

MINUTES OF  
THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CITRUS COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD

**SEPTEMBER 20, 2021 6:00 P.M.**

(1) CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Citrus County Hospital Board of Trustees was held Monday, September 20, 2021, in the Conference Room of the Annex Building located at 123 S. Pine Ave., Inverness, Florida. Chairwoman Ressler called the meeting to order at 6:00P.M.

(2) PUBLISHED MEETING LEGAL NOTICE

*(Agenda & Published Legal notice Copies On File)*

(3) QUORUM PRESENT

**COVID-19: All attendees to the meeting were required to use hand sanitizer. Social distancing was implemented and all persons were required to stay at least 6 feet apart, including Trustees and staff. The conference/meeting room was cleaned and sanitized pre and post meeting.**

(4) ATTENDANCE

Board Members: Debbie Ressler (Chairwoman); Allan Bartell (Trustee); Dr. Jeff Wallis (Secretary/Treasurer) and Rick Harper (Trustee)

Attendance via telephone: Dr. Mark Fallows (Vice-Chairman)

Also in attendance:

William Grant, Esq. (General Counsel)

Karen Schapira, Esq.

Members of the Public: Sondra Moylan, Karla Poulos and Fred Hiers (Citrus County Chronicle).

(5) PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Wallis presented a power point with information regarding the Doctor's Free Clinic of Citrus County (DFCCC) including a listing of potential costs of supplies needed for construction (*Attached copy*). Lengthy discussion of this endeavor including:

- DFCCC meeting is scheduled for October 30; at which time it is anticipated that Karla Poulos will be named Executive Director.
- Clinic currently open on Saturdays, utilizing the Citrus County Department of Health facility.
- Current clinic staffing is comprised of volunteers from the medical Community, nursing community and other allied health entities.
- Volunteer staff has sovereign immunity as registered by the State of Florida.
- Clinic has been seeing approximately 20 patients every Saturday, all of which to date have been indigent as for payor source.
- New building construction and site. Desire for build or site improvement is for a 8000 sq. foot facility.

Discussion ensued regarding many available options. Dr. Wallis agreed to search the County for site ready buildings available (thus saving on land clearing etc. costs). Dr. Wallis agreed to present update at each CCHB meeting as to effectiveness of clinic operations and building funding source etc.

(6) BUDGET HEARING TO REVIEW THE CITRUS COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD BUDGET FOR THE 2021-2022 FISCAL YEAR. ADOPTION OF THE FINAL BUDGET BY RESOLUTION 2021-01

Mrs. Ressler presented the proposed Citrus County Hospital Board Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

*Public Comment:* None

**MOTION** by Mr. Bartell, second by Mr. Harper to approve the Citrus County Hospital Board budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 and Resolution 2021-01 as presented. The Motion passed 5-0.

(7) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION** by Mr. Harper, second by Dr. Wallis to approve the Minutes from the August 16, 2021 Regular Meeting. After discussion, the Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

(8) FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

a) Approval of the Finance Report for August 2021: Mrs. Ressler presented the Finance Report for August 2021. (Copy on file)

**MOTION** by Dr. Fallows, second by Dr. Wallis to approve the Finance Report for August 2021. The Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

b) Approval of the Citrus County Hospital Board Invoices:

Mrs. Ressler presented the invoices for September 2021. (Copy on file)

**MOTION** by Mr. Bartell, second by Mr. Harper to approve payment of the CCHB invoices for September 2021 as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

c) Approval of Invoices paid by the Citrus County Hospital Board o/b/o FRC:

Mrs. Ressler presented a list of invoices to be considered for payment by the Citrus County Hospital Board o/b/o FRC for approval (Copy on file).

**MOTION** by Dr. Wallis, second by Dr. Fallows to approve CCHB payment of the invoices o/b/o FRC as presented. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

d) Other:

Mrs. Ressler presented an updated Lease Proceeds report of the three (3) Escrow accounts (two at Fifth Third Bank and one at JP Morgan). (Copy on file)

(10) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

➤ Foundation Resolution Corporation Update: Mrs. Ressler presented to the Board the list of the Foundation's invoices (Copy on file). Discussion regarding pre-payment approval for Mr. Stillwell's fees for the months of November, December 2021 and January 2022. Mr. Grant will seek more explanation of expenditure request and will present response at the CCHB October meeting.

**MOTION** by Mr. Harper second by Dr. Wallis to approve items 4, 5, 9 and 10 of the FRC list of invoices. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

➤ Citrus County Community Charitable Foundation (CCCCF) Update: Mrs. Ressler stated that CCCCCF Board meeting scheduled for September 23, 2021 has been canceled due to lack of quorum. The CCCCCF is trying to reschedule their meeting to September 30, 2021.

**(9) LEGAL**

Mr. Grant distributed a memorandum from Mr. Stillwell (*Attached copy*) regarding the final steps of dissolution for the Foundation Resolution Corporation. The balance of the FRC account in Brannen Bank will be wired to the CCHB.

The Salvation Army stated Army recently submitted the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with agreed upon revisions. The MOU is consistent with CCHB guidelines (anticipate invoices from Salvation Army van purchase).

**MOTION** by Mr. Harper, second by Dr. Wallis to approve the MOU between the Citrus County Hospital Board and Salvation Army and authorize the Chairperson to sign. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Mr. Grant informed the Board regarding a non ad valorem taxation request by Citrus Memorial Hospital/HCA and Seven Rivers Hospital to the Citrus County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Also, Mr. Stillwell sent a memorandum to Mr. Grant with a copy of the Public Notice where the BOCC scheduled a Public Hearing for a Hospital Ad Valorem Assessment.

The BOCC is requesting indemnification prior to signing agreement; but Citrus Memorial Hospital/HCA reportedly is not in favor of such indemnification.

Without agreement of the three parties involved the entire request for such funding sources to hospitals in Citrus and surrounding hospitals in the said group of health care entities the funding request will fail. The Board discussed sending a letter of support to the BOCC.

**MOTION** by Mr. Harper, second by Mr. Bartell to send a letter of support to the Board of County Commissioners for indemnification. After discussion, the motion failed 2-3.

Dr. Dixon sent the minutes of the Veteran Village meeting and was distributed to the CCHB via email prior to this meeting. Discussion ensued regarding no available Treasurer's report. Mr. Grant requested such from Veteran's Village via email.

The property sale to Dr. Kaushal is pending. Mr. Grant sent an email to Attorney Downey (Dr. Kaushal's attorney) (*Attached copy*) that \$25,000 will be held in trust to cover attorney's fees. Mr. Grant will discuss with Mr. Burks to determine methodology for such trust or holding of funds to be used for attorney fees for selling and subsequent purchase.

The Directors/Officers Insurance current policy for CCHB remain in effect until October 31. The underwriter is in communication with Mr. Hagar regarding renewal of the current policy.

Mr. Grant shared understanding that Life Stream in process of potentially purchasing the Centers building on Lecanto Highway. No formal communication from Life Stream of Citrus County with the Citrus County Hospital Board has occurred. CCHB awaits a MOU before proceeding.

Desai Group and HCA land use issue not yet fully resolved.

Mr. Grant distributed an email sent by Dr. Dixon regarding use and distribution of the CCCCCF funds. Discussion at this time is that the CCHB will hold to the current By Laws of the 80/20 provision.

The Citrus County Clerk of Courts released the draft of the CCCC Audit for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 (the CCCC Board didn't discuss or approve the Audit). The Clerk of Courts included in their report the statement made by the State of Florida Audit recommendations as to CCHB oversight of the CCCC, Inc. Mr. Grant will provide to the Clerk of Courts the CCHB answer that was submitted to the State of Florida Audit regarding this issue, which indicates the CCHB independence from the CCCC.

Mr. Grant presented Citrus County recommendations for naming of the roads at the SR 491 project. Discussion ensued with no direct action at this time.

Mr. Grant distributed to the Board a Memorandum from Attorney Schapira with an update of indemnification matters dated September 20, 2021. (*Attached copy*)

- **Medicaid Recoupment:** Status Quo. Attorney Schapira presented update on evaluation of Medicare/Medicaid reimbursement issue; waiting review of possible other methods of obtaining information.
- **Voluntary Self-Referral Disclosure Protocol:** Also, Attorney Schapira presented Attorney Bohl's opinion regarding Self Reporting disclosure issue (*Attached copy*) with CMS and possible Stark violation in 2014. Since such time the guidelines for violation definitions have changed, opinion indicates not to pursue.

**MOTION** by Mr. Harper, second by Dr. Fallows to send a letter that indication CCHB and FRC will not pursue the matter further. After discussion, the motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

**(11) NEW BUSINESS**

*None.*

**(12) TRUSTEE COMMENTS**

- **Ressler:** Mrs. Ressler distributed an evaluation tool and asked Trustees to have such completed by the October meeting for the employee evaluation review and compensation decision. Also, Mrs. Ressler presented a CCHB Workshop or inclusion in CCHB meeting agenda for discussion and possible decisions on expenditures of remaining funds in the Escrow account.
- **Bartell:** Mr. Bartell inquired as to status of the plaque being placed on wall of CMH. Mr. Grant shared the project is still in development, details forthcoming.

**(13) OTHER**

*None.*

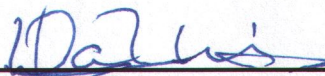
**(14) NEXT SCHEDULE MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be Monday, October 25, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Conference Room of the Annex Building, 123 S. Pine Ave. Inverness, Florida.

**(15) ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** by Mr. Harper, second by Mr. Bartell to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Jeff Wallis, MD.  
Secretary/Treasurer

09.20.2021 Minutes Copy on File:

1. Agenda & Public Notice
2. CCHB Finance Report
3. CCHB list of Invoices
4. Report of Escrow accounts
5. FRC list of invoices

09.20.2021 Minutes Attached copy

1. Presentation by the Doctors' Free Clinic
2. Memorandum from Clark Stillwell, Esq. – FRC Dissolution
3. Email from Dr. Dixon – CCCC Investment
4. Memorandum from Clark Stillwell, Esq. – BOCC Public Notice Hospital Ad Valorem Assessment
5. Email from Mr. Grant to Attorney Downey (Dr. Kaushal)
6. Memorandum from Attorney Schapira
7. Draft Letter from Attorney Bohl – Withdrawal Voluntary Self Referral Disclosure
8. Employee Evaluation tool