

*Feel the Difference*

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**September 2, 2025**

The Governing Board of the Gonzales Healthcare Systems met in a regular meeting

On September 2, 2025, at 5:30 PM or immediately following the conclusion of the

Public Tax Hearing at THRIVE Healthplex Conference Room.

**Directors Present:**

Dr. Kenneth Gottwald – President

Greg Tieken – Vice President

Dr. Stephanie Kodack – Secretary

Jean Burns – Member

David Malaer – Member

Wayne South – Member

Gene Reed – Member

Lisa Gindler – Member (Virtual)

Sascha Kardosz – Member (5:21PM)

**Others Present:**

Brandon Anzaldua, CEO

Billy Bailey, CFO

Juli Clay, Compliance Officer

Dr. Kathleen Koerner, DO, FACOS, Chief of Staff

Dr. Humberto Rivas, MD

Karen Iacuone, CNO

Amanda Frederick, Home Health Administrator

John Pirkle, Infection Control/Quality Director

Chip Holmes, Ovation Healthcare

Jeff Markham, Clinic Director (5:57 PM)

Britney Farris, Executive Assistant

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings

September 2, 2025

Page 2

The meeting was called to order at 5:18 P.M. by Dr. Kenneth Gottwald – President

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Gene Reed.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Invocation was given by Wayne South.

**INVOCATION**

There was no one present for Public Comment.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Kenneth Gottwald has appointed the following committees: Jean Burns and Greg Tieken will serve on the 2025 Gonzales Health Foundation; the Executive Committee includes Stephanie Kodack, Kenneth Gottwald, Wayne South, and Greg Tieken; the Finance Committee is made up of Lisa Gindler and Greg Tieken; and the Building Committee consists of David Malaer, Kenneth Gottwald, Wayne South, and Stephanie Kodack.

### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Brandon provided the Board with an update on how construction is progressing. Building Committee meetings have been rescheduled and will now take place on Thursdays at 7:00 a.m., instead of Wednesdays, to better accommodate member availability and help maintain steady progress. The expected completion date for the front hallway of the patient room remodel is late October 2025. The overall project is now scheduled to be completed in March 2026, which is several months behind the original timeline due to equipment delays, ongoing design questions, and weather-related challenges.

### Consent Agenda

- Minutes of the Gonzales Healthcare Systems Foundation Meeting July 16, 2025
- Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Board of Directors, August 5, 2025
- Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting, August 26, 2025
- Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting, August 6, 2025
- Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting, August 13, 2025
- Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting, August 28, 2025
- AGCM Invoice
- E4H Invoice
- Pay App #12
- Carpenter Anesthesia
- Grasshopper Anesthesia
- Treadmill Request – THRIVE
- S.T.A.B.L.E. Neonatal Education Program

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings

September 2, 2025

Page 3

- Taxable Fringe Benefits
- Patient Financial Assistance Program Policy – Addendum
- Patient Financial Assistance Program Adjustment Oversight
- Interdisciplinary Admission Assessment and Reassessment
- Management of Capital Assets 2025 (Review Only)
- Implied Consent of Taking of Specimen
- Personal Appearance Standards
- Nursing Home QIPP Report

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. with the exception of policy: Management of Capital Assets 2025 which has been tabled (Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by Sascha Kardosz). There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
CONSENT  
AGENDA**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the proposal for the Surgical Instruments for Neuro/Spine (Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by Gene Reed) there were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
SURGICAL  
INSTRUMENTS**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the proposal for Phone System Upgrades (Motion by David Malaer, Second by Sascha Kardosz) There were eight votes for and no Votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
PHONE SYSTEM  
UPGRADE**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the proposal to use Jackson Physician Search for the FP/OB recruitment. (Motion by Greg Tieken, Second by Jean Burns) There were eight votes for the motion and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
J.P.S.**

Motion was made and approved to accept the proposal to connect the MRI Chiller to Emergency Power. (Motion by David Malaer, Second by Stephanie Kodack) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
MRI CHILLER**

### FINANCIAL REPORT AS PRESENTED BY BILLY BAILEY:

Motion made and approved to accept the Financial Report for July 2025

**FINANCIAL  
REPORT**

As presented with the following documents:

- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Sheet
- Current Month and YTD Income Statement Compared to Last Year
- Current Month and YTD Income Statement Compared to Budget
- Departmental Charge/Expense Report
- Departmental Charge/Supply Expense Report
- Receivable, Payor Mix and Collections
- Cash Comparison
- Trend Report
- Capital Expenditure Report
- Investment Schedule
- Construction and Remodeling Spending

## Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings

September 2, 2025

Page 4

- Nursing Home Financials

(Motion by Gene Reed, Second by Greg Tieken) There were eight votes for the motion and no votes against the motion.

CEO REPORT AS PRESENTED BY BRANDON ANZALDUA:

**CEO REPORT**

Gonzales Healthcare Systems has been active across several areas. Nine well-attended town hall meetings were held, and daily departmental rounds continue. Construction on patient room remodels is delayed, with the front hallway expected by late October 2025 and full completion now pushed to March 2026. Recruitment efforts are ongoing for multiple specialties, with visiting surgeons for spine and hand care scheduled soon. The annual employee survey scored 4.01, slightly down from last year but still above industry average, highlighting areas like leadership development and communication. Master facility planning is beginning this fall, and the critical access hospital application has passed its first federal step. Memorial Clinic construction is set to start shortly, and new surgical equipment is pending board approval to support spine procedures starting later this year. CRNA coverage has been strengthened with Grasshopper, and leadership development initiatives are underway, paired with recruitment growth strategies and exploration of telehealth options.

Upcoming Events:

- September 30th - Executive Committee Meeting
- October 7th – Regular Board Meeting

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the CEO report as presented with the the following documents:

**APPROVE CEO  
REPORT**

- Department Reports
- GHS Newsletter

(Motion by Gene Reed, Second by Sascha Kardosz) There were eight votes for the motion and no votes against the motion.

OVATION HEALTHCARE MONTHLY UPDATE

Chip Holmes thanked the leadership team and reviewed recent efforts focused on workforce and productivity. He noted that strategic financial planning is starting again under Billy's leadership. Chip highlighted a regulatory update about changes to Medicaid funding, especially affecting states that expanded Medicaid. He also explained that there is \$50 billion available through a new Rural Health Transformation Fund, with applications opening by the end of the year. He encouraged the Board to start planning now, work closely with local partners, and take a proactive approach rather than waiting for state guidance.

Motion was made and **approved** to close Open Session of the Board of Director's meeting at 6:30 PM on September 2, 2025.

**CLOSE OPEN  
SESSION**

(Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by David Malaer) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings**

**September 2, 2025**

**Page 5**

Meeting was called into Executive Session, Pursuant to the Provisions of Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code; Section 551.071, Section 551.072, Section 551.073, Section 551.074, Section 551.076, Section 551.085, and Section 161.032 under the Texas Health & Safety Code at 6:31 PM on September 2, 2025. (Motion by Gene Reed, second by David Malaer) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Motion was made and **approved** to adjourn Executive Session at 9:06 PM on September 2. (Motion by Gene Reed, second by Greg Tieken) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**ADJOURN  
CLOSED  
SESSION**

The meeting was called into the Open Session at 9:08 PM on September 2, 2025. (Motion by Gene Reed, Second by Wayne South) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**CALL MEETING  
INTO OPEN  
SESSION**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Medical Staff Report as presented in Executive Session. (Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by Jean Burns) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
MEDICAL STAFF  
REPORT**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Credentialing Application for Adam Lewis, MD, Courtesy Staff, for Neurosurgery Privileges upon further review by Credentialing Committee. (Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by Greg Tieken) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
CREDENTIALING**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Credentialing Application for Caleb Lee, MD Courtesy Staff, for Neurology Telemedicine Privileges. (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by David Malaer) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
CREDENTIALING**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Credentialing Application for Robert Browning, CRNA, for Nurse Anesthetist Privileges. (Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by Sascha Kardosz) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
CREDENTIALING**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Credentialing Application for Phylcia Stephenson, CRNA, for Nurse Anesthetist Privileges. (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by Stephanie Kodack) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
CREDENTIALING**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Performance Improvement and

**APPROVE**

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meetings**

**September 2, 2025**

**Page 6**

Patient Safety Report. (Motion by David Malaer, Second by Gene Reed) There were eight Votes for and no votes against the motion.

**PI/PS REPORT**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Compliance Report. (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by David Malaer) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
COMPLIANCE  
REPORT**

Motion was made and approved to accept the Strategy and Service Line Discussion. (Motion by David Malaer, Second by Stephanie Kodack) There were eight votes for And no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
STRATEGY AND  
SERVICE LINE**

Motion was made and approved to accept the Home Health QAPI Qtr. 1 2025 Report. (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by Wayne South) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
HH QAPI QTR 1**

Motion was made and approved to accept the Home Health Annual Evaluation FY 2025. (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by Wayne South) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
HH ANNUAL  
EVALUATION**

Motion was made and approved to accept the Home Health Lippincott Clinical Procedure Manual (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by Wayne South) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
L.C.P. MANUAL**

Motion was made and approved to accept the Ovation Contract as presented in the Executive Session. (Motion by Stephanie Kodack, Second by Sascha Kardosz) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

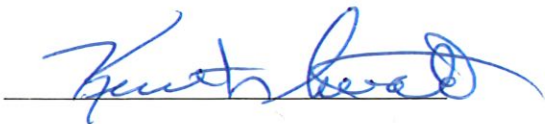
**APPROVE  
OVATION  
CONTRACT**

Motion was made and **approved** to accept the Executive Evaluation as presented in the Executive Session. (Motion by Sascha Kardosz, Second by David Malaer) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**APPROVE  
EXECUTIVE  
EVALUATION**

Motion was made and approved to adjourn the meeting. (Motion by Wayne South, second by David Malaer) There were eight votes for and no votes against the motion.

**ADJOURNMENT**



Kenneth Gottwald  
President



Stephanie Kodack  
Secretary