

MINUTES OF THE HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Board Meeting
Thursday, March 28, 2024
9:00 am

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION
<p>I. Call to Order and Record of Attendance</p>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Chair. It was noted that a quorum was present and the attendance was recorded. Dr. Caracostis 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>
<p>II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Meeting – February 29, 2024 	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-34</u> Moved by Dr. Cody Pyke, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve the minutes of the February 29, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.</p>
<p>III. Announcements/ Special Presentations</p>	<p>A. CEO Report Including Special Announcements</p> <p>Dr. Esmail Porsa, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), recognized the following executive leadership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Taylor McMillian, Senior Vice President, Chief Development Officer Mr. Micah Rodriguez, JD, Vice President, Public Policy and Government Relations <p>Dr. Porsa delivered the CEO Report, including special announcements. He shared that Harris Health System held its grand opening of the Endoscopy Center at Quentin Mease Health Center. He mentioned that Harris Health representatives participated in the Greater Houston Business Procurement Breakfast where they provided an overview of Harris Health’s Contractor Diversity Program and introduced three (3) prime contractors related to the Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) Hospital expansion project. State Representatives Ron Reynolds and Yolanda Jones were also in attendance. Dr. Porsa announced that our very own Board Chair, Dr. Andrea Caracostis, was selected as one of “Houston’s 50 Most Influential Women of 2023” by the Houston Woman Magazine. A copy of the CEO Report 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 Pyke announced that she was a featured speaker at the second meeting of the Harris County LGBTQIA+ Commission.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>
<p>V. Executive Session</p>	<p>At 9:10 a.m., Dr. Caracostis stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session for Items V. 'A-C' as permitted by law under Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Code. Ann. §§151.002 and 160.007.</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 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>Item was moved to an Executive Session held later in the meeting.</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 9:19 a.m., Dr. Caracostis reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present and that no action was taken in Executive Session.</p>	
<p>IV. Public Comment (Taken Out of Order)</p>	<p>Ms. Cynthia Cole, Executive Director, Local #1550 – AFSCME, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, addressed the Board regarding Harris Health’s grievance policy.</p>	<p>As Presented.</p>

VII. General Action Item(s)		
	<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 March 2024, there were twelve (12) initial appointments, forty (40) reappointments, eight (8) change/add privileges, seventy - one (71) resignations, twelve (12) applications for temporary privileges, and three (3) applications for urgent patient care need privileges. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>Motion No. 24.03-35 Moved by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.A.1. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval of Changes to the Nephrology Clinical Privileges</p>	<p>Motion No. 24.03-36 Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Dr. Cody Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.A.2. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>B. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Correctional Health Medical Staff</p> <p>1. Item Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Correctional Health Medical Staff</p>	<p>Moved to after reconvening from Agenda Item XIII. Executive Session</p>
VIII. New Items for Board Consideration		
	<p>A. Approval of the Appointment of Dr. Cody Pyke, Ms. Sima Ladjevardian and Ms. Ingrid Robinson as Members of the Dialysis Center at Quentin Mease Governing Body</p>	<p>Motion No. 24.03-37 Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.A. Motion carried.</p>

<p>IX. Strategic Discussion</p>		
	<p>A. Harris Health System Strategic Plan Initiatives</p>	
	<p>1. Presentation Regarding Innovative Partnership to Build Structures and Processes that Facilitate Timely Enrollment and Access to Care in the Harris Health System for Under-insured Adolescents and Young Adults with Chronic Illness</p> <p>Dr. Albert Hergenroeder, Professor of Pediatrics, Baylor College of Medicine (BCM), delivered a presentation regarding Innovative Partnership to Build Structures and Processes that Facilitate Timely Enrollment and Access to Care in the Harris Health System for Under-insured Adolescents and Young Adults with Chronic Illness. He stated that the goal is to decrease health inequities associated with lack of access to primary and specialty adult – based care for patients with life – threatening disease transitioning from Texas Children’s Hospital (TCH) to the Harris Health System (HHS) as they age out of pediatric care. He noted that the purpose is to build and evaluate structures and processes to facilitate enrollment in HHS services and enable timely access to subsequent primary and specialty care providers. Dr. Hergenroeder provided an overview of collaborative partnerships which includes HHS, TCH, BCM, the Episcopal Health Foundation, and Houston Health Department. Additionally, Dr. Hergenroeder touched upon the project deliverables, 2022 – 2023 renal patient flowchart from TCH to HHS, accomplishments and next steps toward sustainability. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>Ms. Afsheen Davis recused on this item related to Texas Children’s Hospital. As Presented.</p>
	<p>B. March Board Committee Meeting Reports</p> <p><u>Governance Committee</u> Dr. Cody Pyke stated that the Governance Committee met on March 19, 2024 and the following topics were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee discussed Board Education: Texas Pension Review Board Training and recommended a deadline of June 1, 2024. • Ms. Maria Cowles, Chief of Staff, delivered an update regarding the Board Orientation Process and the Board Retreat. • Ms. Elizabeth Hurst, NRC Health, delivered a presentation regarding the 2023 Harris Health System Board Self – Assessment Survey Results. • Ms. Elizabeth Hanshaw Winn, Harris County Attorney’s Office, delivered a presentation and Board Education training regarding Motions Practice. <p><u>Quality Committee</u> Dr. Andrea Caracostis stated that the following highlights were covered in open session of the Quality Committee Meeting held on March 19, 2024:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The monthly High Reliability Organization (HRO) Video “Human Factors – Approach to Patient Safety” was displayed. 	<p>As Reported.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursing and Human Resources leadership reported the results of the most recent employee engagement survey. The results will showcase our continued commitment to creating a Just and Accountable Culture. • Harris Health System is in the window for the unannounced annual survey from DNV Health Care on or before June 2024. Planning for survey is an ongoing process that includes 3 phases: Pre-survey, During Survey, and Post Survey. <p><u>Joint Conference Committee</u></p> <p>Dr. Caracostis noted that the Joint Conference Committee met on March 21, 2024, and the following topics were covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee received an update from Dr. Martha Mims, Chair, MEB and Dr. Kunal Sharma, Vice Chair, MEB, regarding the Medical Executive Board. • The Committee received an update from Dr. Tien Ko, Chief of Staff, LBJ and Dr. Sandeep Markan, Chief of Staff, BT, related to the System pavilions. • The Committee received an update from Dr. Markan (in lieu of Dr. Fareed Khan) related to Ambulatory Care Services. • Ms. Jessey Thomas, Senior Vice President, Medical Affairs, and Ms. Maxia Webb from NRC Health presented on Harris Health’s Medical Staff Engagement Survey Results. • Mr. Ron Fuschillo, Senior Vice President, Chief Information Officer, and Mr. Aaron Velasquez, Director, Emergency Management provided an update regarding Technology Downtime Opportunity Review. • Dr. Mims presented recommendation of revisions to the Harris Health System Medical Staff Bylaws. • The Committee discussed the 2024 Joint Conference Committee Goals. 	
<p>X. Consent Agenda Items</p>		
	<p>A. Consent Purchasing Recommendations</p>	
	<p>1. Approval of Purchasing Recommendations (Items A1 through A60)</p> <p>Mr. DeWight Dopslauf, Purchasing Agent, Harris County Purchasing Office, noted that purchasing items A14, A16, and A38, are all contracts that are within their current term and are in the process of rebidding related to the Minority/Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBE) participation goal. Mr. Dopslauf also shared that Harris County Commissioners Court approved the new purchasing manual. A copy of the purchasing recommendations is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-38</u> Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Dr. Cody Pyke, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.A.1. Motion carried.</p>

	<p>B. Consent Committee Recommendations</p>	
	<p>1. Acceptance to Adopt June 1st as an Internal Completion Deadline for the Texas Pension Review Board Training</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval of the 2024 Quality Committee Goals</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>C. New Consent Items for Board Approval</p>	
	<p>1. Acceptance of the Harris Health System January 2024 Financial Report Subject to Audit</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval to Enter into a New Interlocal Agreement with Harris County Department of Economic Equity and Opportunity (DEEO) to Provide Wage Rate Compliance Services for Harris Health System Construction Projects</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>

	<p>3. Approval to Amend and Renew the Lease with Benjamin Wu for the Sunset Heights Clinic, Located at 1623 Airline, Houston, TX 77009</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>4. Approval to Convey a Non-Exclusive Utility Easement and Right of Way to Crown Castle Fiber, LLC at Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital, 5656 Kelly St., Houston, TX 77026</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>5. Approval to Amend the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Services Agreement with The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>6. Approval to Amend the Administrative Services Agreement Between Harris Health System and Community Health Choice, Inc. and Community Health Choice Texas, Inc.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-39</u> Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. through X.C.6. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>D. Consent Reports and Updates to the Board</p>	<p>For Informational Purposes Only</p>
	<p>1. Updates Regarding Pending State and Federal Legislative and Policy Issues Impacting Harris Health System</p> <p><i>{End of Consent Agenda}</i></p>	


<p>XI. Item(s) Related to the Health Care for the Homeless Program</p>		
	<p>A. Review and Acceptance of the Following Reports 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 March 2024 Operational Update <p>Ms. Tracey Burdine, Director, Health Care for the Homeless Program, delivered a presentation regarding the Health Care for the Homeless Program March 2024 Operational Update including Patient Services, Patient Satisfaction Report and Quality Management Report. Ms. Burdine reported that there were 418 new adult patients, twenty (20) new pediatric patients, five (5) new telehealth patients, and twenty – eight (28) returning telehealth patients associated with the Program. She stated that for the month of February, HCHP served 1,939 unduplicated patients, of which 841 patients were seen for family practice services. She also noted that there were 2,105 completed visits for the month of February. Ms. Burdine presented the HCHP Patient Satisfaction Report, noting that they have seen significant improvements in patient satisfaction scores. Dr. Cody Pyke recommended that HCHP include sample size when presenting their goals and metrics. Ms. Jaden Jacobs, Quality Assurance Coordinator, Health Care for the Homeless Program, presented the HCHP Q4 Quality Management Report. She shared that the following Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) required quality metrics’ goal was not met for Q4 of 2023, which includes depression remission at 12 months and childhood immunization status. Ms. Jacobs stated that HCHP’s goal is to surpass both the Uniform Data System (UDS) benchmark and the program’s internal goals. The program has implemented corrective action plans and is continuously working to improve compliance on all quality metrics. Dr. Andrea Caracostis inquired whether the UDS Dashboard will be ready to present at the next Board meeting. Ms. Burdine stated that HCHP is working with Harris Health’s Information Technology team to update the UDS Dashboard and anticipates that it will be ready to present during the May 2024 Board meeting. A copy of the operational update is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-40</u> Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.A. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>B. Approval of the HCHP Quality Management Report</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-41</u> Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.B. Motion carried.</p>

	C. Approval of the HCHP Patient Satisfaction Report	Motion No. 24.03-42 Moved by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.C. Motion carried.
XII. Executive Session	At 10:20 a.m., Dr. Andrea Caracostis stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session for items V. "C" and XII. "D through H" as permitted by law under 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, Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.074, and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.085.	
V.C. Moved from First Executive Session	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	No Action Taken.
XIII. (Cont'd)	D. Review of the Impact of Health and Human Services Commission's Intent for Contract Announcement (STAR & CHIP) and Community Health Choice's 2023 Financial Performance, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.085	No Action Taken.
	E. Consultation with Attorney, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.071, Regarding Civil Action No. 4:23-CV-03198, U.S. District Court, Southern District of Texas, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session	No Action Taken.
	F. Consultation with Attorney Regarding the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Approval for Texas Coastal Materials, LLC to Operate a Concrete Crushing Facility at 5875 Kelley Street, Houston, Texas and Possible Action Upon Return to Open Session, Including Consideration of Approval to Seek Judicial Review of the TCEQ Decision	No Action Taken.
	G. Report by the Executive Vice President, Chief Compliance and Risk Officer, Regarding Compliance with Medicare, Medicaid, HIPAA and Other Federal and State Health Care Program Requirements, Including Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032	No Action Taken.
	H. Review of Harris Health System Organization Structure and Compensation Reports per Article X, Section 1.c of Harris Health System Bylaws, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.074, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session	No Action Taken.

<p>XIV. Reconvene</p>	<p>At 11:41 a.m., Dr. Andrea Caracostis reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present. The Board took action in open session on item VII. (B)(1) of the General Action Items and XII. (F) of the Executive Session agenda.</p>	
<p>VII. General Action Items (Taken out of order)</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>For March 2024, there were eight (8) initial appointments, four (4) reappointments, and one (1) resignation. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.03-43</u> Moved by Dr. Cody Pyke, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.B.1. Motion carried.</p>
<p>XII. Executive Session</p>	<p>F. Approval to Seek Judicial Review of the TCEQ Decision</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 24.02-44</u> Moved by Ms. Afsheen Davis, seconded by Ms. Jennifer Tijerina, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XII.F. Motion carried.</p>
<p>XV. Adjournment</p>	<p>There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:42 a.m.</p>	

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Harris Health System Board of Trustees Meeting held on March 28, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,



Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Chair



Carol Paret, BS, Secretary