

WEST WHARTON COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
February 2, 2026

A Meeting of West Wharton County Hospital District was held at 12 p.m. in the Hospital Conference Room of El Campo Memorial Hospital in El Campo, Texas and the following Board Members were present: Steve Cooper, President, Richard Kerzee, Vice President, Anthony Cisneros, Secretary, Travis Cobb, Treasurer, Cuatro Strack, Patricia Korenek, Sherrie Hardin, Rick Graff, and Susanna Ozuna.

The Board Member absent was Sean Bowers.

Others attending were Johnny Thompson, WWCHD Administrator, Heidi Dine, WWCHD Financial Manager, Brett Kirkham, MCHS Chief Executive Officer, Irma Rocha, MCHS Senior Administrative Assistant, Carrie Cornett, MCHS Chief Financial Officer, Karen Middlebrook, New Board Member, Jeff Fuechec, FFB, and Pamela Hunt, El Campo Medical Foundation.

Attending by Zoom: None

- I. Upon determining that a quorum was present, Mr. Cooper, President, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. It was noted that the agenda was properly posted on the WWCHD web page, at the County Clerk's office, the hospital web page, the front entrance of the hospital and Mid Coast Medical Clinic at 10:00 a.m. on January 28, 2026.
- II. The US and Texas pledges were said.
- III. The invocation was given by Sherrie Hardin.
- IV. Announcements/Public Comments (Presenters will be limited to 3 minutes and the Board is not required to respond to any items presented): None
- V. Karen Middlebrook was sworn in as a new West Wharton County Hospital Board member.
- VI. Review and Approval of the January 5, 2026 Board Minutes: Travis Cobb made a motion with a second by Anthony Cisneros to approve the minutes. The motion carried.

A group from Creative Solutions was introduced to the WWCHD Board. Those attending were Steve Post, Brian Duecaster, Zachary Willig, Kevin Hinkle, Gigi Taylor and Andre Moya.

- VII. Administrator's General Report/Financial Presentation for December 2025 was given by Johnny Thompson. Mr. Thompson presented the cash report and stated that WWCHD was still on track to meet the bank's cash covenant. Mr. Thompson also presented the December 2025 Financial Statements. Mr. Thompson gave a legal report. He stated that the Remarkable Bankruptcy case had it's third run in front of the judge and it was denied. Mr. Thompson also told the board that WWCHD reimbursed El Campo Memorial Hospital for tree trimming services. A bid was put out for pressure washing ECMH. Cuatro Strack made a motion to accept the December 2025 Cash and Financial Statements as presented, with a second by Richard Kerzee. The motion carried.
- VIII. Old Business
 - a. The review of the ECMH lease was tabled until the next meeting.
 - b. Mr. Thompson discussed the RFP's for Investments. Mr. Thompson sent the request to the Wharton County Leader and other entities. He discussed the government backed pools. First Financial Bank has agreed to an interest rate of 3.1518% - 3.2% and to let WWCHD put up some of our own funds for the IGT funding. Travis Cobb

made a motion to leave the funds with FFB in the MMA at the rates given. Rick Graff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- c. Steve Cooper discussed having quarterly joint meetings. The WWCHD board agreed that these should be held with the ECMH and ECMF boards.

IX. New Business

- a. Mr. Cooper discussed the current accounts at Prosperity Bank. He asked that WWCHD leave a minimum amount of \$10,000.00 in the MMA at Prosperity Bank. He presented a resolution to close the operating account. Cuatro Strack made the motion to close the operating account. Travis Cobb seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- b, c, d, e, f. The following transactions were discussed:

- b. LOC for Avir Facilities – Portland, Heritage, River Ridge and Azalea Heights

- c. Loan for The Premier (Creative)

- d. Sale of Momentum Facilities – Sun Valley, Rollingbrook and Cypress Creek

- e. Sale of Groveton (Gemini)

- f. Sale of Mustang Park (Cross)

Cuatro Strack made a motion to accept the transactions. Patricia Korenek seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- g. The WWCHD Board ordered the election. Cuatro Strack made the motion with a second by Rick Graff. The motion passed.

- h. WWCHD By-laws – It was suggested that the WWCHD by-laws be changed to reflect the meetings to be held on the first Monday of the month. This discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

- i, j. The WWCHD Board Retreat and Training in Governance was briefly discussed. It was suggested that an email discussion be held, after talking to Fletcher Brown about available dates.

- k. Pamela Hunt gave an update on ECMH marketing and ECMF. She said that ECMH was setting up a booth at the Wharton County Job Fair. She also stated that WWCHD hosted Coffee w/Cops on January 27th. First State Bank will be hosting the event in February. She said that ECMH will be hosting a few more events – EMS Thank-you, Monthly Staff Birthdays and possibly a Mardi Gras celebration. She gave an update on the hospital signage and marketing for rural hospitals. She has also been updating the ECMH website.

- l. Update on El Campo Memorial Hospital – Brett Kirkham gave an update on ECMH. Mr. Kirkham stated that the ER Admissions/Observations were up by 5%. ECMH is using funds from grants they have received to replace the ER flooring, to assess/repair the Generator and fuel tanks and replace/fix the automated doors. He said the ECMH 2026 budget had been approved. He talked about the House Bill 18 – Stability & Innovation Funds. He said that ECMH is 49th out of 157.

IX. Executive Session – There was no Executive Session held.

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Rick Graff, seconded by Richard Kerzee and the meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anthony Cisneros, Secretary

