

MINUTES OF THE HARRIS HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Board Meeting Thursday, June 27, 2024 9:00 a.m.

		5.00 a.iii.	
	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION
I.	Call to Order and Record of Attendance	The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Dr. Cody Pyke, Presiding Officer. It was noted that a quorum was present and the attendance was recorded. Dr. Pyke 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. Only participants scheduled to speak have been provided dial in information for the meeting. All others who wish to view the meeting may access the meeting online through the Harris Health website: http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live .	appended to the archived minutes.
11.	Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting	Board Meeting – May 30, 2024	Motion No. 24.06-81 Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve the minutes of the May 30, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.
III.	Announcements/ Special Presentations	 A. CEO Report Including Special Announcements New Member of the Harris Health Board of Trustees FY2023 Annual Report Dr. Esmaeil Porsa, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), delivered the CEO Report, including special announcements. He mentioned that the Fiscal Year 2023 annual report has been made available to the Board members. He also acknowledged the newest member of the Board of Trustees, Ms. Elizabeth "Libby" Viera-Bland, and recognized Ms. Marcia Johnson for her dedicated service as a Board member. Dr. Porsa announced the Center for Accelerating Health Equity. The Center will coordinate and focus health equity efforts on the needs of the community, particularly Black and Latino communities that have been traditionally underserved in healthcare. He gave a brief update on the progress of the Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) hospital campus project. Dr. Porsa also noted that Harris Health received honorable mention from the America's Essential Hospitals for their annual Excellence in Health Care award. Lastly, Dr. Porsa shared remarks from a patient about the exceptional care they received at Harris Health. 	As Presented.

As Presented. **B.** Special Announcement Dr. Steven Brass, Executive Vice President & Chief Medical Executive, recognized the recipients of the Zero Harm Award. In line with the Board's commitment to Zero Harm, the Board continues to recognize Harris Health employees who exemplify and embody that same commitment. Dr. Jackie Brock, Executive Vice President & Chief Nursing Executive, recognized the following individuals for the Zero Harm awards for their dedication to patient care through proactive escalation, advocacy and intervention. **Baytown Health Center** o Paula Sanchez on behalf of Rosa Tenorio Ben Taub Hospital 3B Mother Baby Unit o Chantell Bell o Bindu Matthew **Ben Taub Hospital 3C Perinatal Special Care** o Krystal Banks on behalf of Lisa Smith Biven o Denitria Preston Ben Taub Hospital 3F Labor & Delivery Krystal Banks Lisa Smith Bivens Lyndon B. Johnson Hospital 2D Labor & Delivery Kimberly Dobard Valencya Walker Rhonda Polk Board Member Announcements Regarding Board Member Advocacy and Community Engagements | As Presented. Dr. Pyke shared that the Harris Health Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome its newest trustee, Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, who was appointed to the Board by Commissioner Rodney Ellis at the June 4, 2024 Harris County Commissioners Court meeting. She noted that Ms. Viera-Bland, a licensed City Planner, applies her expertise to address community issues from a broader policy perspective. She holds dual master's degrees in City Planning and Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania, complementing her undergraduate studies at Sarah Lawrence College. Currently serving as the Director of Neighborhood Development and Community Enrichment Initiatives at Project Row Houses, Ms. Viera - Bland focuses on implementing sustainable strategies for affordable housing, neighborhood preservation, economic development, and direct community services in Houston's Third Ward. Additionally, Ms. Viera - Bland plays pivotal roles as Commissioner on the City's Planning Commission and Historic Preservation Appeals Board. Ms. Viera - Bland expressed her gratitude for the Board of Trustees. the opportunity to serve on Additionally, Dr. Pyke extended her sincere appreciation to Ms. Marcia Johnson for her dedicated

	service and valuable contributions to the Harris Health System Board of Trustees spanning over the past three (3) years. During her tenure, Ms. Johnson played a crucial role as Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, significantly advancing DEI initiatives and fostering a culture of awareness. Additionally, Ms. Johnson served as Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee and contributed her expertise to the Governance Committee and various other roles. Other Board members extended a warm welcome to Ms. Libby Viera – Bland and expressed their appreciation to Ms. Marcia Johnson for her dedicated service.	
IV. Public Comment	Ms. Cynthia Cole, Executive Director of Local #1550 – AFSCME (American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees), spoke to the Board about issues concerning employee relations.	No Action Taken.
V. Executive Session	At 9:35 a.m., Dr. Pyke stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session for Items V. 'A through C' as permitted by law under Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, Tex. Occ. Ann. §§151.002 and 160.007, and Tex. Gov't. Code Ann. §551.071.	
	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	No Action Taken.
	B. Medical Executive Board Report and Credentialing Discussion, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007 and Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032 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	No Action Taken.
	C. Report Regarding Harris Health System Correctional Health Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Including Credentialing Discussion and Operational Updates, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §151.002, Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §160.007, Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032 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.
VI. Reconvene to Open Meeting	At 9:51 a.m., Dr. Pyke reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present, and that no action was taken in Executive Session.	
VII. General Action Item(s)		
	A. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Medical Staff	

 Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Medical Staff Dr. Martha Mims, Chair, Medical Executive Board, presented the credentialing changes for members of the Harris Health System Medical Staff. For June 2024, there were forty – one (41) initial appointments, thirty – seven (37) reappointments, two (2) change/add privileges, and twelve resignation (12) resignations. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record. 	Motion No. 24.06-82 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.A.1. Motion carried.
2. Approval of Changes to the Gastroenterology Clinical Privileges Dr. Mims indicated that a request has been made to include Endoscopic Submucosal Dissection (ESD) and Peroral Endoscopic Myotomy (POEM) to the Gastroenterology Clinical Privileges to accommodate gastroenterologist requesting ESD or POEM. A copy of the Gastroenterology Clinical Privileges is available in the permanent record.	Motion No. 24.06-83 Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VII.A.2. Motion carried.
3. Review and Discussion Regarding the Harris Health System Staffing Advisory Committee's Semi-Annual Evaluation of the Nurse Staffing Plan and Aggregate Staffing Variance Dr. Jackie Brock, Executive Vice President & Chief Nursing Executive, led the discussion regarding the Harris Health System Staffing Advisory Committee's Semi-Annual Evaluation of the Nurse Staffing Plan and Aggregate Staffing Variance. The Texas Health and Safety Code requires hospitals to create staffing advisory committees in facilities where 60% of the registered nurses (RNs) spend at least 50% of their time conducting direct patient care. There is one (1) staffing advisory committee per hospital. Each committee meets to discuss challenges related to staffing and makes recommendations to leadership regarding staffing changes. The staffing plan is reviewed by the Board twice each year. Ms. Myishea Gilliam, Staffing Advisory Committee Chair, LBJ, reported that the hospital's staffing committee consists of eleven (11) nurse clinicians. She stated that 86% of those respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the staffing plan and 14% disagreed. The committee conducted a correlation analysis between patient falls and hours per patient day, in which no trends were identified. Ms. Lenora Watson, Staffing Advisory Committee Chair, Ben Taub Hospital (BTH), reported that the BTH staffing committee consists of nineteen (19) nurse clinicians and received a response rate of 100%. She stated that 91% of those respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the staffing plan and 14% disagreed. She shared that the statement that received the highest level of disagreement was "There is a general sense of adequate staffing." The committee performed a correlation analysis between patient falls and hours per patient day, finding no significant correlation between these variables. Dr. Brock provided a summary of the registered nurse (RN) turnover rates at Harris Health. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.	As Presented.
B. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Correctional Health Medical Staff	

	 Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health System Correctional Health Medical Staff Dr. Otis Egins, Chief Medical Officer, Harris Health Correctional Health, presented the credentialing changes for members of the Harris Health System Correctional Health Medical Staff. For June 2024, there were four (4) initial appointments, one (1) reappointment and one (1) resignation. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record. 	Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item
VIII. New Items for Board Consideration		
	A. Approval of a Resolution Setting the Rate of Mandatory Payment for the Harris County Hospital District Local Provider Participation Fund Ms. Victoria Nikitin, Executive Vice President & Chief Financial Officer, presented a resolution Setting the Rate of Mandatory Payment for the Harris County Hospital District Local Provider Participation Fund. She stated that the District sets the amount of the mandatory payment to be collected during the time frame of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, which is up to 6.00 percent of the net patient revenue of an institutional health care provider located in the District. A copy of the resolution is available in the permanent record.	Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.A. Motion
	B. Presentation Regarding the 401k and Pension Plan Auditor's Reports and Overview for the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2023	
	 Acceptance of the 401k Plan Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 Mr. Ryan Singleton, Partner, Forvis Mazars, LLP, delivered a presentation of 401k Plan Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 as well as the Pension Plan Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022. Mr. Singleton mentioned that draft financial statements and related notes were presented to the Board, confirming consistency with accounting and industry standards. He also reported no challenges were encountered by his team during the audit, including disagreements with management, contentious accounting matters, consultations with other accountants, or identification of material weaknesses or significant deficiency in internal controls. Additionally, Mr. Singleton highlighted that none of the six (6) identified risk areas required reporting. Copies of the 401k and Pension audit reports are available in the permanent record. 	that the Board approve agenda
	 Acceptance of the Pension Plan Independent Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and December 31, 2022 	Motion No. 24.06-86 Moved by Ms. Afsheen Davis,

	The audit reports for both the 401(k) and Pension Plans were presented together.	seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.B.2. Motion carried.
IX. Strategic Discussion		
	A. Harris Health System Strategic Plan Initiatives	
	Presentation Regarding Harris Health Technology Roadmap	As Presented.
	Mr. Ron Fuschillo, Senior Vice President, Chief Information Technology, delivered a presentation regarding Harris Health Technology Roadmap. He provided insights into the future outlook of the healthcare industry and discussed Harris Health's approach to technology. Additionally, Mr. Fuschillo outlined Harris Health's technology roadmap, governance structure for technology, and guiding principles. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.	
	 B. June Board Committee Meeting Reports Quality Committee Dr. Pyke stated that the Quality Committee met on June 11, 2024 and the following topics were covered: The monthly High Reliability Organization (HRO) Video "Preventing Falls" was displayed in Open Session. The remaining report from the Quality Committee was presented in this meeting in Section (V) of the Executive Session. 	As Presented.
X. Consent Agenda Items		
	A. Consent Purchasing Recommendations	
	1. Approval of Purchasing Recommendations (Items A1 through A4)	Motion No. 24.06-88 Moved by Mr. Jim Robinson, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.A.1. Motion carried.
	B. Consent Grant Recommendations	
	1. Approval of Grant Recommendations (Items B1 through B2)	Motion No. 24.06-89 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Libby Viera -

	Bland, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item X.B.1. Motion carried.
C. New Consent Items for Board Approval	The state of the s
Ms. Jennifer Tijerina requested to have consent agenda items X.C.6. brought forward for discussion.	
1. Acceptance of the Harris Health System May 2024 Financial Report Subject to Audit	Motion No. 24.06-90 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Mr. Jim Robinson, and unanimously
	passed that the Board approve agenda items X.C.1. through X.C.5. Motion carried.
 Approval of Payment for the Contracted Services Specified in the Harris Health Operating and Support Agreement with Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) for the Contract Year Ended June 30, 2025 	
3. Approval of Payment for the Contracted Services Specified in the Harris Health Affiliation and Support Agreement with the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UT Health) for the Contract Year Ended June 30, 2025	Motion No. 24.06-90 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Mr. Jim Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items X.C.1. through X.C.5. Motion carried.
4. Approval of an Increase of Payment for the Total Compensation Amount Not to Exceed \$5,377,211 for the Fifth Contract Year of the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Services Agreement with The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston	Motion No. 24.06-90 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Mr. Jim Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items X.C.1. through X.C.5. Motion carried.

	5. Approval of the Renewal of Dr. Tien Ko's Term of Appointment as Chief of Staff for LBJ Hospital	Motion No. 24.06-90 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Mr. Jim Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items X.C.1. through X.C.5. Motion carried.
	6. Approval to Enter into an Agreement with CenterPoint Energy to Provide Electrical Services for the LBJ Hospital Expansion Project Mr. Patrick Casey, Senior Vice President, Facilities, Construction, and System Engineering, shared that the current electrical services at the LBJ campus lack sufficient redundancy and reliability, leading to frequent power interruptions. Harris Health is proposing an agreement with CenterPoint Energy to install a dedicated underground higher voltage system, aiming to eliminate outages associated with the current above-ground and shared services. Additionally, Mr. Casey noted a projected timeline for completion of this project is between 29 and 32 months.	Board approve agenda item X.C.6. Motion carried.
	D. Consent Reports and Updates to the Board	
	Updates Regarding Pending State and Federal Legislative and Policy Issues Impacting Harris Health System {End of Consent Agenda}	For Information Only
XI. Item(s) Related to the Health Care for the Homeless Program		

- 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
 - HCHP June 2024 Operational Update

Ms. Tracey Burdine, Director, Health Care for the Homeless Program, delivered a presentation regarding the Health Care for the Homeless Program June 2024 Operational including Productivity Report, Budget Summary Report, HCHP Credentialing and Privileging Policy, Community Engagement Initiatives, Patient Satisfaction Report, Quality Management Report and 2024 Quality Management Plan. The Health Care for the Homeless Program (HCHP) is expected to see approximately 9,775 patients per year as required by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Ms. Burdine reported that HCHP has provided care to 3,587 unduplicated patients and conducted a total of 11,927 visits year - to - date. In May alone, HCHP served 1,333 unduplicated patients, with 743 receiving family practice services and 2,658 completed visits. Ms. Burdine stated due to a provider shortage, patient volumes have been affected. Dr. Jennifer Small, Executive Vice President, Ambulatory Care Services, mentioned that two (2) providers have been hired, and one (1) is currently undergoing credentialing. Ms. Burdine presented the Q1 Budget Summary Report, stating that the program has utilized approximately 26.3% of the total budget year - to - date. Additionally, less than 25% of the allocated funds have been used on operational expenses, including personnel, travel contractual and other expenses. Ms. Burdine introduced the HCHP Credentialing and Privileging Policy, which aims to establish credentialing and privileging procedures for clinical staff members in accordance with the HRSA Compliance Manual. Ms. Burdine presented the HCHP Patient Satisfaction Report, highlighting that HCHP has achieved or exceeded all metrics except for provider listens. She noted the establishment of a Committee and the ongoing efforts to improve provider listening metrics. Ms. Burdine shared that HCHP has acquired workstation on wheels, a portable computer cart that allows providers to carry technology with them as they attend to patients. Lastly, Ms. Burdine discussed the community engagements events. Dr. LaResa Ridge, Medical Director, Health Care for the Homeless Program, delivered the Q1 Quality Management Report. She noted that the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) required metrics for Q1, specifically depression remission at 12 months and childhood immunization status, were not achieved. Dr. Ridge highlighted the implementation of Best Practice Alert to activate approved treatment options, with the Information Technology team receiving guidelines and beginning development of these alerts. She also shared that staff are continuing to educate parents on the importance of vaccinations, ensuring that all eligible children receive the necessary vaccines. Additionally, Dr. Ridge discussed the goals and objectives of the HCHP 2024 Quality Management Plan, as well as the updates and focus areas for quality in 2024. Discussion ensued regarding childhood immunizations and the methods used to verify immunization records for both pediatric and adult immigrant populations. A copy of the operational update is available in the permanent record.

Motion No. 24.06-92

Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.A. Motion carried.

	B. Approval of the HCHP Budget Summary Report	Motion No. 24.06-93 Moved by Ms. Afsheen Davis, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.B. Motion carried.
	C. Approval of the HCHP Credentialing and Privileging Policy	Motion No. 24.06-94 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.C. Motion carried.
	D. Approval of the HCHP Patient Satisfaction Report	Motion No. 24.06-95 Moved by Ms. Afsheen Davis, seconded by Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.D. Motion carried.
	E. Approval of the HCHP Quality Management Report	Motion No. 24.06-96 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.E. Motion carried.
	F. Approval of the HCHP 2024 Quality Management Plan	Motion No. 24.06-97 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Afsheen Davis, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XI.F. Motion carried.
XII. Executive Session	At 11:14 a.m., Dr. Cody Pyke stated that the Board would enter into Executive Session for Items XII. 'D through F' as permitted by law under Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032 and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §\$551.072 and 551.085.	
	D. Review of the Community Health Choice, Inc. and Community Health Choice Texas, Inc. Financial Performance for the Year to Date Ending April 30, 2024, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.085	No Action Taken

	E. 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, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session	
	F. Deliberation Regarding the Purchase, Exchange, Lease, Acquisition, or Value of Real Property, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.072	No Action Taken
XIII. Reconvene	At 11:51 a.m., Dr. Cody Pyke reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present.	
XIV. Adjournment	There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:52 p.m.	

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Harris Health System Board of Trustees Meeting held on June 27, 2024.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cody Pyke, MD, JD, LLM, FCLM, Presiding Officer In lieu of Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Chair

Carol Paret, BS, Secretary

Minutes transcribed by Cherry A. Pierson, MBA