

# HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM

## HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM

### MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Board Room – Administration Building

#### Members Present:

Ms. Anne Clutterbuck, Chair  
Dr. Kimberly Monday, Vice Chair  
Mr. Lawrence Finder  
Ms. Carol Graebner  
Dr. Ewan Johnson  
Ms. Elena Marks  
Ms. Linda Morales  
Ms. Carolyn Truesdell

#### Members Absent:

Ms. Daisy Stiner, Secretary

#### Others Present:

Mr. George Masi, President & Chief Executive Officer  
Dr. Ericka Brown, Senior Vice President & Chief Operating Officer (10:51 a.m. arrival)  
Mr. Michael Norby, Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer  
Dr. Parikshet Babber, Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Officer  
Mr. Tim Tindle, Executive Vice President & Chief Information Officer  
Dr. Nathan Deal, Executive Vice President & Administrator, Ben Taub Hospital  
Ms. Tanya Stringer, Interim Executive Vice President & Administrator, Ambulatory Care Services  
Dr. Alan Vierling, Executive Vice President & Administrator, Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital  
Dr. Yvonne Chu, Assistant Director, Affiliated Medical Services  
Dr. David Robinson, Chair, Medical Executive Board  
Dr. Kenneth Mattox, Chief of Staff, Ben Taub Hospital  
Dr. Tien Ko, Chief of Staff, Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital  
Dr. Mohammad Zare, Chief of Staff, Ambulatory Care Services  
Ms. Mercedes Leal, Attorney, Harris County Attorney's Office  
Ms. Peggy Boice, Harris County Judge Ed Emmett's Office (9:14 a.m. arrival)  
Ms. Carole Lamont, Commissioner Steve Radack's Office (11:20 a.m. arrival)  
Mr. Paul Shanklin, Commissioner Jack Cagle's Office  
Ms. Amber Weed, Commissioner Ellis's Office (9:16 a.m. arrival)  
Mr. August Williams, Commissioner Jack Morman's Office  
Administrative Staff  
Guests  
(Sign-in Sheets attached to permanent record)

## **I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance**

Ms. Anne Clutterbuck, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m., and noted that a quorum was present. The attendance was recorded.

## **II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting**

### **Motion 17.12-134**

Moved by Dr. Kimberly Monday, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve the minutes of the October 26, 2017 Board of Trustees meeting.

## **III. Announcements / Special Presentations**

**A. Special Recognition** – Mr. George Masi, President and Chief Executive Officer, recognized the staff members of Ben Taub Hospital (BTH) and Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital (LBJ) for their service and heroism during Hurricane Harvey. He stated that Harris Health employees put forth heroic efforts during the hurricane, which allowed Harris Health to continue to care for its patients despite the challenging circumstances. Dr. Nathan Deal, Executive Vice President and Administrator, BTH, stated that the heavy rains from the hurricane caused water to backflow into the BTH basement. He explained that Mr. Benny Stansbury, Director, Facilities Management, BTH, and the rest of the BTH engineering team acted quickly to identify the source of the leak and utilized innovative thinking to stop the flooding and prevent floodwaters from reaching the hospital's electrical system. Dr. Alan Vierling, Executive Vice President and Administrator, LBJ, recognized Dr. Erik Askenasy, Colorectal Surgeon, LBJ, and the LBJ craniotomy team for utilizing their combined experience and knowledge to perform LBJ's first neurosurgical procedure during the hurricane. Dr. Vierling also recognized LBJ's staff for creating a landing site for a Coast Guard helicopter to land and transport the neurosurgical patient to a Level I trauma hospital for further treatment. Ms. Anne Clutterbuck presented the BTH and LBJ teams with certificates of appreciation from the Board of Trustees for their outstanding service and heroism. Additionally, Mr. Masi recognized the Ambulatory Care Services (ACS) staff for their hard work and dedication in establishing and operating a temporary ACS clinic at NRG Stadium for three (3) weeks to provide around-the-clock care for thousands of patients.

Finally, Mr. Masi announced that Harris Health enacted relief efforts to raise \$687K to provide assistance to over 650 Harris Health employees who were affected by Hurricane Harvey. He stated that Harris Health employees contributed \$125K, other hospitals across the United States contributed \$300K, and the Texas Hospital Association contributed \$180K.

**B. Special Announcement** – Mr. Masi announced Harris Health's inclusion as a recipient of the proceeds from the 2018 Lombardi Award Honors, which provides support to organizations for cancer research and compassionate care. Mr. Richard Slemaker III, Chair, The Lombardi Foundation, Inc., thanked Harris Health on behalf of the residents of Harris County and The Lombardi Foundation, Inc. for providing high-quality, compassionate care to cancer patients. He announced that the 2018 Lombardi Award Honors ceremony is scheduled to be held January 27, 2018 at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts.

**C. Special Recognition** – Dr. Vierling recognized LBJ for receiving a 2017 Gold MarCom Award for Internal Crisis Communication and Response and a 2017 Gold MarCom Award for the LBJ Today Newsletter. He explained that the MarCom Awards honor excellence in marketing and communications and that LBJ received this award due to the communications improvements implemented by Ms. Peyton Woodson Cooper, Manager, Internal Communications, LBJ, during Hurricane Harvey. Dr. Vierling commended Ms. Cooper for keeping the LBJ staff updated and informed on a consistent basis of the latest developments that occurred at the hospital during the hurricane.

**D. Special Recognition** – Dr. Parikshet Babber, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, recognized the recipients of the 2017 DNV GL Innovation of the Year Award, the IdeasAmerica 2017 Communications Excellence Award, and the IdeasAmerica 2017 Safety Idea of the Year Honorable Mention. He commended Dr. Maureen Padilla, Chief Nursing Executive, for receiving the DNV Innovation of the Year Award for Harris Health’s “Luminary Recognition Program.” Dr. Padilla stated that her team earned the Innovation of the Year award by transforming the Luminary Recognition Program from an individual award into a group award that recognizes entire units for improved clinical quality and patient outcomes and enhanced nursing practices.

Dr. Babber stated that Harris Health also received a DNV Innovation of the Year Honorable Mention for the “Realizing Improvement Through Team Empowerment (RITE)” initiative. He commended Dr. Marc Willis, Associate Chairman for Quality Improvement, Radiology, BTH, for leading the RITE program, which educates and empowers front-line staff to solve problems and improve patient experiences.

Dr. Babber stated that Harris Health received the 2017 Communications Excellence Award of the Year at the IdeasAmerica 75th Anniversary Summit. He commended Ms. Chris Tina Williams, Administrative Director, Enterprise Resource Planning Systems, and the Automated Workforce Access Team for redesigning business processes and automating the onboarding/offboarding process for the entire Harris Health workforce. Finally, Dr. Babber stated that Harris Health received the IdeasAmerica 2017 Safety Idea of the Year Award Honorable Mention for the Population Health Transition of Care Program. He commended Ms. Jamie Mathis, Associate Administrator, Disease Management and Population Health, for creating the Transition of Care Program. Ms. Mathis explained that this program reduces readmission rates through collaboration among the case management teams at BTH, LBJ, and ACS, the appointment center, and the community outreach department to transition high-risk patients from the hospitals to further treatment at the community health centers.

**E. Special Recognition** – Dr. Padilla recognized thirty-six (36) Harris Health System nurses for receiving the Good Samaritan Foundation’s Excellence in Nursing recognition and the inclusion of two (2) Harris Health nurses in the Texas Nurses District 9 Foundation’s Top 20 Nurses in the Houston/Galveston area. She stated that the Good Samaritan Foundation annually recognizes nurses who are nominated by their peers and community members for providing excellent patient care and for their dedication to the nursing profession. Dr. Padilla highlighted that of the thirty-six (36) Harris Health nurses who were honored, thirty-four (34) received bronze awards and two (2) received gold awards. Additionally, she stated that two (2) Harris Health nurses were included in the Texas Nurses District 9 Foundation’s list of Top 20 Nurses in the Houston/Galveston area in recognition of their exemplary service.

**F. Special Recognition** – Ms. Tanya Stringer, Interim Executive Vice President and Administrator, Ambulatory Care Services, recognized Smith Clinic’s designation as a Breast Imaging Center of Excellence by the American College of Radiology. She explained that this designation is awarded to breast imaging centers who demonstrate excellence in image quality and patient safety. Ms. Stringer stated that out of 400 mammography centers in Texas, only seventy-five (75) centers are named as Breast Imaging Centers of Excellence.

**IV. Hear from Citizens**

Ms. Cynthia Cole, Executive Director, Local #1550 – AFSCME, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, requested that the Board examine Harris Health’s grievance process to ensure that it is clear and unambiguous. She stated that it is difficult for employees to understand and monitor all of Harris Health’s policies and that employees need clarification regarding the recourses available to them according to the grievance process. Additionally, Ms. Cole requested that the Board review salary disparities to ensure that salaries are not consuming funds that could be directed toward community services. Finally, Ms. Cole requested that the Board examine the measures that Harris Health has implemented regarding employees’ requests to access their personnel files.

**V. Consent Agenda Items**

**A. Recommended Committee Approvals**

**Motion 17.12-135**

Moved by Dr. Ewan Johnson, seconded by Ms. Linda Morales, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items V.A.1. through V.A.14.

1. Approval of an Agreement Between Harris Health System and the Omeros Corporation to Participate in the Omeros Corporation Patient Assistance Program.
2. Approval to Ratify the Assignment of the Harris County Clinical Services, Inc. Agreement with Merc Medical Supply to Harris Health System, Effective October 1, 2017.
3. Approval to Ratify the Assignment of the Harris County Clinical Services, Inc. Agreement with Good Shepherd Home Health Services to Harris Health System, Effective October 1, 2017.
4. Approval to Ratify the 5th Lease Year with Ridgeline Bellaire MOB LP for the Robindell Clinic Located at 5420 Dashwood, Houston, Texas 77081 at a Monthly Rate of \$9,996.20 (\$119,954.40/Yr.) for the Term December 1, 2017 Through November 30, 2018.
5. Approval to Ratify the 2nd Lease Year with Kynto Ventures, LLC for the Vallbona Health Center Annex Located at 6601 Tarnef Drive, Houston, Texas 77074 at a Monthly Rate of \$20,833.33 (\$249,999.96/Yr.) for the Term November 1, 2017 Through October 31, 2018.
6. Approval to Transfer Funds in an Amount Not to Exceed \$4,713,050 for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 to the Harris County Engineering Department to Provide Architectural, Engineering,

Construction Management, and Other Related Services Required for the Casa De Amigos Replacement of Roof Top Unit #8, Baytown Parking Lot Improvement, LBJ Parking Lot Expansion, BT Emergency Generator, Paralleling Gear, ATS and Breakers Replacement, and BT OR Upgrade Commissioning Services.

7. Approval to Acquire Property and Fixtures of the Bear Hunter Plaza Medical Office Building (Danny Jackson Health Center) on a 1.228-Acre Site Located at 5503 N. Fry Rd., Katy, Texas 77449 from Sepsa Precast Solutions Corp. in the Amount of \$2,900,000.
8. Approval to Ratify the Transition From the T. Rowe Price Retirement Funds to the T. Rowe Price Retirement Trusts in the Harris County Hospital District 401K Plan and the Harris County Hospital District Employees' Deferred Compensation Plan, Effective October 27, 2017, Based on the Execution of the 25th Amendment to the Fidelity Management Trust Company Agreement for the 401K Plan and Execution of the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Fidelity Management Trust Company Agreement for the 457(b) Plan.
9. Approval to Ratify an Affiliation Agreement Between Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System and The Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (Clinical Pastoral Education Program).
10. Approval of a Grant Agreement in the Amount of \$78,062 from Susan G. Komen Houston and the Harris County Hospital District Foundation Awarded to Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System for the 2017-2018 Navigators to Success.
11. Approval to Ratify the First Amendment to the Interlocal Agreement Between Harris Health System and Harris County, Texas on Behalf of Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults for the Term September 30, 2017 Through September 30, 2019.
12. Approval of an Agreement Between Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System and The Salvation Army Men's Harbor Light Shelter to Provide On-Site Health Care and Eligibility Services to Qualified Homeless Individuals of the Health Care for the Homeless Program for the Term January 1, 2018 Through December 31, 2018.
13. Approval to Ratify a Donation of Bowman Perfusion Monitoring Equipment from Baylor College of Medicine to Ben Taub Hospital, Effective October 26, 2017.
14. Approval of the Revised 2018 Harris Health System Board and Committee Meetings Calendar.

*{End of Consent Agenda}*

## **VI. Strategic Discussion**

### **A. Discussion Regarding Selected Goals From "The Bridge to 2020" Harris Health System Strategic Plan**

1. **Our Foundation: Financial Stability**

Post-Employment Health Benefits (Goal 1, Objective 1.1)

Mr. Michael Norby, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, led the discussion regarding post-employment health benefits (PEHB). He reported that over the last four (4) fiscal years, Harris Health's PEHB costs increased from \$37.4M in FY2015 to a projected \$57.8M in FY2018. Additionally, due to the recent implementation of Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 75, Harris Health's projected actuarial costs will increase from \$57.8M in FY2018 to \$93M in FY2019. Under Harris Health's current PEHB plan, post-65 Medicare-eligible retirees are required to enroll in Medicare, retirees are not required to enroll in Medicare Part D drug coverage, and the Harris Health medical plan provides secondary coverage, which includes drug coverage. Pre-65 early retirees are allowed full participation in the Harris Health medical plan because they don't yet qualify for Medicare. Harris Health is the only system in the Texas Medical Center and one of a few large hospital districts in Texas that offer post-65 retiree health benefits.

Mr. Norby stated that he collaborated with Mr. Omar Reid, Senior Vice President, Human Resources; Ms. Kelley Milburn, Senior Vice President, Alliant Insurance Services; and Mr. David Shaub, Managing Consultant, Bryan, Pendleton, Swats & McAllister, LLC, to create a solution that will maintain benefits and save costs. Under the proposed revised plan, all PEHB will be eliminated for new hires as of March 1, 2018. Beginning January 2019, Medicare Advantage plans will be implemented for current and future post-65 retirees. Eligible pre-65 early retirees will continue coverage under Harris Health's current health plan until they reach age 65. Beginning January 2023, all retirees will be transferred into an employer-sponsored fixed Health Reimbursement Account (HRA). The HRA benefits will not require any contributions from the retirees and the funds will assist retirees in purchasing medical coverage through a Medicare Advantage plan or a commercial plan. If Harris Health adopts these proposed revisions prior to February 28, 2018, Harris Health's projected actuarial costs for FY2019 will decrease to \$27M. Discussion ensued. A copy of the PEHB presentation is available in the permanent record.

2. **Supporting Pillar: Our Patients**

Magnet<sup>®</sup> Designation – (Goal 2, Objective 2.3; Goal 3, Objectives 3.1 and 3.2)

Dr. Maureen Padilla, Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Executive, led the discussion regarding magnet designation. She stated that Harris Health is attempting to achieve Magnet<sup>®</sup> Recognition from the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). Dr. Padilla explained that the ANCC Magnet<sup>®</sup> program was established in 1993 to recognize excellence in nursing and high-quality care. Magnet<sup>®</sup> health care organizations maintain the following standards: 1) an organizational structure that supports nursing leadership, 2) staff nurses that have autonomy and clinical authority regarding patient care, and 3) the ability to attract and retain professional nurses. Magnet<sup>®</sup> organizations have a higher percentage of job satisfaction and lower turnover and vacancy rates among their registered nurses, improved clinical outcomes, and improved rates regarding patient satisfaction. Dr. Padilla explained that this designation will allow Harris Health to be competitive in attracting nurses because new nurses are familiar with the benefits of working with hospitals that have Magnet<sup>®</sup> programs. Additionally, every hospital in the

Texas Medical Center has a Magnet® designation except for Harris Health. BTH and LBJ are scheduled to submit their applications for Magnet® designation in 2019. A copy of the Magnet® presentation is available in the permanent record.

## **B. Harris Health System Legislative Initiatives**

1. Update, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Activities in Austin Relating to Legislative/Regulatory Issues Impacting Harris Health System, the 85<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, and the Harris Health System Legislative Platform.

Mr. R. King Hiller, Vice President, Public Policy and Government Relations, led the discussion regarding activities in Austin relating to legislative/regulatory issues impacting Harris Health System. He reported that the state legislature continues to hold hearings regarding Hurricane Harvey and that Harris Health continues to participate in Hurricane Harvey-related events and meetings around the state.

2. Update, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Pending Federal Legislative and Policy Issues Affecting Harris Health System.

Mr. Hillier led the discussion regarding pending federal legislative and policy issues affecting Harris Health System. He reported that the U.S. Senate approved the \$1.5T tax reform legislation, which may result in a \$25B reduction in Medicare expenditures and an \$85-90B reduction in programs such as Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital, Healthcare for the Homeless, and the Ryan White CARE Act. Mr. Hillier stated that the State Children's Health Insurance Program is still awaiting reauthorization. He announced that a five-year extension of the Medicaid 1115 Waiver began October 1, 2017 and is scheduled to end September 30, 2022. Additionally, the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payments program is scheduled to phase out by the end of the five-year extension period. A copy of the legislative update is available in the permanent record.

## **VII. Board Review and Action Items**

### **A. Joint Conference Committee Item**

#### **Motion 17.12-136**

Moved by Ms. Carolyn Truesdell, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.A.1.

1. Approval Regarding the Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Medical Staff (November 2017).

Dr. David Robinson, Chair, Medical Executive Board, presented the November 2017 credentialing changes for the members of the Harris Health System medical staff. He reported that there were fourteen (14) initial appointments, sixty-two (62) reappointments, zero (0) resignations, and twenty-four (24) change/add privileges. A copy of the report is available in the permanent record.

**Motion 17.12-137**

Moved by Ms. Carol Graebner, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve the modifications to the Harris Health Medical Staff Rules and Regulations.

Dr. Robinson presented the proposed modifications to the Harris Health Medical Staff Rules and Regulations. He explained that the proposed changes will allow the Medical Staff Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee to include substitute medications in its drug formulary. A copy of the revised Rules and Regulations is available in the permanent record.

**B. Performance Improvement & Patient Safety Committee Item**

1. Discussion Regarding Updates from the Office of the Chief Medical Officer: Transforming Healthcare Together.

Dr. Parikshet Babber, Executive Vice President and Chief Medical Officer, led the discussion regarding updates from the Chief Medical Officer (CMO). He announced that employees involved in direct patient care are 98% compliant in getting their influenza vaccinations and that medical staff are 95% compliant. Dr. Babber stated that beginning next week, senior leaders will implement safety walk rounds to visit front-line staff at different Harris Health pavilions to obtain their feedback and input regarding quality of care measures and safety culture. He congratulated Dr. Vierling and the LBJ staff for achieving a hand hygiene compliance rate of 94%, which was the highest rate for all the Harris Health pavilions in September 2017. Dr. Padilla stated that on Tuesday, December 5, 2018, several administrative and clinical key partners participated in an all-day training session regarding Harris Health's Just Culture. She explained that the training included discussions of the Just Culture principles and demonstrations regarding the application of the Just Culture tools and algorithms in a medical setting. Finally, Dr. Babber introduced Dr. Harold Gottlieb as the new Senior Vice President of Medical Affairs. A copy of the newsletter is available in the permanent record.

**C. Budget & Finance Committee Items**

**Motion 17.12-138**

Moved by Ms. Linda Morales, seconded by Dr. Kimberly Monday, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.C.1.

1. Acceptance of the Harris Health System October 2017 Financial Report Subject to Audit.

Mr. Norby presented the Harris Health System October 2017 Financial Report. He reported that overall patient volumes were below budget for the month. Mr. Norby stated that in October 2017, Harris Health began receiving incremental monthly payments through the Medicare Disproportionate Share Hospital program, which will total \$4M during Federal Fiscal Year 2018. He reported that Harris Health's operating income for the month was a loss of \$6.3M, which was favorable to a budgeted loss of \$8M. Mr. Norby projected that Harris Health will have a \$14M positive margin by the



end of Fiscal Year 2018. Dr. Kimberly Monday inquired regarding the status of patient enrollment in the Health Insurance Marketplace (Marketplace). Mr. Norby responded that approximately 4,700 patients were enrolled as of November 30, 2017. Mr. Michael Hill, Senior Vice President, Chief Business Development and Strategy Officer, stated that Harris Health increased its efforts to enroll patients by opening its Marketplace enrollment centers seven (7) days a week, in addition to utilizing 150 enrollment agents to register patients via telephone calls. Discussion ensued. Ms. Anne Clutterbuck requested that the financial reports include a summation of contributions from the Harris County Hospital Foundation. A copy of the report is available in the permanent record.

#### **Motion 17.12-139**

Moved by Ms. Carol Graebner, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.C.2., subject to the modification that the transfer of \$60M is from Harris Health System to Community Health Choice, Inc. to provide additional risk-based capital for the calendar year ending December 31, 2017. Ms. Clutterbuck and Ms. Elena Marks recused from agenda item VII.C.2.

2. Approval of a Transfer in the Amount of \$60M from Harris Health System to Community Health Choice, Inc. to Provide Additional Risk-Based Capital for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2017.

Mr. Norby presented the recommendation to approve a transfer in the amount of \$60M from Harris Health System to provide additional risk-based capital. He requested that the motion be modified to reflect that Harris Health will transfer \$60M to Community Health Choice, Inc. and not Community Health Choice Texas, Inc.

#### **D. Miscellaneous Item**

#### **Motion 17.12-140**

Moved by Dr. Kimberly Monday, seconded by Mr. Lawrence Finder, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.D.1.

1. Acceptance of the Harris Health System FY2017 Annual Report.

Ms. Amanda Callaway, Associate Administrator, Mission Advancement, presented the Harris Health System FY2017 Annual Report. She explained that the report highlighted the trauma departments at LBJ and BTH and focused on Harris Health's innovative programs, such as the BTH microbiology laboratory and the Central Fill automated pharmacy system. Dr. Ewan Johnson recommended that Harris Health's mission and vision statements be included in future annual reports. A copy of the report is available in the permanent record.

#### **VIII. Executive Session**

At 11:38 a.m., Ms. Clutterbuck stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session

under Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.071, Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.085, Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.074, Texas Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Texas Occupations Code Ann. §160.007.

## **IX. Reconvene**

At 12:53 p.m., Ms. Clutterbuck reconvened the meeting and stated that no action was taken in Executive Session.

- A. Discussion Regarding Financial Planning Information Related to the Negotiation Between the Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System and Affiliated Medical Services for the Arrangement or Provision of Medical Services, Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.085, and Possible Action Regarding This Matter Upon Return to Open Session.

No action was taken.

- B. Consultation with the County Attorney Regarding an Automobile Claim Filed by Imelda Perez, Individually and as Next Friend of Angela Imelda Perez, Ashlein Yasmin Bonilla, and Ximena Sarahi Bonilla, Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.071, and Possible Action Regarding This Matter Upon Return to Open Session.

### **Motion 17.12-141**

Moved by Ms. Carolyn Truesdell, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.B.

The Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System ("Harris Health"), by and through its Board of Trustees, approves and hereby authorizes settlement of the automobile claim filed by Imelda Perez, individually and as next friend of Angela Imelda Perez, Ashlein Yasmin Bonilla, and Ximena Sarahi Bonilla, in the amount of \$8,000.00 and reasonable and necessary costs related to the suit, including filing fees, interpretation services, and guardian ad litem fees in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. George Masi, President/CEO of Harris Health, is authorized to execute any agreement, release, or any other necessary documents to effect this settlement.

- C. Consultation with the County Attorney Regarding an Automobile Claim Filed by Jorge Vargas, Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code §551.071, and Possible Action Regarding This Matter Upon Return to Open Session.

### **Motion 17.12-142**

Moved by Ms. Linda Morales, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.C.

The Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System ("Harris Health"), by and through its Board of Trustees, approves and hereby authorizes settlement of an automobile claim filed by Jorge Vargas in the amount of \$32,325.18, payable to Jorge Vargas and/or Vaughan Law Firm, P.C. George Masi, President/CEO of Harris Health, is authorized to execute any agreement, release, or any other necessary documents to effect this settlement.

- D. Consultation with the County Attorney Regarding Settlement of Disputed Billed Charges for Telecommunications Services with AT&T, Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.071, and Possible Action Regarding This Matter Upon Return to Open Session.

**Motion 17.12-143**

Moved by Ms. Carolyn Truesdell, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.D.

The Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System ("Harris Health"), by and through its Board of Trustees, hereby authorizes settlement of disputed billed charges for telecommunications services with AT&T in the amount of \$441,091.00, credited to Harris Health. George Masi, President/CEO of Harris Health, is authorized to execute any agreement, release, or any other necessary documents to effect this settlement.

- E. Report by the Chief Medical Officer Regarding the Quality of Medical and Health Care, Pursuant to Texas Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032 and Texas Occupations Code Ann. §160.007 to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Report in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Health Care Services, and Possible Action Upon Return to Open Session.

No action was taken.

- F. Discussion Regarding Compliance Officer Duties Related to the Harris Health System Senior Vice President of Corporate Compliance, Pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Ann. §551.074, and Possible Action Regarding This Matter Upon Return to Open Session.

**Motion 17.12-144**

Moved by Ms. Linda Morales, seconded by Dr. Ewan Johnson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.F., subject to the modification to Harris Health Policy No. 3.34, Office of Corporate Compliance Coordination with Human Resources, that the Board Chair receive notification of any issues reported to Human Resources regarding certain positions.

The Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System ("Harris Health"), by and through its Board of Trustees, approved the revised Harris Health Policy No. 3.38, Compliance Officer Duties; and the revised Harris Health Policy No. 3.34, Office of Corporate Compliance Coordination with Human Resources, subject to the modification that the Board Chair receive notification of any issues reported to Human Resources regarding certain positions.

- G. Report by the Senior Vice President of Corporate Compliance Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Texas Health & Safety Code §161.032, and Possible Action Upon Return to Open Session.

No action was taken.

**X. Adjournment**

Moved by Mr. Lawrence Finder, seconded by Ms. Carol Graebner, and unanimously accepted to adjourn the meeting.

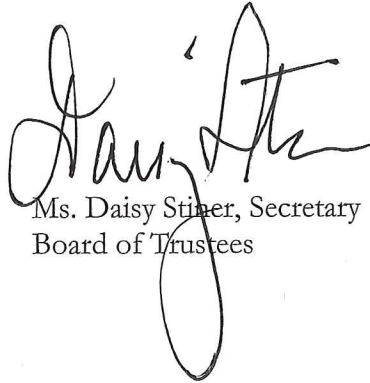
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System held at the Administration Building in Houston, Texas on December 7, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,



Ms. Anne Clutterbuck, Chair  
Board of Trustees



Ms. Daisy Stiner, Secretary  
Board of Trustees

Recorded by Kenya Shields