

MINUTES OF THE HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Board Meeting
Thursday, October 26, 2023
9:00 am

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION
I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance	<p>The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Ewan D. Johnson, MD, PhD, Chair. It was noted that a quorum was present and the attendance was recorded. Dr. Johnson stated while some of Board members are in the room with us today, others will participate by videoconference as permissible by state law and the Harris Health Videoconferencing Policy. The meeting may be viewed online: http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live.</p>	<p>A copy of the attendance is appended to the archived minutes.</p>
II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Meeting – September 28, 2023 	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-155</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Andrea Caracostis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve the minutes of the September 28, 2023 meeting. Motion carried.</p>
III. Announcements/ Special Presentations	<p>A. CEO Report Including Special Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Friday Tour – October 6, 2023 <p>Dr. Esmaeil Porsa, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), delivered the CEO Report, including special announcements. He noted that on October 6, 2023, the Board Office hosted its monthly First Friday Tour. Harris Health Executive Leadership, staff and Harris County Commissioner’s Aides and Interns participated in the tour. The group toured Harris Health’s Ambulatory Surgical Center, Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Specialty Clinics, OPS, Margo Hillard, and Settegast Health Center. The next First Friday Tour is scheduled for November 3, 2023, and will spotlight Harris Health’s Dental Center and Martin Luther King (MLK) Health Center. On October 25, 2023, Dr. Porsa participated in the 2023 Harris Health System Annual Pink Out Event, where Harris Health acknowledged and celebrated its breast cancer survivors. Last month, Dr. Porsa reported that Ben Taub Hospital (BTH) ranked #1 out of 44 safety net hospitals in the NRC Patient Satisfaction Survey for the second quarter of 2023, and that LBJ ranked sixth (6th) overall in the survey. Dr. Porsa was pleased to announce that BTH ranked #2 out of 154 hospitals nationwide that participated in the 2023 Vizient Scorecard Review. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>

	<p>B. Board Member Announcements Regarding Board Member Advocacy and Community Engagements</p> <p>Dr. Cody M. Pyke shared that a forum was held among leadership at Harris Health and Community Health Choice (CHC) as well as various advocacy groups, to discuss how the HIV formulary has been affected at CHC, and to address ways to improve education, access, and to ensure that stakeholders are heard.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>
<p>IV. Public Comment</p>	<p>Ms. Cynthia Cole, Executive Director, Local #1550 – AFSCME, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, addressed the Board regarding employee matters related to the Harris Health grievance process. Mr. Sebastian Moore, former Harris Health employee of thirty-one (31) years, addressed the Board regarding an alleged wrongful termination. Dr. Arthur W. Bracey, former Chair of the Harris Health System Board of Trustees, addressed the Board in support of Proposition A, Harris Health’s \$2.5 Billion Bond Referendum on the November 7, 2023 Election Ballot.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>
<p>V. Executive Session</p>	<p>At 9:18 a.m., Dr. Johnson stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session for Items ‘A through C’ as permitted by law under Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Ann. §151.002, Tex. Occ. Code. Ann. §160.007, and Tex. Gov’t. Code Ann. §551.071.</p>	
	<p>A. Report Regarding Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, and Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002 to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Report, Including Report of the Medical Executive Board in Connection with the Evaluation of the Quality of Medical and Healthcare Services, Including the Harris Health System Quality, Safety Performance Measures and Zero Harm, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session</p>	<p>No Action Taken.</p>
	<p>B. Medical Executive Board Report and Credentialing Discussion, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, and Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002 to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Report, Including Consideration of Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Medical Staff</p>	<p>No Action Taken.</p>
	<p>C. Report Regarding Harris Health System Correctional Health Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Including Credentialing Discussion and Operational Updates, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002 and Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §551.071 to Receive Peer Review and/or Medical Committee Report with Possible Action Upon Return to Open Session</p>	<p>No Action Taken.</p>
<p>VI. Reconvene to Open Meeting</p>	<p>At 9:51 a.m., Dr. Johnson reconvened the meeting in open session; he noted that a quorum was present and that no action was taken in Executive Session.</p>	
<p>VII. General Action Item(s)</p>	<p>A. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Medical Staff</p>	

	<p>1. Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Medical Staff</p> <p>Dr. Martha Mims, Chair, Medical Executive Board, presented the credentialing changes for members of the Harris Health System Medical Staff. For October 2023, there were thirty (30) initial appointments, 157 reappointments, seven (7) change/add privileges, and six (6) resignations. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-156</u> Moved by Dr. Andrea Caracostis, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.A.1. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>B. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Correctional Health Medical Staff</p>	
	<p>1. Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Correctional Health Medical Staff</p> <p>Dr. Otis Eging, Chief Medical Officer, Harris Health Correctional Health, presented the credentialing changes for members of the Harris Health System Correctional Health Medical Staff. For October 2023, there were seven (7) initial appointments. A copy of the Correctional Health credentialing report is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-157</u> Moved by Dr. Andrea Caracostis, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.B.1. Motion carried.</p>
<p>VIII. Strategic Discussion</p>	<p>A. Harris Health System Strategic Plan Initiatives</p>	
	<p>1. Update Regarding the Harris Health System’s Strategic Communications Plan</p> <p>Ms. Amanda Callaway, Associate Administrator, Mission Advancement, delivered a presentation regarding the Harris Health System’s Strategic Communications Plan. Harris Health engaged an external consultant to perform an assessment centered around a brand awareness campaign. Ms. Callaway shared that 80% of Harris County residents had either heard of Harris Health or used Harris Health’s services. She discussed Harris Health’s targeted approaches, such as community engagement activities and paid media, including print publications, digital, social media, and television commercials. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>

	<p>B. October Board Committee Meeting Reports:</p> <p><u>Governance Committee</u></p> <p>Dr. Andrea Caracostis shared that the Governance Committee met on October 12, 2023, and the following topics were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ms. Elizabeth Winn, Harris County Attorney’s Office and member of Harris Health’s Legal Team, delivered an overview regarding the revisions to Harris Health Policy No. 2.02, Participation in Board and Committee Meetings via Videoconference Call. The main purpose of the policy edits was to clarify that the presiding officer is required to attend meetings in person while presiding over Harris Health Board and Committee meetings.• Ms. Olga Rodriguez, Vice President, Corporate Communications & Board Services, led the discussion regarding the Board of Trustees 2024 Calendar. Continued discussions related to the 2024 Board Calendar will be placed on the November Governance Committee Agenda.• Ms. Elizabeth Winn provided additional Board Member parliamentary procedure training and delivered a presentation entitled “Maximizing Motions For Productive Meetings”. Board members should review the training materials and the recording of the training on Diligent. <p>Ms. Elizabeth Winn provided recommendations to the Committee related to the role of the Governance Committee with respect to the nominations process for the 2024 Board Officer Elections. The Committee extensively deliberated on the matter and voted to recommend the adoption of a formal nominations process, including the option to take nominations from the floor, to the Board for future use, which is Item IX. B. (3) on today’s consent agenda. The Committee’s recommended process consists of the Board Office sending out a communication on behalf of the Governance Committee to all Board members to solicit interest in running for the Offices of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, along with a description of the duties and required qualifications, if any, including the deadline to submit nominations to the Governance Committee Chair.</p> <p><u>Quality Committee</u></p> <p>Dr. Caracostis noted that the following topics were covered in open session at the Quality Committee meeting on October 12, 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The monthly High Reliability Organization (HRO) Video on “Good Catches” was displayed.• The Harris Health Medical Staff Credentialing Overview summarized the role of the Board of Trustees in Credentialing and Privileging.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The Committee reviewed the Board’s role and responsibilities and the medical staff’s role and responsibilities with respect to the credentialing of medical staff. Specifically, CMS requires that Board have a non-delegable duty to appoint and take actions related to the medical staff based on recommendations from the medical staff. In addition, the Board is responsible for ensuring that the medical staff has a robust process to periodically assess the qualifications and competency of the medical staff.○ Credentialing workflows for initial and reappointment applications and the process for files for discussion within Harris Health System were reviewed.	<p>As Presented.</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harris Health System’s commitment to the safety of employees continues and is unwavering. Harris Health System continues to evolve as conditions change and is aligned with regulatory requirements and national best practices. Some of the System’s current efforts and opportunities for future improvements include working with the Texas Medical Center Police to provide law enforcement for Ben Taub and LBJ and the deployment of new safety technology to assist in identifying potentially harmful events (i.e., weapon detection, metal detectors, and panic alarms). <p><u>Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) Committee</u></p> <p>Ms. Marcia Johnson stated that the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee met on October 20, 2023, and the following items were presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Derek Holmes, Administrative Director, Contracting Diversity, delivered an update regarding Harris Health’s Minority/Woman-owned Business Enterprises. Ms. Ashley Smith delivered an update regarding Harris Health’s Employee Engagement. Dr. Chethan Bachireddy, Senior Vice President, Chief Health Officer, delivered a presentation regarding Health Disparities and extensive follow-up discussion was held. The Committee discussed future agenda topics. Dr. Porsa proposed a calendar of topics enabling a more robust presentation. 	
	<p>C. Presentation and Discussion Regarding the Owner Controlled Insurance Program (OCIP)</p> <p>Mr. Patrick Casey, Senior Vice President, Facilities Construction & Systems Engineering, delivered a presentation regarding the Owner Controlled Insurance Program (OCIP). He provided a brief overview of the difference between the traditional insurance program and OCIP, benefits of OCIP, and highlights of the OCIP. Discussion ensued regarding the continuity of the OCIP, the procurement process for insurance companies, and the inclusion of Minority/Women Business Enterprises (M/WBE). A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>
<p>IX. Consent Agenda Items</p>	<p>A. Consent Purchasing Recommendations</p>	
	<p>1. Approval of Purchasing Recommendations (Items A1 through A55)</p> <p>Copies of the purchasing recommendations are available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-158</u></p> <p>Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.A.1. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>B. Consent Committee Recommendations</p>	

	<p>Mr. Louis Smith, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, provided an overview of Agenda Item IX. D. 3 – Consideration of Approval of a Resolution in Support of Sustainability Efforts of Harris County. Mr. Smith noted that Harris Health declares its support for sustainability efforts in energy use and consumption throughout the System, and commits to reviewing the Harris County Climate Action Plan and adopting sustainability goals and targets to the extent they align with Harris Health System operations and the associated regulatory framework. A copy of the resolution is available in the permanent record.</p>	
	<p>1. Approval of Revisions to Governing Body Bylaws of the Ambulatory Surgical Center at LBJ (Approved by the ASC Governing Body in August 2023)</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval of Revisions to Harris Health Policy No. 2.02, Participation in Board Meetings and Board Committee Meetings via Videoconference Call</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>3. Approval of Board Officer Nomination Process Recommended by the Governance Committee</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>C. Consent Grant Recommendations</p>	

	1. Approval of Grant Recommendations (Items C1 through C2)	<u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.
	D. New Consent Items for Board Approval	
	1. Approval of an Interlocal Agreement Between the Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) and Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System for Provision of Security, Housekeeping and Food and Nutrition Services	<u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.
	2. Approval to Enter into a First Amendment to an Interlocal Agreement between Harris County, Harris County Community Supervision and Corrections Department, and Harris County Hospital District d/b/a Harris Health System for Staffing, Supplies and Pharmaceuticals Related to Residential Treatment Services	<u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.
	3. Approval of a Resolution in Support of Sustainability Efforts for Harris Health System	<u>Motion No. 23.10-159</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.

	<p>4. Approval to Amend the Administrative Services Agreement Between Harris Health System and Community Health Choice, Inc. and Community Health Choice Texas, Inc.</p>	<p>Motion No. 23.10-159 Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B. through IX.D. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>E. Consent Reports and Updates to the Board</p>	
	<p>1. Updates Regarding Pending State and Federal Legislative and Policy Issues Impacting Harris Health System</p>	<p>For Informational Purposes Only</p>
	<p>2. Harris Health System Council-At-Large September Meeting Minutes <i>{End of Consent Agenda}</i></p>	<p>For Informational Purposes Only</p>
<p>X. Item(s) Related to Health Care for the Homeless Program</p>	<p>A. Review and Acceptance of the Following Report(s) for the Health Care for the Homeless Program (HCHP) as Required by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, which Provides Funding to the Harris County Hospital District d/b/a/Harris Health System to Provide Health Services to Persons Experiencing Homelessness under Section 330(h) of the Public Health Service Act</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HCHP October 2023 Operational Update <p>Ms. Tracey Burdine, Director, Health Care for the Homeless Program, delivered a presentation regarding the Health Care for the Homeless Program September 2023 Operational Update including Patient Services, Consumer Advisory Council Report, Bridge Access Program Budget and HCHP Bylaws. Ms. Burdine reported that there were two (2) new telehealth patients, eleven (11) returning telehealth patients, 399 new adult patients, and twenty-eight (28) new pediatric patients associated with the Program. HCHP is expected to see approximately 9,775 patients per year as required by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), of which HCHP has served 5,545 unduplicated patients thus far. Ms. Burdine stated that for the month of September, HCHP served 1,131 unduplicated patients, of which 901 patients were seen for family practice services. She noted that HCHP has completed 2,170 total visits, 6,517 unduplicated patients year-to-date, which is a 29% increase from the previous year.</p> <p>Ms. Burdine presented the following highlights of the council activities from May 2023 – July 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council was informed of the opening of the Navigation Center clinic. • The council was informed of the Det Norske Veritas (DNV) visit, which included five HCHP sites: Harmony House, Lord of the Streets, Open Door Mission, and the dental and medical mobile units. • The council was informed of the application for funding from the Harris County Hospital District Foundation to help with poor diabetes management. The grant would allow the purchase of glucometers and issue them to a select sample of our targeted population. • The council was updated on the process of the 2023 needs assessment and the ongoing surveys and 	<p>Motion No. 23.10-160 Moved by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.A. Motion carried.</p>

	<p>interviews for getting direct consumer needs from patients and people experiencing homelessness that are not patients of the health center.</p> <p>Ms. Burdine presented the budget narrative for HCHP’s Bridge Access Program. She reported that HCHP received a grant from HRSA, in the amount of \$67,448, to continue the program’s COVID-19 efforts. The award cycle is September 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024, and the funds will be dedicated to 0.2 full – time equivalents (FTEs) to provide education and outreach services to its homeless population concerning COVID-19, travel expenses and medical supplies, as well as gas supplies for the program’s mobile units. Additionally, Ms. Burdine presented an overview of the amended HCHP Bylaws. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	
	<p>B. Approval of the HCHP Consumer Advisory Council Report</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-161</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>C. Approval of the HCHP Bridge Access Program Budget</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-162</u> Moved by Dr. Andrea Caracostis, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.C. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>D. Approval of the Amended HCHP Bylaws</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 23.10-163</u> Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.D. Motion carried.</p>
<p>XI. Executive Session</p>	<p>At 10:41 a.m., Dr. Johnson stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session for Items XII ‘D through G’ as permitted by law under Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §418.183, Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §551.071, Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §551.074, Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §551.085, Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §551.089, Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code. Ann. §160.007 and Tex. Occ. Ann. §151.002.</p>	
	<p>D. Review of the Community Health Choice Texas, Inc. and Community Health Choice, Inc. 2023 Financial Performance for the Eight Months Ending August 31, 2023, Pursuant to Tex. Gov’t Code Ann. §551.085</p>	<p>No Action Taken.</p>

	E. Consultation with Attorney Regarding Correctional Health Claims and Pending Litigation, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.071	No Action Taken.
	F. Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Healthcare Program Requirements and a Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Gov't Code §418.183, Tex. Gov't Code §551.089, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.071, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session	No Action Taken.
	G. Discussion and Consultation with Attorney Regarding the Evaluation and Employment Matters Related to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.071 and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.074	No Action Taken.
XII. Reconvene	At 12:05 p.m., Dr. Johnson reconvened the meeting in open session; he noted that a quorum was present and that no action was taken in Executive Session.	
XIII. Adjournment	Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Dr. Cody M. Pyke, and unanimously approved to adjourn the meeting. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 p.m.	

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Harris Health System Board of Trustees Meeting held on October 26, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Director Barbie Robinson
Barbie Robinson, MPP, JD, CHC, Acting Chair

Andrea Caracostis
Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Secretary

Minutes transcribed by Cherry A. Pierson, MBA