

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the **Board of Commissioners of Hospital Service District No. 2, Abbeville General Hospital**, Parish of Vermilion, State of Louisiana was called to order at **6.15 P.M. on Wednesday, October 30, 2024** by Mr. John Boudreaux, Chairman. Proceedings were taken at their regular meeting place in the Hospital Boardroom of Abbeville General Hospital with the following people present:

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Boudreaux, Chairman
Oswald Broussard, Vice Chairman
Anita Levy
Kelly Richard
John Budden, M.D.
Jody Landry
Daleon Primeaux

STAFF PRESENT: Michael J. Bertrand, Chief Executive Officer
Troy Hair, Chief Financial Officer
Claude Meeks, Chief of Staff
Abbey Palombo, Recording Secretary

GUEST PRESENT: Larry Blanchette, Professional Engineer
Gene Sellers, Architect

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by Jody Landry and unanimously carried, **the minutes of the Regular Board of Commissioners meeting held October 16, 2024, were approved as written.**

AMEND AGENDA

On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by Daelon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the Board amended the agenda for consideration of the Nursing Scholarship Options, and CMAR Selection Committee Payment.**

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were reviewed:

- ✓ Rural Louisiana cannot afford Washington's "cure all"
- ✓ U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee Investigations
- ✓ Fall 2024 LHA District Meeting
- ✓ Capital Outlay Request FY 25-26
- ✓ Nursing Scholarship
 - On motion of Kelly Richard, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the board resolved that CEO Michael Bertrand is authorized, with the assistance of Counsel, to obtain an opinion from the Louisiana Attorney General's office addressing the District's ability to utilize District funds to assist it in addressing nursing and allied health professional shortages by establishing a cooperative endeavor scholarship endowment with the UL Lafayette Foundation funded by**

the District to increase the educational opportunities for nursing and allied health students from Vermilion Parish who are enrolled at UL Lafayette.

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Dr. John Budden presented the Medical Staff report.

➤ Credentials Committee Report

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Kelly Richard and unanimously carried, the recommendations of the Medical Executive/Credentials Committee were accepted as follows:

APPROVE INITIAL APPOINTMENTS (TWELVE MONTH PROVISIONAL) DEPT. OF SURGERY

Practitioner's Name	Clinical Privileges	Staff Category
<i>Nika Vinson, MD</i>	<i>OB/GYN</i>	<i>Courtesy Staff</i>

LIFT FROM PROVISIONAL STATUS

Practitioner's Name	For Review	Staff Category
<i>John Rhodes, MD</i>	<i>Gastroenterology</i>	<i>Consulting Staff</i>

REAPPOINTMENT (TWO YEAR PERIOD) DEPT. OF SURGERY

Practitioner's Name	Clinical Privileges	Reappointment Period
<i>Mandy Boudreaux, MD</i>	<i>OB/GYN</i>	<i>11/26/2024 to 11/26/2026</i>
<i>Michael Hoss, MD</i>	<i>Diagnostic Radiology</i>	<i>11/16/2024 to 11/16/2026</i>

REAPPOINTMENT (TWO YEAR PERIOD) DEPT. OF MEDICINE

Practitioner's Name	Clinical Privileges	Reappointment Period
<i>Thomas Falterman, Md</i>	<i>Emergency Medicine</i>	<i>11/16/2024 to 11/16/2026</i>
<i>Melisa Harrington, MD</i>	<i>Nephrology</i>	<i>11/18/2024 to 11/18/2024</i>
<i>Matthew Blanchard, APRN</i>	<i>RHC Nurse Practitioner</i>	<i>11/14/2024 to 11/14/2026</i>
<i>Richard Theriot, PT</i>	<i>Physical Therapy</i>	<i>11/16/2024 to 11/16/2026</i>

APPROVE PRACTITIONERS REAPPOINTED BY THE MEDICAL BOARD OF DIRECT RADIOLOGY AND ADDED TO THE PRIVILEGE AGREEMENT

Practitioner's Name	Clinical Privileges	Consider and Recommend
<i>Lisa Huges, MD</i>	<i>Teleradiology / Diagnostic Radiology</i>	<i>Telemedicine Staff</i>
<i>Miriam Hulkower, MD</i>	<i>Teleradiology / Diagnostic Radiology</i>	<i>Telemedicine Staff</i>
<i>Faranak Sadri Tafazoli, MD</i>	<i>Teleradiology / Diagnostic Radiology</i>	<i>Telemedicine Staff</i>

ADDITIONAL PRIVILEGE

Practitioner's Name	For Review	Effective Date
<i>Maasumeh Hebert, MD</i>	<i>Performance of History & Physical</i>	<i>9/23/2024</i>

APPROVE PRACTITIONER RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE (LOA)

Practitioner's Name	For Review	Effective Date
<i>Mary E. Corry, MD</i>	<i>Termination of Leave of Absence</i>	<i>10/14/2024</i>

PLACE ON INACTIVE STATUS (REMOVED FROM STAFF)

Practitioner's Name	For Review	Effective Date
<i>Stephen Abshire, MD</i>	<i>Retirement</i>	<i>10/01/2024</i>
<i>Kyle Degeyter, MD</i>	<i>Relinquishment of Membership / Privileges</i>	<i>6/30/2024</i>
<i>Jyothi Dodlapati, MD</i>	<i>Now have full-time oncologist in place</i>	<i>9/16/2024</i>
<i>Christine Ince, MD</i>	<i>Now have full-time oncologist in place</i>	<i>9/16/2024</i>
<i>Joseph McCracken, MD</i>	<i>Now have full-time oncologist in place</i>	<i>9/16/2024</i>
<i>Johnny Perez, MD</i>	<i>Relinquishment of Membership and Privileges</i>	<i>9/10/2024</i>
<i>Jacob Sellers, MD</i>	<i>Voluntary Resignation of Membership and Privileges</i>	<i>9/29/2024</i>
<i>Thomas VanderJagt, MD</i>	<i>No longer providing Radiology services for Direct Radiology</i>	<i>9/6/2024</i>

OLD BUSINESS

➤ **AHU Equipment**

- ✓ Larry Blanchette updated the board on the cost of the AHU equipment needed and the labor required.

On motion of Kelly Richard, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the board authorized Larry Blanchette with ADG to proceed with design and bidding of AHU-C, AHU-3, AHU-6, and MAU-1.**

➤ **ASOB USDA Communications**

- ✓ Troy Hair, Chief Financial Officer, updated the board on the progress of USDA application for the Ambulatory Surgery and Obstetrics Expansion.

NEW BUSINESS

➤ **Printer Replacements**

On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by Oswald Broussard and unanimously carried, **the board approved the replacement of five (5) old Printers throughout the hospital that are reaching end of life at a cost of \$17,276.50 (PFI # 64).**

➤ **Recommendation of Acceptance – Kitchen Hood Project**

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Oswald Broussard and unanimously carried, **the board accepted the Kitchen Hood Project as complete or substantially complete in accordance with the plans and specifications to the point where it can be used for the purpose which it was intended as of September 26, 2024.**

➤ **Engagement Letter – Financial Statement Audit**

On motion of Kelly Richard, seconded by Jody Landry, and unanimously carried, **the board approved the financial state audit engagement letter from Lester, Miller, & Wells, and the fees for service in the amount of \$58,000.00.**

➤ **Engagement Letter – Cost Report**

On motion of Oswald Broussard , seconded by Kelly Richard and unanimously carried, **the board approved the Medicare and Medicaid Cost Report engagement letter from Lester, Miller, & Wells, and the fees for service in the amount of \$24,000.00 plus out of pocket cost.**

➤ **Engagement Letter - Single Audit**

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the board approved the single audit engagement letter from Lester, Miller, & Wells, and the fees for service in the range of \$5,000.00 - \$ 10,000.00.**

➤ **Ferroguard Screener Sensor System**

On motion of Oswald Broussard, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the board approved the purchase of a Ferroguard Screener System, with wall mount and adhesive floor mat, to be utilized as an additional MRI screening device providing whole body screening with superior detection for patients and staff in seconds for a cost of \$10,000.00(PFI #45).**

➤ **DI Equipment Service contract**

On motion of Oswald Broussard, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the board approved the transfer of the service agreement on the medical equipment nearing and past end of life service, that GE can no longer guarantee part availability for, potentially rendering this equipment useless in the event they break from GE Medical to Majestic Medical Solutions.**

➤ **Food & Nutrition Equipment**

On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by John Budden, M.D. and unanimously carried, **the board tabled the Food & Nutrition Equipment.**

➤ **Community Health Needs Assessment**

On motion of Oswald Broussard, seconded by Anita Levy and unanimously carried, **the board approved the proposal from PCR Excellence for the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) required at a cost of \$22,500.00.**

➤ **Construction Manager at Risk Selection**

On motion of Kell Richard, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the board resolved:**

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with state law, has elected to utilize the alternative delivery model of Construction Manager at-Risk (“CMAR”) rather than the typical design, bid, build process in connection with its plan for the District’s expansion and modernization project planned for the District’s hospital ambulatory surgery and obstetrics/delivery departments in Abbeville, Louisiana (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, in connection with the selection of the CMAR, in accordance with state law, the Board of Commissioners has created a Selection Committee to provide it with a review of contractor proposals to serve as the CMAR, and the scoring and ranking of the proposals and also to recommend award to a CMAR contractor; and

WHEREAS, the Selection Committee has completed its assigned task and made its recommendations to the District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners of the Vermilion Parish Hospital Service District No. 2 d/b/a Abbeville General Hospital hereby authorizes CEO Michael Bertrand, to notify J.B Mouton, LLC that it has been selected as the CMAR for the District's capital improvement project and to acknowledge and thank all who participated in the competition; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEO Michael Bertrand, upon the advice of counsel, is hereby authorized to begin negotiations with J.B. Mouton, LLC, to develop a contract to provide such CMAR services and to return to the Board of Commissioners with the negotiated contract for its review and approval.

FURTHER, that any and all action taken before the adoption of this resolution be and is hereby ratified in connection with this matter.

The vote on the resolution was as follows:

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSENT: 0

The resolution was approved and adopted this 30th day of October, 2024.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Kelly Richard, seconded by Anita Levy and unanimously carried, **the Board entered into Executive Session for Approval of Minutes, and Strategic Planning, and Performance Improvement.**

OTHER

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the Board authorized payment to the CMAR Selection Committee for the work done in the amount of \$1000.00 each.**

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by John Budden, M.D. and unanimously carried, **the Board adjourned at 7:50 PM.**

MICHAEL J. BERTRAND, II, MS, MBA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SECRETARY / TREASURER

JOHN BOUDREAUX
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD