

**MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEDINA COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

June 23, 2025

TIME AND PLACE:

The Medina County Hospital District Board of Directors met in regular session on Monday, June 23, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Medina Regional Hospital Boardroom, 3100 Avenue E., Hondo, Texas.

PRESENT:

Tim Hardt, President
Tony Johnson, Secretary
Carlton "Corky" E. Young, DVM, Vice President
William "Bill" Bain, Director
Judy Winkler, Director
Mary Mangold, Director
Zachary Windrow, MD, Director

Billie Bell, Chief Executive Officer
Kevin Frosch, Chief Financial Officer
Marc Strode, Methodist Healthcare System
Rebecca Deen, Chief Nursing Officer
Ashley Lowe, Chief Operating Officer
Louisa Cuellar, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

ABSENT:

GUEST:

Cassandra Watson, Rural Health Clinic Administrator

**1. CALL TO ORDER
AND RECORD OF
ATTENDANCE**

Mr. Hardt called the meeting of the Medina County Hospital District Board of Directors to order at 6:30 p.m. He stated for the record that the Board of Directors has seven members with seven members present, representing a quorum.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no members of the public present.

**3. BOARD EDUCATION
Annual Accountable
Care Organization
(ACO) Compliance
Training for
Executives and
Board Members**

Ms. Watson presented an overview of the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) program. Handout provided.

Informational only. No action taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

**4. CONSIDER THE
APPROVAL OF
MINUTES**

**a. Regular Session
of May 27, 2025**

The Minutes from the Board Meeting of May 27, 2025, were approved as presented in the Board Packet.

**5. CONSIDER THE
APPROVAL OF CHIEF
NURSING OFFICER'S
REPORT**

Ms. Deen reported the following: W. Violette is Quality Director and Clinical Educator. R. Harkins has been promoted to Quality Assurance Specialist. Medina Healthcare System introduced the BEE Award (Be Excellent Everyday) to recognize non-clinical and support staff members who consistently exceed exceptional expectations.

K. Evans, Trauma Program Manager, successfully complete the AIS15 and Injury Scaling Uses and Techniques course.

Quality Scorecard was presented.

The Health and Human Services Commission awarded the Rural Hospital Labor and Delivery Grant to Medina Regional Hospital. This grant will assist in enhancing our labor and delivery services and support further training, education, and certification for the maternal services staff.

The Medina Healthcare System's (MHS) clinical teams and the director of the Medina County Health Unit conducted a tabletop exercise to address the ongoing measles outbreak and ensure that MHS is prepared to manage any potential cases that may arise within the system.

Methodist perinatal and congenital heart teams facilitated a meeting with physicians from the Medina Healthcare System to discuss the process for coordinating care for high-risk maternal and fetal cardiac patients in the community.

**6. CONSIDER THE
APPROVAL OF CHIEF
OPERATING OFFICER'S
REPORT**

Ms. Lowe reported the following: L. Valdez, Family Nurse Practitioner, continues to grow her practice in Castroville.

Logistical planning as we phase out Interventional Radiology (IR) is underway to ensure the referrals team as well as the Imaging Department are provided with resources to continue this service line outside of Medina. Texusan will be a strong partner in working through IR needs with Medina.

Methodist OB Transport Director and L&D Admin team met with providers on site on June 13.

GI volume is above budget. Focus will be on prompt turnaround of referral requests for GI procedures.

The MainStreet Chronic Care Assessment program had a strong performance in May.

Wellvana's annual wellness visit goals are progressing well.

New patient enrollment in the ChartSpan chronic care management program has been paused for now. This pause allows for a thorough evaluation of the current process to ensure the service remains meaningful for patients.

The Baptist Health Foundation application is in the review for selection phase.

Outpatient productivity in the lab continues to be strong.

Pharmacy is the theme for compliance in June.

EVS Director, O. Gracia, will be taking on a larger role at Medina as Director of Plant Operations.

The Rural Health Clinic report and graph was presented: Focus on availability of appointments remains a key priority in all clinic locations. Castroville remains a strong leader in office visits.

Referrals Decentralization: Streamlining the referrals/authorization process for patients remains a priority. Deadline to roll out this new program is July 1.

The Call Center's new training process is in full effect with three new hires. June is the first month with a full team operating at almost full capacity. The team had a June response rate tracking at 97%.

The 2025 total for weekend clinic volume is 1,214 as of May 25.

**7. CONSIDER THE
APPROVAL OF THE
MEDICAL STAFF
REPORT**

Dr. Windrow presented a verbal report. There are no issues and/or concerns.

**8. CONSIDER PUBLIC
CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Johnson presented the public correspondence report for the month of June. There were 26 questionnaires returned after receiving care at MHS. There was one negative comment.

MOTION

Mr. Bain made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Mangold seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

**9. CONSIDER APPROVAL
OF THE CHIEF
EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S
REPORT**

Ms. Bell reported the following: Advocacy & Legislative updates: As directed by House Bill 18 by the 89th Texas Legislative Session, the HHSC Provider Finance Department is required to calculate an add-on to the Standard Dollar Amount (SDA) specifically for rural hospitals with both obstetrics and gynecology departments. A proposed Medicaid add-on would provide increased payments to hospitals with an OB/GYN department, regardless of whether a birth takes place.

While it doesn't appropriate funds directly, it creates a framework for future funding based on available appropriations. This add-on would apply to all claims from qualifying hospitals and mirrors past categorical increases like those for trauma or safety-net hospitals. It acknowledges the higher operational costs of maintaining OB/GYN services and complements the existing rural labor and delivery add-on, which targets births specifically. The estimated impact is a 2% overall rate increase for eligible claims.

Medina Healthcare System was awarded two state HHSC grants aimed at expanding access to healthcare services for rural communities. The Rural Labor & Delivery Grant will directly support the revitalization of maternal health services, helping ensure that families in our region have access to safe, high-quality labor and delivery care close to home. Funds will be used to purchase equipment, labor beds, training, and certification costs for a certified lactation specialist.

The Rural Hospital Improvement Grant will provide essential funding to support the non-interventional cardiac program and establish the foundation for future expansion of this service line. The grant period runs from August 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, and will support key infrastructure, equipment acquisition, training, and program development necessary to deliver high-quality cardiac care to the communities we serve.

Medina Healthcare System's website was recently updated to meet ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance standards—an important step in ensuring digital access for all. A graph depicting Total Admissions, Observation Visits, and Outpatient Surgical Cases was presented for review.

Medina Healthcare System is transitioning from Healthcare Marketing to UpScale as our new advertising vendor for in-house television displays.

Facilities updates: New Administration Building: July move-in; Medical Records: renovations in July and August; Signage in production: Campus, Specialty Clinics, Administration and Medical Records; Specialty Clinic 4: August completion; Rehabilitation Expansion: Break ground December 2025; completion January/February 2027; Castroville Clinic Expansion: Break ground February 2026; completion January/March 2027.

The healthcare system's branding has been updated to align with new signage, ensuring a cohesive visual identity that reflects industry standards. This refinement enhances brand consistency across facilities, reinforcing recognition and trust among patients and stakeholders.

MOTION

Ms. Winkler made a motion to approve the CEO report as presented in the Board packet. Mr. Johnson seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE REPORT FOR MAY 2025

Dr. Young asked if any of the Board members had any questions or concerns from the Finance Committee Meeting. There were no changes to the finance report presented by Mr. Frosch.

MOTION

Dr. Young made a motion to approve the Financial Report for May 2025 as presented during the Finance Committee meeting. Ms. Mangold seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

11. ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE MEDINA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM'S BYLAWS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS – NO CHANGES

Ms. Bell reported that this is an annual review of the Medina Healthcare System's Bylaws of the Board of Directors, and no changes were made since the last Board approval.

MOTION

Mr. Bain made a motion to approve the Medina Healthcare System's Bylaws of the Board of Directors as presented in the Board packet. Dr. Windrow seconded the motion.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

**12. REVIEW, CONSIDER
AND APPROVE
RESOLUTION
APPROVING MEDINA
REGIONAL HOSPITAL AS
A LEVEL IV TRAUMA
CENTER AND BASIC
TRAUMA FACILITY – NO
CHANGES**

Ms. Deen reported that Medina Regional Hospital was re-designated as a Level IV Trauma Center and Basic Trauma Facility. Ms. Deen noted that this is quite an accomplishment for rural hospitals.

MOTION

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve a resolution approving Medina Regional Hospital as a Level IV Trauma Center and Basic Trauma Facility as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Winkler seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

**13. DISCUSS BUDGET AND
TAX RATE CALENDAR**

Mr. Frosch presented the Budget and Tax Rate calendar.

Informational only. No action taken.

**14. BOARD TIDBIT OF THE
MONTH – PATIENT
DISMISSAL FROM THE
CLINIC FOR POLICY
VIOLATION**

Ms. Lowe presented an overview of the process for dismissing patients from the clinic for policy violation.

Informational only. No action taken.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors of Medina Regional Hospital District went into Closed Session, at 7:19 p.m., this date June 23, 2025. The Closed Session is being held pursuant to Section 551.074 of Texas Government Code.

SECTION 551.074 – PERSONNEL MATTERS

The Board of Directors of Medina Regional Hospital District adjourned Closed Session at 7:28 p.m. and returned to Open Session at 7:29 p.m.

**16. CONSIDER ANY
NECESSARY ACTION
FROM EXECUTIVE
SESSION**


No action was taken.

17. NEXT BOARD MEETING

July 28, 2025

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.



Tim Hardt, President



Tony Johnson, Secretary