

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

November 24, 2025

**TIME AND PLACE:**

The Medina County Hospital District Board of Directors met in regular session on Monday, November 24, 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  
Judy Winkler, Director  
William "Bill" Bain, Director  
Mary Mangold, Director  
Zachary Windrow, MD, Director

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

**ABSENT:**

**GUEST:**

**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  
Enhanced Premium Tax  
Credits**

Ms. Bell provided a brief overview and handout.  
Informational only. No action taken.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**4. CONSIDER THE APPROVAL  
OF MINUTES  
a. Regular Session of  
October 27, 2025**

The Minutes from the Board Meeting of October 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: L. Dubose, Infection Preventionist, was nominated and selected to join the Board of the Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC) in San Antonio. R. Santacruz joined Medina Regional Hospital as the System Resource Nurse. Medina Regional Hospital's Inpatient Department is staffed with a Charge Nurse every shift. 85% of our staff have received the flu vaccine.  
The final report for the utilization of the Tele-Psychiatry grant funds was submitted. The project made a notable impact with patients presenting to the Emergency Department with psychiatric symptoms.  
Medina Regional Hospital has joined the Texas Collaborative Healthy Mothers and Babies

(TCHMB) initiative, specifically the Lactation and Safe Sleep Opportunities in Texas (LASSO-TX) quality improvement program.

The hospital offers outpatient nursing services in the Medical Surgical Department, allowing patients to access the following services: infusions, Medi port flushes, and rabies vaccinations.

Medina Regional Hospital has been awarded the Safe Sleeping Building Blocks grant. Cribs for Kids has collaborated with Baby Safety Foundation and Safe Kids Worldwide to introduce the Safe Sleep Building Blocks Grant program, a nationwide effort aimed to enhancing access to safe sleep education and resources.

Ms. Deen and W. Violette, Quality Director, attended the Southwest Texas College(SWTC) Nurse and PCT Committee meeting. SWTC surgical technicians and imaging students are utilizing Medina Regional Hospital as the clinical training site.

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

Ms. Lowe reported the following: P. Golden, FNP, has joined the Medina Healthcare System and will be providing services at the Castroville Rural Clinic.

Lease agreements and specialty clinic providers are being reviewed. Medina is currently focusing on Ophthalmology and ENT specialty care providers.

GI cases graph was presented. Year-end review of the GI service line demonstrated goal achievement.

Lab outpatient productivity was presented. With the new Hematology Analyzer in place, we are able to provide faster test turnaround times. D. Caceres, Lab Director, tendered his resignation.

The Rural Health Clinic report and statistics was presented. The Call Center remains strong and is performing at goal consistently. Weekend clinic volume remains steady.

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

Dr. Windrow provided a verbal report. There are no issues and concerns.

**8. CONSIDER PUBLIC  
CORRESPONDENCE**

Mr. Johnson presented the public correspondence report for the month of November. There were 16 questionnaires returned after receiving care at MHS. There were two negative comments.

**MOTION**

Mr. Johnson made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Winkler seconded.

**VOTE**

The motion passed unanimously.

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
a. Consideration and  
request to approve  
the Auxiliary  
Bylaws, tabled  
August 2025**

Ms. Lowe presented the Auxiliary Bylaws for review and approval. The following changes were noted: Officers: Section 1 officers of the auxiliary shall be: President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer; removed 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Section 8. Verbiage changed to include nominations in September, and elections held in December of all odd years; Meetings: Section 1 meetings months were changed to: March, June, September, and December; Standing Committees: Section 1 standing committees not specified.

**MOTION**

Dr. Young made a motion to approve the Auxiliary Bylaws as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Mangold seconded.

**VOTE**

The motion passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Bell reported the following: Legislative updates: The TORCH Board met on November 13-14 in Hamilton, Texas. Topics of discussion included rural healthcare legislation, the ATLIS program (Aligning Technology by Linking Interoperable Systems) and the TORCH Clinically Integrated Network (CIN). Texas submitted its plan for the new CMS Rural Health Transformation Program earlier this month, with a decision expected by January 1.

Hospitals continue to face delays in receiving facility IGT (Intergovernmental Transfer) funds from the ATLIS program, and these delays are compounded by discrepancies and errors on the

Managed Care Organization (MCO) side of Medicaid directed payment programs. MCOs — such as Superior HealthPlan, Molina Healthcare, and UnitedHealthcare Community Plan — contract with the state to deliver Medicaid services, receiving fixed monthly capitation payments and then reimbursing providers through networks and incentive programs like ATLAS. Because MCOs control the flow of funds, errors in their reporting or payment calculations directly affect how much hospitals receive. At present, there is no formal avenue for recourse when these errors occur, leaving IGT entities and facilities exposed to uncertainty in both the timing and accuracy of payments. This lack of accountability creates financial risk for rural hospitals and underscores the need for stronger oversight and clearer mechanisms to ensure funds reach providers as intended. The 340B Drug Pricing Program is under attack because pharmaceutical manufacturers and some policymakers argue it has grown too large, lacks transparency, and is being used beyond its original intent. Proposed changes — such as limiting contract pharmacy use, shifting to rebate models, or cutting reimbursement rates — threaten the savings hospitals rely on. For rural hospitals, these attacks are especially harmful because 340B funds often sustain essential services, subsidize care for uninsured patients, and keep facilities financially viable. Without these savings, many rural hospitals face reduced access to medications, cuts to community programs, and increased risk of financial challenges.

The Medina Healthcare Fund received an anonymous donation.

A graph showing a steady increase in Rural Health Clinic (RHC) visits over three fiscal years was presented. This upward trend reflects growing demand for rural healthcare services and supports continued investment in clinic capacity and staffing.

Medina is investing in Nutanix to modernize our IT infrastructure and strengthen the reliability of systems that support patient care and hospital operations.

The new overhead paging system has been installed, and the final step is linking it to the nurse call system in November. This upgrade expands overhead capacity and adds overhead speakers to the Hondo Rural Health Clinic, the Patient Financial Building, and the new Administrative Building, improving communication for all employees across the campus.

Internet upgrades in Castroville, Hondo, and Devine have been initiated. This new technology will make our internet service more reliable, give us backup options if there's an outage, and improve overall speed and performance for staff and patients.

Open enrollment for employee health insurance and benefits begins December 1. We will continue with the Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO plan but move to one centralized plan, eliminating the buy-up option. The new plan has a higher deductible, but it includes a partnership with NonStop, a company that works alongside Blue Cross Blue Shield to administer the plan. NonStop is an employer-sponsored health insurance solution that combines a lower-cost health plan with a medical expense reimbursement plan (MERP) aimed at combatting and improving access to care. NonStop Health provides a preloaded Nonstop Visa card to help pay for covered services and prescriptions received at carrier-approved providers. This means employees have immediate access to funds to cover deductible expenses. After the deductible is met, coverage continues at the standard 80/20 reimbursement level.

Construction updates were presented.

Our Veteran's Day celebration on November 11 was well attended. Special thanks to Mr. Johnson for his outstanding coordination and leadership in bringing the event together.

#### MOTION

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

#### VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

### **11. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE REPORT FOR OCTOBER 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 October 2025 as presented during the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Johnson seconded.

#### VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

**12. NOMINATE AND ELECT OFFICERS FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MEDINA COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

Per the recommendation of Mr. Johnson, the following slate of officers have been nominated for the Board of Directors of the Medina County Hospital District for the term of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026 as follows:

Executive Committee:

Timothy Hardt, President  
Dr. Carlton Young, DVM, Vice President  
Tony Johnson, Secretary  
Bill Bain, Alternate

MOTION

Mr. Bain made a motion to accept the nominations as presented and appoint Timothy Hardt as President, Dr. Carlton Young as Vice President, Tony Johnson as Secretary, and Bill Bain as Alternate of the Medina County Hospital District through December 31, 2026. Ms. Mangold seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously

**13. SELECT BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2026 BOARD COMMITTEES**

Mr. Hardt discussed the assignment of 2026 committees for the Board of Directors. The decision was made to assign the Board members as follows:

Finance/Audit Committee:

Dr. Carlton "Corky" Young, Chair  
Bill Bain  
Tim Hardt  
Alternate – Judy Winkler

Facilities/Property/Equipment Management Committee:

Bill Bain, Chair  
Tim Hardt  
Mary Mangold  
Alternate – Any member of the Executive Committee

Marketing Committee:

Judy Winkler, Chair  
Mary Mangold  
Alternate – Any member of the Executive Committee

Patient Relations:

Tony Johnson, Chair  
Dr. Zachary Windrow  
Alternate – Any member of the Executive Committee

**14. CONSIDERATION AND REQUEST APPROVAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE A REPLACEMENT FOR THE PORTABLE X-RAY MACHINE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$130,663.33**

Ms. Bell presented a request for the purchase of a replacement for the portable X-ray machine in the amount of \$130,663.33.

MOTION

Ms. Winkler made a motion to approve a resolution to purchase a replacement for the portable X-ray machine in the amount of \$130,663.33 as presented in the Board packet. Dr. Windrow seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

**15. CONSIDERATION AND REQUEST TO APPROVE MEDINA HEALTHCARE SYSTEM'S ANNUAL NURSE STAFFING PLAN & EVALUATION**

Ms. Deen presented a brief overview of the Medina Healthcare System's Annual Nurse Staffing Plan & Evaluation.

MOTION

Mr. Bain made a motion to approve the Medina Healthcare System's Annual Nurse Staffing Plan & Evaluation as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Winkler seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

16. CONSIDERATION AND  
REQUEST TO APPROVE  
MEDINA HEALTHCARE  
SYSTEM'S PATIENT CARE  
POLICIES

Ms. Deen presented a brief overview of the Medina Healthcare System's Patient Care Policies.

MOTION

Ms. Winkler made a motion to approve the Medina Healthcare System's Patient Care Policies as presented in the Board packet. Dr. Windrow seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

17. CONSIDERATION AND  
REQUEST TO APPROVE  
THE COMPLIANCE  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S  
THIRD QUARTER REPORT

Ms. Lowe presented a brief overview of the Compliance Advisory Committee's Third Quarter report.

MOTION

Dr. Young made a motion to approve the Compliance Advisory Committee's Third Quarter report as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Mangold seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

18. CONSIDERATION AND  
REQUEST TO APPROVE  
ASHLEY LOWE AS THE  
COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Ms. Bell presented a request to approve Ashley Lowe as the Compliance Officer for the Medina Healthcare System.

MOTION

Mr. Bain made a motion to approve Ashley Lowe as Compliance Officer for the Medina Healthcare System. Mr. Johnson seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

19. CONSIDERATION AND  
REQUEST TO APPROVE  
THE COMPLIANCE  
OFFICER JOB  
DESCRIPTION

Ms. Bell presented a request to approve the Compliance Officer job description for the Medina Healthcare System.

MOTION

Ms. Winkler made a motion to approve Compliance Officer job description for the Medina Healthcare System. Mr. Bain seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

20. CONSIDERATION AND  
REQUEST TO APPROVE  
THE 2025 HCA AUDIT  
FINDINGS AND 2026  
RECOMMENDATIONS

Ms. Lowe presented a request to approve the 2025 HCA Audit findings and 2026 recommendations.

MOTION

Ms. Mangold made a motion to approve the 2025 HCA Audit findings and 2026 recommendations as presented in the Board packet. Dr. Windrow seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

21. CONSIDERATION AND  
REQUEST TO APPROVE  
THE 2026 COMPLIANCE  
MANUAL

Ms. Lowe presented a brief overview of the 2026 Compliance Manual.

MOTION

Dr. Young made a motion to approve the 2026 Compliance Manual as presented in the Board packet. Ms. Winkler seconded the motion.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

22. TIDBIT OF THE MONTH –  
RURAL HEALTH CLINIC  
STAFFING  
REQUIREMENTS

Ms. Lowe presented a tidbit on Rural Health Clinic staffing requirements.  
Informational only. No action taken.

23. DID YOU KNOW? SERIES  
#4 – Medicare and  
Medicare Advantage Are  
Not the Same

Ms. Bell presented Did You Know, Series #4? – Medicare and Medicare Advantage Are Not the Same. A handout was provided.  
Informational only. No action taken.

24. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board of Directors of the Medina County Hospital District did not go into Closed Session, this date November 24, 2025.

25. CONSIDER ANY  
NECESSARY ACTION  
FROM EXECUTIVE  
SESSION

26. NEXT BOARD MEETING

December 22, 2025

Mr. Hardt asked Dr. Young if he would be in agreement to have the Finance Committee meeting during the Board Meeting at 6:30 PM. The Medina County Hospital District invited the Board's spouses to join us for dinner at 5:30 PM.

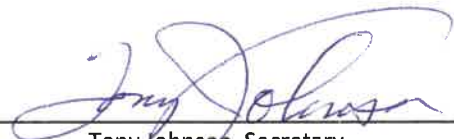
Dr. Young made a motion to hold the December 22, 2025 Finance Committee meeting during the December 22, 2025 Board Meeting. Mr. Hardt seconded.

VOTE

The motion passed unanimously.

27. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

  
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Tim Hardt, President  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Johnson, Secretary