

MINUTES OF THE HARRIS HEALTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Board Meeting
Thursday, July 24, 2025
9:00 A.M.

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 Dr. Andrea Caracostis, Chair. It was noted that a quorum was present, and the attendance was recorded. Dr. Caracostis noted that while some Board members were present in person, others were participating via videoconference, in accordance with state law and the Harris Health Videoconferencing Policy. The meeting was accessible for public viewing online through the Harris Health website: http://harrishealthtx.swagit.com/live.</p> <p>Dr. Caracostis noted that, due to space constraints in the room caused by the public hearing, she recommended moving item V.A. to the top of the agenda. She asked if there were any objections from the Board; with no objections from the quorum of board members present, the public hearing was moved to the beginning of the agenda.</p>	<p>A copy of the attendance is appended to the archived minutes.</p>
V. Public Hearing	<p>A. Public Hearing, Pursuant to Tex. Parks & Wildlife Code Ann. §26.002 Regarding the Taking by Eminent Domain of Three Parcels within Hermann Park Consisting of Approximately 8.9 Acres of Real Property Located Across Cambridge Drive and Isolated from the Remainder of Hermann Park and Adjacent to the Site of Ben Taub Hospital for a Public Project to Redevelop and Expand Ben Taub Hospital's Level I Trauma Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Hearing Statement • Public Comment <p>Dr. Caracostis called to order the public hearing on the proposal for Harris County Hospital District (Harris Health) to take, by eminent domain, three parcels within Hermann Park. These parcels consist of approximately 8.9 acres of real property located across Cambridge Street, isolated from the remainder of Hermann Park, and adjacent to the Ben Taub Hospital site. The proposed taking is part of a public project to redevelop and expand the hospital's Level I trauma facilities and to provide the increased capacity necessary to meet the essential emergency services and healthcare needs of the residents of the City of Houston, Harris County, and the greater Southeast Texas region (the "Project").</p> <p>Dr. Caracostis shared that Dr. Esmaeil Porsa, President and CEO of Harris Health, would present an overview of the Project and the necessity for the public hearing. She noted that legal counsel for Harris Health was present to respond to any legal questions regarding the hearing and the Project. Board members were also invited to ask questions or seek further clarification of the proposal.</p> <p>Dr. Porsa provided an overview of the Project and the necessity for the proposed land acquisition. He stated that Harris Health intends to take, by eminent domain, three parcels within Hermann Park to support the redevelopment and expansion of the hospital's Level I trauma facilities. He added</p>	<p><i>Item taken out of order.</i></p> <p>Motion No. 25.07-75 Moved by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board close the public hearing. Motion carried.</p>

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	<p>that this proposed expansion is critical to meeting growing healthcare demands in Houston, Harris County, and the broader Southeast Texas region.</p> <p>He explained that Hermann Park, which is owned by the City of Houston, comprises approximately 445 acres and is bounded by Fannin Street (west), Hermann Drive (north), Almeda Road (east), and Brays Bayou (south). The three parcels in question are located across from Ben Taub Hospital and bordered by Lamar Fleming Drive, Cambridge Street, and Braeswood Boulevard. Although within Hermann Park, these parcels are separated from the main body of the park by Cambridge Street and represent less than 2% of the park's total acreage.</p> <p>Dr. Porsa acknowledged that the land is subject to park use restrictions and reversionary interests, which would be addressed through the condemnation process. He explained that Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code requires the Board of Trustees of Harris Health to hold a public hearing prior to the acquisition of park land for public use.</p> <p>Under Section 26.001, a public entity may not approve any project requiring the use of park land unless, after a public hearing, the governing body determines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no feasible and prudent alternative to the use or taking of park land, and 2. The project includes all reasonable planning to minimize harm to the park. <p>Ben Taub Hospital, established in 1966, is a cornerstone of Harris County's safety net healthcare system and one of only two Level I trauma centers in the County. It serves nearly 5 million residents in the region and offers 24/7 access to essential medical care and surgical specialties. Currently, the hospital is consistently operating above its maximum licensed capacity of 402 beds, due to growing demand.</p> <p>Population growth in Harris County is projected to increase by 5% by 2030, with the senior population expected to grow by 20% during the same period, further increasing strain on trauma and emergency services. Harris Health anticipates that approximately 110 additional beds will be needed to accommodate an estimated 18,000 additional emergency room visits over the next decade.</p> <p>Dr. Porsa explained that expanding capacity within the existing hospital footprint was found to be infeasible due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structural limitations of the aging facility, • Inability to close parts of the hospital during construction without disrupting essential services. 	

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	<p>Therefore, acquiring the adjacent parcels is necessary to construct a modern, high-performing healthcare facility. The new facility would meet current standards, accommodate future growth, and ensure continuous delivery of high-quality, resilient care.</p> <p>These three parcels are the only adjacent land available for expansion. Their proximity to Ben Taub Hospital makes them uniquely suited for the construction of a new patient tower, which would be directly connected to the existing hospital via a skybridge. This connection will ensure access to the full range of Level I trauma services and facilitate the efficient movement of staff and patients.</p> <p>Dr. Porsa emphasized Harris Health’s commitment to collaborating with the City of Houston, the Hermann Park Conservancy, the Houston Zoo, the Texas Medical Center, and other stakeholders to ensure that the project is carried out thoughtfully and with community needs in mind.</p> <p>Because no other land near Ben Taub Hospital is available to support the expanded facility, and to maintain current hospital operations during construction, there is no feasible or prudent alternative to the acquisition of the proposed parcels.</p> <p>Harris Health also commits to taking all reasonable measures to minimize harm to the rest of Hermann Park and to preserve public access. Until the condemnation proceedings are complete, and ownership is transferred, the land will continue to be used for park purposes by the City of Houston.</p> <p>Dr. Porsa noted that at the conclusion of the public hearing, the Board will be asked to authorize Harris Health officials to begin specific actions over the next two months, including engagement with the City of Houston and other stakeholders. At its September meeting, the Board will consider a resolution containing the required findings under Chapter 26 of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code and authorizing the acquisition of the three parcels through condemnation.</p> <p>Dr. Caracostis opened the public hearing for comments, allotting each speaker three minutes. The following individuals provided comments related to the proposed expansion of Ben Taub Hospital’s Level I trauma facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Cara Lambright, President & CEO, Hermann Park Conservancy 2. Mr. Michael Evans, Director, City of Houston Parks 3. Mr. William “Bill” McKeon, President & CEO, Texas Medical Center 4. Mr. Sebastian Solar, Harris Health Strategic Fund & Member, Hermann Park Conservancy Board of Directors 5. Ms. Lisa Peterson, President & CEO, Houston Zoo 6. Mr. Sebastian Solar, on behalf of Ms. Beth Robertson, Chair, Harris Health Strategic Fund 7. Dr. Paul Klotman, President & CEO, Baylor College of Medicine 	

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II. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Meeting – June 30, 2025 	<u>Motion No. 25.07-76</u> Moved by Mr. Paul Puente, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve the minutes of June 30, 2025, Board meeting. Motion carried.
III. Announcements/ Special Presentations	<p>A. CEO Report Including Special Announcements</p> <p>Dr. Esmaeil Porsa, President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), shared that Harris Health recently held its first community town hall meeting at Harris County Precinct 1. Commissioner Rodney Ellis, Board member Ms. Ingrid Robinson, and members of Harris Health leadership were in attendance. He also noted the record attendance of 100 people.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board Member Announcements Regarding Board Member Advocacy and Community Engagements New Member of the Harris Health Board of Trustees <p>Dr. Caracostis stated that the Harris Health Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome its newest trustee, Dr. Marlen Trujillo. She was appointed to the Board during the June 26, 2025 meeting of the Harris County Commissioners Court to a term ending July 2, 2027. Dr. Trujillo currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Spring Branch Community Health Center, where she has provided leadership for over 17 years. She brings extensive experience in executive leadership, fiscal accountability, fund development, community partnerships, workforce development, and public health research. A dedicated advocate for reducing health disparities—especially among women—Dr. Trujillo has a deep understanding of her community’s healthcare needs. She holds a Master of Business Administration from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio and a PhD in Public Health from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston School of Public Health.</p> <p>Dr. Caracostis invited everyone to join in a warm welcome of Dr. Marlen Trujillo to the Harris Health Board of Trustees.</p>	As Presented.

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	<p>Dr. Caracostis also expressed her sincere appreciation to Dr. Cody Pyke for her dedicated service and meaningful contributions over the past two years. During her tenure, Dr. Pyke was a strong advocate for health equity and intersectional justice in healthcare. She made a lasting impact as Chair of the Governance Committee and the Governing Body of the Dialysis Center at Quentin Mease. Additionally, she served on the Quality Committee and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, as well as in other key roles. Dr. Caracostis extended a heartfelt thanks to Dr. Pyke for her leadership and service to the Board and the community.</p>	
IV. Public Comment	<p>Ms. Cynthia Cole, Executive Director of Local #1550 – AFSCME (American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees), addressed the Board regarding concerns related to Harris Health Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) and Americans with Disabilities (ADA) accommodations, as well as issues regarding employee treatment in the workplace. She emphasized the importance of fostering a positive and cohesive work environment where employees feel respected, supported and free from intimidation or devaluation.</p> <p>Dr. Audrey Nath, a public citizen, addressed the Board regarding preventable deaths occurring in the Harris County Jail.</p> <p>Ms. Mara Moreno, a public citizen, addressed the Board regarding the standard of care at the Harris County Jail.</p>	As Presented.
VI. Executive Session	<p>At 9:48 a.m., Dr. Caracostis stated that the Board would enter Executive Session for Items VI. 'A through D' as permitted by law under Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002, 160.007, Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§551.071, 551.072 & 551.085.</p>	
	<p>A. Medical Executive Board Report and Credentialing Discussion, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002, 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 Harris Health Medical Staff Upon Return to Open Session</p>	No Action Taken.
	<p>B. Report Regarding Harris Health Correctional Health Quality of Medical and Healthcare, Including Credentialing Discussion and Operational Updates, Pursuant to Tex. Occ. Code Ann. §§151.002, 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</p>	No Action Taken.
	<p>C. Consultation with Attorney Regarding Deliberation of the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§551.071, 551.072, and Possible Action Upon Return to Open Session</p>	No Action Taken.

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	D. Discussion Regarding Expansion of Clinical Service Lines, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.072 and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.085	No Action Taken.
VII. Reconvene to Open Meeting	At 10:42 a.m., Dr. Caracostis reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present, and that no action was taken in the Executive Session.	
VIII. General Action Item(s)		
	A. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Medical Staff	
	<p>1. Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health Medical Staff</p> <p>Dr. Kunal Sharma, Chair, Medical Executive Board, presented the credentialing changes for members of the Harris Health Medical Staff. In July 2025, there were fifty-two (52) initial appointments, eighteen (18) reappointments, zero (0) changes/additions of privileges, sixteen (16) resignations, and one (1) file for discussion. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-77</u> Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.A.1. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval of Changes to the Critical Care Clinical Privileges</p> <p>Dr. Sharma presented the changes to the Critical Care Clinical Privileges. He requested approval to revise the reappointment criteria and to remove Peritoneal Dialysis as a procedure from the Critical Care Clinical Privileges document. A copy of the updated Critical Care Clinical Privileges is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-78</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.A.2. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>3. Approval of Changes to the Pulmonary Medicine Clinical Privileges</p> <p>Dr. Sharma presented the proposed changes to the Pulmonary Medicine Clinical Privileges and noted that the request includes several updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision of the initial and reappointment criteria; • Addition of Chemical Pleurodesis as a procedure; • Revision of the initial and reappointment criteria for Diagnostic and Therapeutic Thoracoscopy, including biopsy privileges; and • Addition of Interventional Pulmonology Special Privileges, including related qualifications and procedures, to the Pulmonary Medicine Privileges document. <p>A copy of the Pulmonary Medicine Clinical Privileges is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-79</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.A.3. Motion carried.</p>
	B. General Action Item(s) Related to Quality: Correctional Health Medical Staff	

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	<p>1. Approval of Credentialing Changes for Members of the Harris Health Correctional Health Medical Staff</p> <p>Dr. Otis Ekins, Chief Medical Officer, Harris Health Correctional Health, presented the credentialing changes for members of the Harris Health Correctional Health Medical Staff. In July 2025, there were five (5) initial appointments, three (3) reappointments, and one (1) resignation. A copy of the credentialing report is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-80</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item VIII.B.1. Motion carried.</p>
	C. General Action Item(s) Related to the Acquisition of Land	
	<p>1. Approval of a Resolution Relating to a Public Project to Redevelop and Expand Ben Taub Hospital (the "Project"), Authorizing the Acquisition by Condemnation for Public Convenience and Necessity of Three Parcels within Hermann Park Consisting of Approximately 8.9 Acres of Real Property for the Project and Making Certain Findings, Pursuant to the Provisions of Chapter 26, Texas Parks and Wildlife Code</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-81</u> Moved by Mr. Paul Puente, seconded by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, and unanimously passed that the Board table agenda item VIII.C.1. and to authorize the President & CEO of Harris Health or his designee to notify the City of Houston and other stakeholders of its intent to acquire (whether through condemnation or purchase) certain parcels of land which are owned by the City and which are adjacent to Ben Taub Hospital for the purposes of fulfilling Harris Health's commitment to the voters of Harris County to increase Ben Taub Hospital's patient capacity through redevelopment and expansion, and further directing the President & CEO or his designee to engage the City and Harris County in negotiations that will permit the Harris Health Board of Trustees to adopt a resolution containing the determinations and findings required by Chapter 26 of the</p>

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		Texas Parks & Wildlife Code on or about September 25, 2025 as presented. Motion carried.
IX. New Items for Board Consideration		
	<p>A. Presentation Regarding the LBJ Radiation Oncology/Infusion Therapy Project</p> <p>Ms. Amineh Kostov, Senior Vice President, System Service Lines, provided an overview of the proposed LBJ Radiation Oncology & Infusion Center project on the LBJ Legacy Campus. The proposed center is designed to expand access to critical cancer services for patients in the North Houston region, supporting Harris Health’s mission to deliver comprehensive and equitable care.</p> <p>Mr. Mark Stewart, Director of Construction Operations, outlined the key features of the project, which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two new Linear Accelerators and the expansion of a third vault • A dedicated Brachytherapy Suite and CT Simulator • An Infusion Center with up to 50 infusion patient stations • A dedicated lobby, covered entrance, physician offices, exam rooms, and support spaces • Location adjacent to existing Radiology for integrated support and efficiency • The potential future addition of a Nuclear Medicine Suite with PET CT capabilities <p>The LBJ Radiation Oncology & Infusion Center will encompass approximately 70,000 square feet, combining repurposed space in the LBJ Legacy Hospital Annex with the construction of new radiation oncology vaults. The total project cost is estimated at no more than \$70 million. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>Agenda items IX. A. 1. and 2. were presented together with the following two actions taken below.</p>
	<p>1. Approval to Proceed with the Strategy and Design for the LBJ Radiation Oncology and Infusion Center Project</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-82</u> Moved by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, seconded by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.A.1. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval to Utilize the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Delivery Method for the Construction of the Harris Health LBJ Radiation Oncology and Infusion Center</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-83</u> Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.A.2. Motion carried.</p>

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	<p>B. Presentation Regarding the Harris Health Ambulatory Care Services (ACS) Pasadena Strategy with Harris County</p> <p>Dr. Jennifer Small, CEO, Ambulatory Care Services (ACS), delivered a presentation on the Harris Health ACS Pasadena Strategy in partnership with Harris County.</p> <p>As part of the collaboration, Harris County has purchased the facility, which includes approximately 70,030 square feet on the second floor. Harris Health also plans to utilize the first floor—approximately 60,000 square feet—for the consolidation and relocation of the following facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monroe Same Day Clinic (to become a future Urgent Care); • Strawberry Health Center; and • Pediatric & Adolescent Health Center – Pasadena. <p>This strategic consolidation aims to improve access, efficiency, and coordination of care for patients in the Pasadena area. Dr. Small also requested that the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Delivery Method be utilized for the construction of the Harris Health Pasadena Square Clinic Project. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p>	<p>Agenda items IX. B. 1. and 2. were presented together with the following two actions taken below.</p>
	<p>1. Approval to Enter into an Interlocal Agreement between Harris County and Harris Health for the Buildout of Improvements and Good-Faith Negotiations to Lease Space at Pasadena Square, 100 Pasadena Blvd., Pasadena, TX 77506, with such Improvements being the Consolidation of Specified Clinics</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-84</u> Moved by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B.1. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>2. Approval to Utilize the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) Delivery Method for the Construction of the Harris Health Pasadena Square Clinic Project</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-85</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.B.2. Motion carried.</p>
	<p>C. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing the Extension of the JPMorgan Chase Direct Pay Letter of Credit, the Amended and Restated Fee Letter, and the Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement Related to the Series 2010 Bonds</p> <p>Ms. Victoria Nikitin, Executive Vice President and CFO, presented a resolution recommending the extension of the JPMorgan Chase Bank Letter of Credit supporting the Series 2010 Refunding and Revenue Bonds. The current letter of credit, securing \$72,998,335 in outstanding bonds, is set to</p>	<p><u>Motion No. 25.07-86</u> Moved by Mr. Paul Puente, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.C. Motion carried.</p>

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	<p>expire on August 12, 2025. JPMorgan has offered a three-year extension through August 12, 2028, at a rate of 0.0042% per annum, as outlined in the Amended and Restated Reimbursement Agreement. A copy of the resolution with supporting documents is available in the permanent record.</p> <p>Dr. Caracostis issued a roll call vote as follows:</p> <table><tr><td>1. Philip Sun – Aye</td><td>6. Ingrid Robinson – Aye</td></tr><tr><td>2. Sima Ladjevardian – Aye</td><td>7. Carol Paret – Aye</td></tr><tr><td>3. Paul J. Puente – Aye</td><td>8. Dr. Andrea Caracostis – Aye</td></tr><tr><td>4. Marlen Trujillo – Aye</td><td>9. Afsheen Davis – Absent</td></tr><tr><td>5. Libby Viera-Bland – Aye</td><td></td></tr></table> <p>There were 8 yes votes, 0 opposed votes, 0 abstain votes, and 1 absent – Motion passes.</p>	1. Philip Sun – Aye	6. Ingrid Robinson – Aye	2. Sima Ladjevardian – Aye	7. Carol Paret – Aye	3. Paul J. Puente – Aye	8. Dr. Andrea Caracostis – Aye	4. Marlen Trujillo – Aye	9. Afsheen Davis – Absent	5. Libby Viera-Bland – Aye		
1. Philip Sun – Aye	6. Ingrid Robinson – Aye											
2. Sima Ladjevardian – Aye	7. Carol Paret – Aye											
3. Paul J. Puente – Aye	8. Dr. Andrea Caracostis – Aye											
4. Marlen Trujillo – Aye	9. Afsheen Davis – Absent											
5. Libby Viera-Bland – Aye												
X. Strategic Discussion												
	A. Harris Health Strategic Plan Initiatives											
	<p>1. Discussion Regarding Harris Health Legislative Update</p> <p>Mr. R. King Hillier, Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations, provided a federal and state legislative update, highlighting several key points:</p> <p>Federal Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• President Biden recently signed a significant federal healthcare bill with major implications for non-Medicaid expansion states like Texas.• Initial concerns of a \$300–\$400 million financial risk to Texas were mitigated by a provision that grandfathered the state’s Medicaid financing model (Local Provider Participation Fund).• Although Harris Health avoided immediate financial harm, Medicaid supplemental payment rates will be reduced to 110% of Medicare beginning in 2028, potentially impacting funding.• Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) cuts were not reversed in the final legislation and may take effect October 1, 2025.• The Congressional Budget Office estimates 1.9 million Texans may lose coverage due to changes in Medicaid and the ACA marketplace, potentially adding 300,000–400,000 uninsured individuals in the Houston area.	As Presented.										

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	<p>Ms. Lisa Wright, President & CEO of Community Health Choice, added that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketplace insurers, such as Aetna, are withdrawing from the Texas market, and other carriers are raising 2026 premiums by up to 25%. • This could result in 30,000–60,000 individuals leaving the marketplace due to affordability issues. • Changes requiring Medicaid reenrollment every six months pose significant administrative burdens, especially for vulnerable populations. • Loss of retroactive Medicaid eligibility from 90 days to 60 days may lead to unreimbursed care costs. • New Medicaid work requirements could affect an estimated 500,000–700,000 Texans, further reducing enrollment. <p>State Legislative Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Texas Legislature adjourned on June 2 and reconvened in special session on July 21. • Issues to monitor include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential property tax cuts and their implications for Harris Health’s revenue and bond capacity. ○ Natural disaster preparedness and response legislation that could affect county health operations. ○ Pharmaceutical restrictions related to abortion medication, which may impact broader care access. • Mr. Hillier noted that the regular session was generally favorable to Harris Health, but continued vigilance is necessary during the special session. 	
	<p>2. Presentation Regarding Harris Health’s Strategic Facilities Plan Management</p> <p>Mr. Louis Smith, Executive Vice President, COO, provided an update on Harris Health’s Strategic Facilities Plan, focusing on key factors influencing construction costs: design goals, market conditions and site/organizational policies. He outlined funding strategies, including prioritization of the LBJ Legacy projects, allocation of bond funds across campuses, extending the strategic plan timeline and exploring philanthropic opportunities beyond the \$100M goal.</p> <p>Ms. Nikitin concluded with a summary of bond fund expenditures. She reported that the first bond issuance of \$840 million was received on May 29, 2025. Of this amount:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$278 million was reimbursed to Harris Health for LBJ campus project expenses previously funded with internal cash (since summer 2023), in line with the reimbursement resolution adopted in August 2023. 	As Presented.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resolution covers expenditures for the LBJ hospital expansion, property acquisition, parking garage, and Central Utilities Plant. • The remaining \$562 million from this issuance will support ongoing construction. • A second bond issuance is anticipated in May 2026. A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.	
XI. Consent Agenda Items		
	A. Consent Purchasing Recommendations	
	1. Approval of Purchasing Recommendations (Items A1 through A6 of the Purchasing Matrix) A copy of the purchasing agenda is available in the permanent record.	<u>Motion No. 25.07-87</u> Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item IX.A.1. of the purchasing recommendations (A1 through A6 of the purchasing matrix). Motion carried.
	2. Harris Health Second Quarter of Fiscal Year 2025 Premier Spend Report for Information Only	For Information Only
	B. Consent Grant Recommendations	
	1. Approval of Grant Recommendations (Item B1 of the Grant Matrix)	<u>Motion No. 25.07-88</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.

	C. Consent Contract Recommendations	
	1. Approval of Contract Recommendations (Items C1 through C2 of the Contract Matrix)	<u>Motion No. 25.07-88</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.
	D. New Consent Items for Board Approval	
	1. Acceptance of the Harris Health June 2025 Quarterly Financial Report Subject to Audit	<u>Motion No. 25.07-88</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.
	2. Approval of the Appointment of Mr. Philip P. Sun as a Member of the Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) at LBJ and the Dialysis Center (DC) at Quentin Mease Governing Bodies	<u>Motion No. 25.07-88</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.
	3. Approval of the Appointment of Ms. Libby Viera-Bland as a Member of the Dialysis Center (DC) at Quentin Mease Governing Body	<u>Motion No. 25.07-88</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.
	4. Approval of the Appointment of Dr. Marlen Trujillo as a Member of the Board of Trustees Quality Committee	<u>Motion No. 25.07-88</u> Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.

	5. Approval to Convey a Water Meter Easement and Right of Way to the City of Houston for the 2525 Holly Hall Operations Center Project, Houston, Harris County, Texas	Motion No. 25.07-88 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.
	6. Approval to Convey a Perpetual Blanket Easement and Right of Way to CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric, LLC, at Holly Hall Operations Center, 2525 Holly Hall Street, Houston, Harris County, Texas	Motion No. 25.07-88 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda items IX.B – D. Motion carried.
	E. Consent Reports and Updates to the Board	
	1. Updates Regarding Pending State and Federal Legislative and Policy Issues Impacting Harris Health	For Information Only
XII. Item(s) Related to the Health Care for the Homeless Program		
	<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 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 July 2025 Operational Update <p>Ms. Tracey Burdine, Director, ACS, presented the HCHP July 2025 Operational Report, including the Productivity Report, Board Authority requirements, and the 2025 Quality Management Plan (QMP). presented key updates, reporting 4,391 unduplicated patients and 15,931 visits year-to-date, surpassing 50% of the annual goal. In June, 1,259 patients were served with 2,362 visits. She reviewed Board Authority responsibilities, including governance oversight, policy approval, CEO appointment, and performance evaluation.</p> <p>Ms. Burdine noted that the 2025 Quality Management Plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting a just and accountable culture; Enhancing data collection and performance measurement; Strengthening internal systems and workflows; and Advancing equitable, patient-centered care. 	<p>Motion No. 25.07-89 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Ms. Sima Ladjevardian, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XII.A. Motion carried.</p>

	<p>The plan aligns with HRSA and Harris Health standards and is guided by STEEEP quality domains (Safe, Timely, Effective, Efficient, Equitable, and Patient–Centered). A copy of the presentation is available in the permanent record.</p> <p>Note: Agenda items XII. A-C were presented together.</p>	
	B. Approval of the HCHP Board Authority Report	<p>Motion No. 25.07-90 Moved by Ms. Libby Viera - Bland, seconded by Ms. Carol Paret, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XII.B. Motion carried.</p>
	C. Approval of the HCHP 2025 Quality Management Plan	<p>Motion No. 25.07-91 Moved by Ms. Carol Paret, seconded by Mr. Paul Puente, and unanimously passed that the Board approve agenda item XII.C. Motion carried.</p>
XIII. Executive Session	At 11:43 a.m., Dr. Andrea Caracostis stated that the Board would enter Executive Session for Items XIII. 'E and F' as permitted by law Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §§551.071, 551.085.	
	E. Review of the Community Health Choice, Inc. and Community Health Choice Texas, Inc. Financial Performance for the Four Months Ending May 31, 2025, Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.085	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 Health Care Program Requirements, Including Status of Fraud and Abuse Investigations, Pursuant to Pursuant to Tex. Gov't Code Ann. §551.071 and Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. §161.032, and Possible Action Regarding this Matter Upon Return to Open Session	No Action Taken.
XIV. Reconvene	At 11:49 a.m. Dr. Andrea Caracostis, reconvened the meeting in open session; she noted that a quorum was present, and that no action was taken in the Executive Session.	
XV. Adjournment	There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:49 a.m.	

I certify that the foregoing are the Minutes of the Harris Health Board of Trustees Meeting held on July 24, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,



Andrea Caracostis, MD, MPH, Chair



Libby Viera – Bland, AICP, Secretary

Minutes transcribed by Cherry A. Joseph, MBA