

1 MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF NORTH LAKE COUNTY
2 HOSPITAL DISTRICT OF MARCH 21, 2013
3

4 A regular meeting of the North Lake County Hospital District (the "District") was held
5 on March 21, 2013 at 5:15 p.m. in County Commission Chambers, Administration
6 Building, 315 W. Main Street, Tavares, Florida.
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8 Ms. Catherine C. Hanson, Chairman, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of
9 Allegiance. M. Meredith Kirste, attorney for the North Lake County Hospital District,
10 called the roll to ascertain the trustees present for the meeting, with the following
11 members in attendance: Catherine C. Hanson, Chairman; Robert Bone; Jerry Brown;
12 Frances Grossi, Vice Chairman; Davis Talmadge; and Paul Soulé.
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14 MINUTE APPROVAL
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16 On a motion by Mr. Soule, seconded by Mr. Bone and carried unanimously by a vote of
17 6-0, the board approved the minutes of the NLCHD meeting of January 24, 2013 as
18 presented.
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20 PRESENTATION ON STATUS REPORT OF THE AUDIT
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22 Mr. Farlen Halikman, CPA, with Moore Stephens Lovelace P.A., pointed out that the
23 Independent Accountant's Preliminary Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures to
24 Indigent Care Reimbursement Submissions in the backup had been revised between the
25 time the board members received the email version and the hard copy that was distributed
26 at this meeting, with the only difference being the amount on page 3 for Leesburg
27 Regional Medical Center (LRMC). He reported that everyone has now submitted a
28 request for payment, and they have summarized the totals on the table on page 3 of the
29 report, although they have still not completed the testing of all of those submissions. He
30 opined that he expected that the clinics' data would probably be correct and not need to
31 be adjusted, since he has already scanned their submissions for issues. He noted,
32 however, that the two hospitals have very large submissions with multiple pages. He
33 explained that when they do finalize this report, the plan is that they will true up in the
34 next quarter's report any change in the numbers for any of the providers, if necessary. He
35 related that page 4 mentions provider training, stating that there has been a lot of training
36 taking place and will continue to take place. He added that the providers seem to
37 appreciate the two webinars that his firm has done and that they plan to do two more
38 before the end of the next quarter.
39

40 Ms. Pat Sykes-Amos, accountant for the District, asked whether all of these bills were
41 from the time period of October through December, or do some of them go back to July
42 through December.
43

44 Mr. Halikman responded that some of them go back from July through December, and he
45 would give her the exact dates for each provider.
46

1 On a motion by Ms. Grossi, seconded by Mr. Talmadge and carried unanimously by a
2 vote of 6-0, the board approved the audit report for the period of October 1, 2012 through
3 December 31, 2012.

4
5 AMENDMENT OF FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH LIFESTREAM

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7 Ms. Hanson explained that the next item was discussion of the amendment of the funding
8 agreement with LifeStream Behavioral Center which changes the name of the primary
9 care clinic provider. She noted that there was no representative from LifeStream in
10 attendance at the meeting at that time.

11
12 Ms. Kirste explained that the original funding agreement stated the entity as "LifeStream
13 Primary Care Clinic," but that is not the proper entity to enter into the funding agreement,
14 since it should have read "LifeStream Behavioral Center, Inc. dba LifeStream Primary
15 Care Clinic, a primary care clinic provider." She related that LifeStream has requested
16 the board to amend the entity that would be entering into the funding agreement as far as
17 their clinic is concerned. She concluded that that is the only amendment they were
18 asking to make.

19
20 Mr. Brown asked for clarification that it was a simple name change only.

21
22 Mr. Kirste clarified that that was correct and that it was from a corporation to doing
23 business as their clinic.

24
25 On a motion by Mr. Bone, seconded by Mr. Soule and carried unanimously by a vote of
26 6-0, the board approved the request from LifeStream Behavioral Center for the above-
27 mentioned amendment of their funding agreement.

28
29 SCHEDULED MEETINGS

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31 Ms. Kirste pointed out that the next four scheduled meetings for the District were listed
32 on the bottom of the Agenda, which were July 18, 2013; September 19, 2013; September
33 26, 2013; and January 23, 2014.

34
35 Ms. Hanson commented that she had a problem meeting at 5:15 p.m., since she has
36 another board meeting that usually lasts until 5:15, and she asked if they can change the
37 start times to 5:30 p.m. for two of those meetings.

38
39 On a motion by Mr. Brown, seconded by Ms. Grossi and carried unanimously by a vote
40 of 6-0, the Board moved to change the time for the next four meetings from 5:15 to 5:30
41 p.m.

42
43 OTHER BUSINESS

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45 Mr. Soule related that his wife has accepted a voluntary position on the foundation for
46 LRMC, and although he does not believe it is a conflict, he wanted to make that
47 disclosure.

1
2 Ms. Kirste responded that the foundation was a separate entity from the funds that are
3 being distributed to the Central Florida Health Alliance, and she did not see a conflict at
4 the present time.

5
6 Mr. Vance Jochim mentioned that he sent an email relating that Mr. Howard Wiener from
7 LifeStream was out of town and was recovering from a medical procedure.

8
9 Mr. Ken Carpenter, former Chairman of the NLCHD board, mentioned that he has been
10 keeping abreast of what was happening regarding the District and that Ms. Kirste had
11 forwarded him a copy of the audit report, which he believed was self-explanatory, and he
12 opined that the transparency issue was being addressed and the legislation was being met.
13 He commented, however, that he was concerned that the numbers were looking a little
14 weak right now, and there might be an issue to deal with at the end of the year if there
15 were not enough submissions to cover the amount of the taxes that was allocated to each
16 provider, which might necessitate the board adjusting the millage rate next year. He gave
17 kudos to Moore Stephens Lovelace for doing the webinars, which he considered very
18 helpful, especially to the smaller providers and primary clinics who were struggling with
19 getting that information together and in a presentable format. He added that it has been a
20 learning curve for the auditors as well as the providers, but things are going as expected.

21
22 Mr. Ken Mattison, CEO of Florida Hospital Waterman, stated that the Board needs to be
23 aware that the numbers that are being turned in are weak for a number of reasons. He
24 explained that despite having added additional staff to try to process claims, they are
25 finding that a number of patients who benefit from the care they receive are not
26 cooperating with the hospitals, so they are not able to qualify those patients for services.
27 He also opined that other providers were also struggling with that issue, and paying
28 customers might end up having to pay those undocumented costs. He noted that they
29 were doing what the enabling legislation as it exists today requires, but they are coming
30 to realize that an unintended consequence is keeping the facilities that are providing this
31 care from being able to receive reimbursement for that care due to the lack of cooperation
32 from patients who are benefitting from it. He concluded that the hospital would
33 appreciate the District's counsel on how they can best handle that conundrum.

34
35 Ms. Hanson responded that she appreciates those comments and commented that it
36 certainly was not a problem that was anticipated.

37
38 Mr. Jon Cherry, CEO of LifeStream, related that they got a slow start submitting funding
39 requests and did not start until about August, even though they are fairly experienced in
40 HCRA billing, because of billings primarily in Sumter County. He agreed with Mr.
41 Mattison that it is very difficult to get information and required signatures from clients.
42 He stated that they certified about \$367,000 in gross charges based on six months of
43 information, but Medicare actually reimburses them about twice the cost-charge ratio of
44 about 36 percent, which would be about 70 percent. He mentioned that his staff is
45 beginning to know the process better and able to do the paperwork required, and he
46 opined that they will have enough charges by June 30 to drawn down the dollars that
47 were set aside for LifeStream. He mentioned that since they did not get the LIP dollars

1 for the outpatient clinic because most of those dollars went to the larger systems in the
2 south part of the state, they have not opened the outpatient clinic yet, although they were
3 still hoping to open it between July and September of this year in the Eustis area to serve
4 individuals who do not receive any other primary care services. He thanked the NLCHD
5 board members for their service and commented that the process has been a steep
6 learning curve.

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8 ADJOURNMENT

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10 There being no further business to be brought before the board, the meeting was
11 adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

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15 Catherine C. Hanson
16 Catherine C. Hanson, Chairman