12:27 p.m.
Sylvia Tryon Oliver, Member – PRESENT
Belinda Flores, R.N., Member – PRESENT
Judge Mariana Garza, Member – PRESENT @ 12:16 p.m.
Efrain Guerrero, Jr., Member – PRESENT
Arthur Granado, Member – PRESENT

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

D. Public notice is hereby given that the Board of Managers may elect to go into Closed Meeting session(s) at any time during the meeting to discuss any matter(s) listed on the agenda when so authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Texas Government Code, Chapter 551.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT ON DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST. Any Conflicts of Interest or Appearance of a Conflict of Interest with items on this agenda shall be declared at this time. Members with conflicts will refrain from voting and are asked to refrain from discussion on such items. Conflicts discovered later in the meeting shall be

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disclosed at that time.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT** - Persons attending in-person and wishing to comment on any item(s) on the agenda or any subject within the Board's responsibilities must sign-in on the "Agenda Item Request to Speak" form provided at the entrance of the Board meeting room at least five (5) minutes prior to commencement of the meeting. Persons attending via audio or video conference and wishing to comment on any item(s) on the agenda or any subject within the Board's responsibilities must verbally notify the presiding officer of their desire to comment when the officer calls for public comment from those attending via audio and video conference. Commenters shall limit their comments to three (3) minutes, except that Commenters addressing the Board through a translator shall limit their comments to six (6) minutes.

No one to speak for Public Comment.

6. **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:

A. Approve Board of Managers Regular Meeting minutes of February 27, 2024.

B. Receive summary payment information on Nueces County health care disbursements for Fiscal Year 2024 year-to-date:

1. Salaries, benefits, supplies, and intergovernmental transfers at/for City of Corpus Christi/Nueces County Public Health District;
2. Emergency medical services provided in unincorporated areas of Nueces County;
3. Supplemental and jail diversion program funding for Nueces Center for Mental Health and Intellectual Disabilities;
4. Medical services provided at County correctional facilities:
 - a. Nueces County Jail; and
 - b. Nueces County Juvenile Detention Center;
5. Funding for alcohol and drug abuse treatment programs:
 - a. Cenikor (Charlie's Place);
 - b. Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse; and
 - c. Palmer Drug Abuse Program;

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6. Funding for diabetes prevention and supporting programs;
7. Public health grants; and
8. Legal and professional fees.

C. Receive summary imputed claims information on medical and hospital care 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 February 29, 2024.

D. 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.

E. Receive monthly statement of escrow amounts deposited and/or withdrawn by CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation; deposits pursuant to and consistent with Schedule 1 to CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Amended and Restated Membership Agreement; receive statement for month-ended February 29, 2024.

F. Receive statement of amounts deposited to and/or withdrawn from Local Provider Participation Fund for fiscal year-to-date; deposits and withdrawals pursuant to Board of Managers Order authorizing participation in a health care provider participation program pursuant to Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 298C, as amended.

G. Receive summary report of cumulative estimated provider payments and actual intergovernmental transfers made in support of local and other healthcare providers participating in Medicaid supplemental and directed payment programs sponsored by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC):

1. Directed Payment Programs - Medicaid managed care organization payments to healthcare providers that support overall Medicaid program goals and objectives:
 - a. Comprehensive Hospital Increase Reimbursement Program (CHIRP);
 - b. Network Access Improvement Program (NAIP);
 - c. Texas Incentives for Physicians and Professional Services (TIPPS);
 - d. Uniform Hospital Rate Increase Program (UHRIP); and
2. Supplemental Payment Programs - HHSC-directed payments made to hospitals for achieving certain goals or to support health care providers that see significant numbers of uninsured or persons without much money:
 - a. Disproportionate Share Hospitals (DSH) program;
 - b. Graduate Medical Education (GME);

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c. Hospital Uncompensated Care (UC) pool; and

3. Phase-Out Programs:

a. Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) pool.

H. Receive reports relating to Nueces Aid Program enrollment for the month-ended February 29, 2024:

1. Total Persons and Households Enrolled;
2. Enrollment Summary;
3. Denials;
4. Application Processing Summary; and
5. Enrollment by Zip Code.

I. Receive information relating to U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Poverty Guidelines:

1. Annual update of the HHS Poverty Guidelines from Federal Register, Vol. 89, No. 11, January 17, 2024, pp. 2961-2963; and
2. Prior HHS Poverty Guidelines and Federal Register References, 1982 - 2024. **(INFORMATION)**

J. Receive notice of annual increase adjustments of Nueces Aid Program's Eligibility Guidelines; adjustments effective March 1, 2024 for:

1. Household Resources as required by Program's Handbook Policy No. NA002, Attachment 2, Sections I-B, I-C-1, I-C-23, and I-F; and
2. Household Income as required by Program's Handbook Policy No. NA002, Attachment 4, Section I-F-3. **(INFORMATION)**

Consent Agenda approved. Motion by Ms. Flores and seconded by Mr. Granado. MOTION CARRIED.

7. REGULAR AGENDA - The Regular Agenda consists of those agenda items which are non-routine, not administrative in nature, or are otherwise in need of separate attention. Each Regular Agenda item will be voted upon separately if action is required:

A. Finance:

1. Financial Statements:

a. Receive and approve unaudited financial statements for the month and fiscal year-to-date period ended February 29, 2024. **(ACTION)**

Motion by Dr. Reddy and seconded by Judge Garza. MOTION CARRIED.

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8. ADMINISTRATOR'S BRIEFING:

A. Receive update on appointment to CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation's Board of Directors for three-year term commencing January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2026. *(INFORMATION)*

B. Receive information on rebasing of Hospital District's Local Provider Participation Fund (LPPF) for Fiscal Year 2024; paying hospital's FY 2024 amounts owed rebased using most recently reported net patient revenue data from the 2022 DSHS/AHA/THA Annual Survey of Hospitals pursuant to Rule 9(d) of the District's LPPF Rules; LPPF authorized by Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 298C, as amended. *(INFORMATION)*

C. Receive update on recovery of management costs incurred in the administration of Hospital District's Project FEMA-4485-DR-TX under the FEMA Public Assistance Program, Category Z; Category Z management costs refer to the administrative costs incurred in the preparation of a FEMA application for all projects submitted under one disaster. *(INFORMATION)*

D. Receive information on Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts' final rule 34 TAC 16.222 relating to Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council's distribution of settlement funds and hospital districts' receipt of those funds; rule implements part of Senate Bill (SB) 1827, 87th Legislature, Regular Session, requiring a portion of money received from statewide settlement agreements to be distributed to hospital districts. *(INFORMATION)*

E. Receive update on Cimbar Resources Inc. request for Letter of Support/Non-Objection relating to its intent to establish a mineral processing-related Foreign Trade Zone at 322 Manning Road, Corpus Christi, Texas, subject to a Payment In Lieu of Taxes Agreement between Cimbar and the Hospital District. *(INFORMATION)*

F. Next scheduled Board of Managers regular meeting (meeting date, time, and location are subject to change):

1. Board of Managers: Tuesday, April 23, 2024, 12 Noon in NCHD Board of Managers Meeting Room at 555 North Carancahua Street, Room 950-A, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401. *(INFORMATION)*

Mr. Valls, Chairman called for Close Session at 1:19 p.m.

9. CLOSED MEETING - Public Notice is hereby given that the Board of Managers may go into closed meeting session(s) at any time during the meeting to discuss any matter(s) listed on the agenda, when so authorized by the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, Texas

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Government Code, Chapter 551. *To the extent there has been a past practice of distinguishing items for public deliberation and those for executive session, the public is advised that the Board is departing from that practice and reserves the right to discuss any listed agenda items in a closed meeting when authorized by law to do so.* When the Board goes into closed session(s) regarding an agenda item(s), the section(s) of the Open Meetings Act authorizing the closed session will be publicly announced by the presiding officer. Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in closed session(s), then the final action, final decision, or final vote shall be either: (a) in the open meeting covered by the Notice upon reconvening of the public meeting; or (b) at a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine pursuant to applicable laws. The Board specifically expects to go into a closed session(s) on the matters listed below pursuant to the Act, §551.071.

A. Consult with attorneys on matters relating to provisions of the CHRISTUS Spohn Health System Corporation Membership Agreement, Escrow Agreement, and Memorandum of Understanding Related to Termination of the Membership Agreement, and related matters.

**Dr. Reddy, Vice Chairman presided during closed session.
Dr. Reddy, Vice Chairman closed meeting at 1:37 p.m.**

10. **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.

Mr. Valls, Chairman called for Open Session at 1:37 p.m.

A. Discuss and consider final action, decision, or vote on matters considered in Closed Meeting. (***ACTION AS NEEDED***)

**Motion by Ms. Oliver and seconded by Mr. Guerrero.
MOTION CARRIED.**

11. **ADJOURN**

**Motion to adjourned by Mr. Valls, Chairman
at 1:38 p.m.**

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PRESIDING OFFICERS:

John E. Valls, MBA, Chairman

Dr. Vishnu V. Reddy, M.D., Vice Chairman

ATTEST:

Jonny F. Hipp , Secretary
Board of Managers
Nueces County Hospital District