HASKELL COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES – September 1, 2026

Haskell County Hospital District Board held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on September 1st at 6:00 PM in the Haskell Hospital Education Building at 1 Avenue N, Haskell, Texas, per the Open Meetings Act.

Attending: President Robbie Peiser, Vice President Amy Martin, Secretary Darlene Hopkins, Member Lynn Dale Dudensing, Member Elna Camacho, CEO Michelle Stevens (Zoom), COO Mary Belle Olson, CMO Dr. David Shahbodaghi, CNO Meghan Shelton, Controller Crystal Molina (Zoom), and CFO Elizabeth Miller.

Absent: Member Reida Penman, ACNO Dana Myers.

General Public: FSB President Ryder Cude.

Invited Guests: None.

1. **Call to Order and Invocation.** Robbie Peiser called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM and certified a quorum. Elna opened with the invocation.
2. **Review minutes from the July 30, 2026 meetings.** The board requested that year be spelled correctly in agenda item 10 and the board gave the rewording for agenda item 11 regarding the AC repairs and replacement quotes (repair and replace up to $100K). Elna made a motion to accept the changes. Darlene seconded. All were in favor.
3. **Healthsure Self-Funded Insurance Presentation.** Brant and Danielle with Alera Group/Healthsure presented the 10/1/26 renewal. The renewal increase is 12%, but we can accept more risk to reduce this increase (stop loss). Healthsure manages our property and casualty coverage and our employee benefits along with our health insurance. We have a direct contract with Hendrick. There are 52 member hospitals in the CHIC. Haskell has received rebates for several years. $87K is the total in rebates from CHIC and the Rx. 2026 was a bad year in the industry, so our 12% increase is a good renewal increase relatively speaking. Our performance is "middle of the pack" based on our claims history. Our stop loss deductible for anyone individual is $50K in annual claim spend. Total spend estimated by the Berkley actuary is $1,251,480 for the renewal as is. If we decrease the stop loss specific deductible from $50K to $40K, then the estimated exposure is $1,246,967. The expected cost is $1,001,184 and $997,573 respectively. Brant stated that we could save on our premiums if we increase the deductible and 5 or less patients exceed the deductible. Michelle reported that we have to implement a tobacco-free campus to be compliant with our HHSC grants and discussed adding a tobacco user surcharge per pay period for anyone on the policy that is a tobacco user. Hendrick charges $30 per person for tobacco users. Rate changes for employees would be effective on January 1, 2027. We only have 1 individual that is over the specific deductible, and we have 3 employees that are tracking to exceed the $50K specific deductible. It is Brant's recommendation to increase the specific deductible to reduce the premium. Lynn Dale asked about our exposure with our adding GLP-1 drugs as covered and also the possible pharmacy cost reductions through the Big Beautiful Bill. Michelle reported that several of our employees are on GLP-1 drugs to reduce their use of other drugs and reduce the chance of a major health event.
4. **Public Comment.** No public comment.
5. **Review the July patient census.** Michelle reviewed the July 2026 patient census compared to June 2026 and July 2025. Inpatient admissions were 4. The IP LOS was 1.33. We had 12 observation admissions. The total LOS was 7.67. ER visits have increased 12%. We had 5 deaths in July. EKGs increased. Sleep studies are down. PFTs were down due to Heather's being out in July. Pain stats are low due to Nick's vacation the week of July 4th.
6. **Review and approve the financial report including the employee census and AP check registers.** Elizabeth reviewed the July 2026 financials. Similar situation to the previous months with low cash, high AR, and high AP. We did receive $1.8M from Crusoe today, so Lynn Dale asked about the Haskell EMS invoices that Judge Thompson showed him. Lynn Dale was shown 21 invoices that HCHD had not paid. The admin team was aware of these invoices and had been working on them because we had not received them prior to August 2026 to review them and confirm if the patient had insurance to bill or if other adjustments were needed

before we paid the invoices. There are some invoices that haven't hit the 60-day mark. Some invoices were dated prior to the transfer agreement was in place, prior to August 2025. Elna made the motion to approve the financials. Darlene seconded. All voted in favor except for Lynn Dale who voted not to approve.

OLD BUSINESS

7. **Review and approve the purchased service vendor report.** Elizabeth reviewed the purchased service vendor report. Elna made the motion to approve as presented. Amy seconded. All voted in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

8. **Review and approve the Healthsure Employee Insurance proposal.** Lynn Dale made the motion and Elna seconded to accept the increase in the specific deductible as recommended by Brant during the presentation.
9. **Review the budget for FYE 9/30/27.** The board reviewed the draft budget and tabled approval until the September 21st board meeting. 4% raise. Elizabeth noted these changes per discussion - add overtime, reduce health insurance based on the renewal option chosen, and adjust property tax based on the approved proposed rate.
10. **Review and approve the proposed tax rate.** The board discussed the property tax rate calculation and various rates. Lynn Dale made the motion to accept the NNR rate of .193534, but the motion failed for lack of a second. Darlene made the motion to keep the tax rate the same as 2025 - .195087. Elna seconded. Robbie, Darlene, Amy, and Elna approved. Lynn Dale voted not to accept the proposed rate of .195087.
11. **Review and approve policies and procedures.**
    A. Investment policy was reviewed by the board. Elizabeth reported that the investment policy was emailed to Robert Spurck. Robert stated that the investment policy is compliant as written, no changes needed. Amy made the motion to accept the investment policy. Darlene seconded. All in favor.
12. **Review and approve the medical staff credentials.** No medical staff credentials presented for approval.
13. **Chief Medical Officer Report.** Dr. Shahbodaghi had to leave to help with the suspected gas leak at the ER.
14. **Chief Nursing Officer Report.** Meghan provided the EMS transfer report for July, but she had to leave to assist with the suspected ER gas leak. The board will review the report and Meghan's comments. Michelle reported that our pharmacy tech Leah Nicholson had to resign, so our transfers might go down because Leah took many transfers.
15. **Chief Operating Officer Report.** Michelle gave Mary Belle's report. Working on getting the Google quotes per our purchasing policy. Mary Belle reported that Atmos checked the lines and all is good at the ER. It might have been the stove pilot light.
16. **Chief Executive Officer Report.** Michelle reported that strategic planning is scheduled for Thursday, September 24th at 8 am. The foundation board is invited to attend. Grants 2, 3, and 5 are not for hospitals to apply for.
17. **Executive Session.** No executive session needed.
    Pursuant to Texas Government Code §§ 551.074, 551.085 and 551.071, the Board of Directors shall meet in Executive Session to deliberate personnel matters, certain proposed new service or product lines of the hospital and to consult with its attorney, either in person or by video or telephone, matters which require confidential discussion under the attorney client privilege.
18. **Adjourn** - President Peiser adjourned the meeting at 7:53 PM. The next regular board meeting is September 21, 2026.

Darlene Hopkins — 9-21-26

Board Secretary — Date

Robbie Peiser — 9-21-26

Board President — Date

Michelle Frye — 9-21-26

CEO — Date