

EL PASO COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 – 3:00 P.M.  
EIGHTH FLOOR BOARD ROOM

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>
Henry Gallardo, Board Chair Kristina Mena, Ph.D., Board Vice Chair Anna Perez, Ed.D., Board Secretary Steve DeGroat, Board Member Miguel Fernandez, Board Member Senior District Judge Linda Chew, Board Member (remote)  <u>ABSENT</u> Isidro Torres, Board Member	R. Jacob Cintron, President & CEO Jennifer Carrasco, Exec. Asst. to the Board of Managers Michael Nuñez, District Chief Financial Officer (remote) Omar Villa, Chief Legal Officer Tony Castillo, General Counsel Maria Zampini, Chief Operating Officer Jon Law, District Chief Strategy Officer Amy Daher, Chief Nursing Officer Dr. Joel Hendryx, Chief Medical Officer Lorena Navedo, Chief Administrative Officer Carol Smallwood, CEO, El Paso Health Ruben Vogt, Chief Advocacy Officer Ryan Mielke, Admin. Director, Public Affairs Carolina Juarez, UMC Gloria Delgado, UMC Mustafa Tameez Jerry Akin, Asst. Admin.  <i>Several others attended virtually.</i>

**1, 2, & 3. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Henry Gallardo, board chair, called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2024. A quorum was established. No one signed up for public comment.

**4. Minutes of the Board of Managers meetings held on August 7, 2024 and August 13, 2024.  
(Tab A)**

There were no corrections to the meeting minutes that were previously distributed. The August 7, 2024 and August 13, 2024 meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**ACTION: MOTION** to approve the consent agenda items #5-10 (listed below) was made by Mr. DeGroat and seconded by Mr. Fernandez. The vote was Mr. Gallardo, Yes; Dr. Mena, Yes; Dr. Perez, Yes; Mr. DeGroat, Yes; Mr. Fernandez, Yes; Judge Chew, Yes. Motion carried.

**5. Acknowledge receipt of the El Paso County Hospital District combined Financial Statements for July 2024.  
(Tab B) (Finance Committee)**

**6. Approve and authorize the President and CEO to negotiate and execute a contract for the Hospital District's Annual Insurance Premium Renewals (FY2025).  
(Tab C) (Finance Committee)**

**7. Adopt the following policies:  
(Tab D) (PAC Committee)**

1. UMC CARES Student Loan Assistance Policy (H-2-36)
2. UMC CARES Home Program (H-2-37)
3. UMC CARES PULL-OPP Program (H-2-38)
4. Look-Alike/Sound-Alike Medications (P-MM-4)
5. Essential Patient Information for Medication Dispensing and Administration (P-MM-5)
6. Patent Use of Herbal and “Natural” Products (P-MM-7)
7. Range Orders for Medication Administration - submitted with no changes (P-MM-8)
8. Medication Storage – Temperature (P-MM-15)
9. Emergency Intubation Medications in Patient Care Units (P-MM-17)

**8. Adopt a resolution in support of the EPCHD d/b/a UMC Medical Center El Paso Maternal Level IV Care Program.  
(Tab E)**

**9. Adopt a resolution authorizing the El Paso County Hospital District d/b/a University Medical Center of El Paso to make a financial contribution to the University Medical Center Foundation of El Paso in support of the Caring For Our Own Program.  
(Tab F)**

**10. Approve the following Medical Staff requests:  
(Tab G) (PAC Committee)**

1. Temporary Privileges
2. Initial Medical Staff Applications for Approval
3. Initial Advanced Practice Provider Applications for Approval
4. Medical Staff Reappointments and Renewal of Privileges
5. Advanced Practice Provider Re-Appointment and Renewal of Privileges
6. Additional Privileges Request
7. Change in Category Status/Privileges
8. Notification of Resignations
9. Leave of Absences/Suspensions and Reinstatements
10. Automatic Termination for Expired License, Insurance, etc. per Bylaws Article VIII 8.1.6
11. Focused Professional Practice Evaluations
  - a. Completed FPPE (Initial Requested Privileges)
  - b. FPPE – Beyond Biennial Reappointment – Proceed to OPPE
  - c. FPPE – Extension
  - d. Completed FPPE (Additional Requested Privileges)
  - e. Additional FPPE (Insufficient Data for Requested Privileges)

**REGULAR AGENDA**

**11. Receive and take appropriate action on the CEO Report for the El Paso County Hospital District d/b/a University Medical Center of El Paso.**

The Board of Managers received an update on behalf of EPCHD d/b/a UMC. Mr. Cintron presented on the following topics:

- Quality Texas Foundation Award for Baldrige Excellence
  - First and only hospital in the city to have earned this award
  - This award is the highest distinction in quality offered by the State
  - The application and journey to earn this award is quality metric driven over a number of years
  - Thanked the team for the hard work and dedication it took to achieve this award
- Congressional Update for Hospital District Leadership
  - Received a congressional update from Congresswoman Escobar on August 16<sup>th</sup>
  - Congresswoman Escobar provided an update on passed legislation, its impact, federal funding for the District and how to seek federal support.
  - Most recently, Congresswoman Escobar secured funding for new generators and stormwater infrastructure for UMC
- Successful survey by The Joint Commission
- Received High Praise from American College of Surgeons for the care and resources UMC provides to the community and region
- Local Attorneys' Donation to Benefit Trauma Care
  - UMC Foundation received \$125,000 donation from the Mendez, Isaac, Joudi Law Firm
  - Donation was made in honor of UMC's upcoming 110 year anniversary and will benefit UMC's Scherr Legate Trauma Center
- Fox Family Foundation donated \$100,000 to UMC's cancer program
- UMC's Better Health 5K run, 1-mile walk on track for October 12
- El Paso Children's Hospital recognizes Childhood Cancer Awareness Month
- El Paso Health welcomes new members to STAR+PLUS Medicaid Plan
- Governor's Executive Order 46 – Track Immigration Status and Cost
  - Directs hospitals to collect information regarding patients immigration status and cost incurred for care (not lawfully present and lawfully present).
  - Applicable to all hospitals enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, including applicable providers identified by HHSC.
  - Responses will not affect or lead to a denial of care.
  - Hospitals must calculate cost for emergency department visits and inpatient discharge for those not lawfully present in the U.S.
  - Hospitals must begin to collect data by 11/1/24. First report due 3/1/25.
  - Each quarterly report will contain information from the indicated fiscal quarter added to information from prior fiscal quarters that year.
- UMC Minutes Video – a glimpse back at August

**ACTION: MOTION** to accept the CEO report was made by Mr. DeGroat and seconded by Mr. Fernandez. The vote was Mr. Gallardo, Yes; Dr. Mena, Yes; Dr. Perez, Yes; Mr. DeGroat, Yes; Mr. Fernandez, Yes; Judge Chew, Yes. Motion carried.

**12. Receive an update on the Series 2013 Combination Tax Revenue and Certificates of Obligation and Series 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds.**

The Board of Managers received an update on the Series 2013 Combination Tax Revenue and Certificates of Obligation and Series 2013 General Obligation Refunding Bonds by Mr. Nunez, District Chief Financial Officer.

**ACTION: No action required.**

**13. Receive an update on the General Obligation Bond Process.**

The Board of Managers received an update on the General Obligation Bond Process. Mr. Jon Law, District Chief Strategy Officer, noted the following:

- Key Dates
  - October 7<sup>th</sup> – last day to register to vote
  - Public Notices due in mid-October
  - October 21<sup>st</sup> –early voting starts ending November 5<sup>th</sup>
- Training sessions conducted for leadership on advocacy vs providing education
- Upcoming public meeting presentations
  - September 11<sup>th</sup> - Commissioner Stout's precinct at Ascarate Park
  - September 12<sup>th</sup> – Commissioner Coronado's precinct
  - September 26<sup>th</sup> – Commissioner Leon's precinct
  - October 9<sup>th</sup> – Commissioner Holguin's precinct in Fabens

**ACTION: No action required.**

**14. Discuss and take appropriate action to adopt a resolution to appoint Andrea Ramirez to the El Paso First Health Plans, Inc. d/b/a El Paso Health Board of Directors for the remainder of a three-year term which commenced May 9, 2024 and expires on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2027.**

**(Tab I)**

Mr. Omar Villa, Chief Legal Officer, presented this item for consideration and approval by the Board of Managers.

**ACTION: MOTION** to adopt the resolution to appoint Andrea Ramirez to the El Paso First Health Plans, Inc. d/b/a El Paso Health Board of Directors for the remainder of a three-year term which commenced May 9, 2024 and expires on May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2027 was made by Dr. Perez and seconded by Mr. DeGroat. The vote was Mr. Gallardo, Yes; Dr. Mena, Yes; Dr. Perez, Yes; Mr. DeGroat, Yes; Mr. Fernandez, Yes; Judge Chew, Yes. Motion carried.

The Board of Managers convened Executive Session at 3:47 pm.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**15. Discuss information relating to the sale of property located in East El Paso, pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.072.**

*Discussed. Action taken in open session.*

**16. Discuss information relating to real property for lease located in East El Paso, pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.072.**

*Discussed. Action taken in open session.*

**17. Discuss lease real property in Central El Paso by El Paso First Health Plans, Inc. d/b/a El Paso Health, pursuant to Texas Government Code §551.072.**

*Discussed. No action taken.*

*Any action taken as a result of this discussion will be taken at the opening of this meeting after closed session, or at a subsequent meeting*

### **OPEN SESSION**

The Board of Managers re-convened Open Session at 4:10pm.

*Note: agenda items #18 and #19 were taken together.*

**18. Take appropriate action on the sale of property located in East El Paso and adopt a resolution authorizing the President and CEO, as the representative of the District authorized to execute all necessary documents, to effectuate the sale of said property.**

**(Tab J)**

**19. Take appropriate to adopt a resolution authorizing the distribution of proceeds resulting from the sale of property located in East El Paso to the University Medical Center Foundation of El Paso.**

**(Tab K)**

**ACTION:** Based on the discussion during executive session, the motions as read into record for agenda items #18 and #19 was made by Dr. Perez and seconded by Mr. DeGroat. The vote was Mr. Gallardo, Yes; Dr. Mena, Yes; Dr. Perez, Yes; Mr. DeGroat, Yes; Mr. Fernandez, Yes; Judge Chew, Yes. Motion carried.

**20. Take appropriate action on a lease agreement for real property located in East El Paso, and, for the President and CEO to negotiate and execute the agreement.**

**ACTION:** Based on the discussion during executive session, the motion to take appropriate action on a lease agreement for real property located in East El Paso, and, for the President and CEO to negotiate and execute the agreement was made by Mr. DeGroat and seconded by Mr. Fernandez. The vote was Mr. Gallardo, Yes; Dr. Mena, Yes; Dr. Perez, Yes; Mr. DeGroat, Yes; Mr. Fernandez, Yes; Judge Chew, Yes. Motion carried.

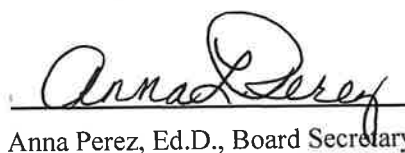
**21. Take appropriate action on a lease agreement for real property located in Central El Paso for El Paso First Health Plans, Inc. d/b/a El Paso Health.**

No action taken.

**22. Adjournment.** Board of Managers meeting adjourned at 4:12pm.



Henry Gallardo, Board Chair



Anna Perez, Ed.D., Board Secretary