

**SUMMARY MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
County Commissioner Chambers/ Zoom  
January 15, 2026**

TRUSTEES:	Michael Kint Paul Westcott (zoom) Kerry Bartlett Chuck Macket, M.D.	William Cooney, M.D. Karen Deigl Allen Jones
STAFF:	Kate Voss Frank Isele Dawn Carboni	Shanen Cox Kaytlin Dickens Jennifer Frederick
LEGAL COUNSEL:	Jennifer Peshke, Esq.	Dana McNally (zoom)
ATTENDEES:	Marie Andress Miranda Swason	Colette Heid Molly Steinwald
ZOOM:	Lisa Zahner Anne Posey David Flynt Lisa Zahner	Robyn Orzel Megan McFall Lauretta Farrell Raquel Rivas

***Convene Meeting, Invocation & Pledge***

Dr. Cooney convened the regular monthly meeting of the Indian River County Hospital District at 4:00 PM. Dr. Cooney led the group in the pledge of allegiance and Mr. Isele provided an invocation.

***Trustee Officer Elections & Frequency of District Board Meetings***

Ms. Peshke led the Trustee officer elections process and explained that this process has been amended from pervious years and will now be conducted using ballots. These ballots are not secret ballots and each Trustee's vote will be read aloud and copies of the ballot will be attached to these meeting minutes.

She began the process and asked for a motion to nominate the Chairman of the Board. Mr. Jones made a motion to nominate Dr. Cooney as Chairman and he accepted the nomination. Mr. Kint made a motion to nominate Ms. Bartlett as Chairman and she accepted the nomination. There were no further nominations, and Ms. Penske announced the closure of the nomination process for Chairman. She asked the Trustees to vote and complete their ballots, which were

passed down to her for review. She read each ballot nomination aloud and Ms. Barlett was elected Chairman with a 4-3 vote.

Next, the process to nominate the Vice Chairman commenced and Ms. Peshke asked for a motion to nominate. Dr. Cooney nominated Mr. Jones for Vice Chairman and he accepted the nomination. Ms. Bartlett made a motion to nominate Dr. Mackett for Vice Chairman and he accepted the nomination. There were no further nominations, and Ms. Peshke announced the closure of the nomination process for Vice Chairman. She asked the Trustees to vote and complete their ballots, which were passed down to her for review. She read each ballot nomination aloud and Mr. Jones was elected Vice Chairman with a 4-3 vote.

Next, the process to nominate the Secretary commenced and Ms. Peshke asked for a motion to nominate the Secretary. Dr. Mackett made a motion to nominate Ms. Deigl as Secretary and she accepted the nomination. There were no further nominations, and Ms. Peshke announced the closure of the nomination process for Secretary. She asked the Trustees to vote and complete their ballots, which were passed down to her for review. She read each ballot nomination aloud and Ms. Deigl was elected Secretary unanimously.

Next, the process to nominate the Assistant Secretary commenced and Ms. Peshke asked for a motion to nominate an Assistant Secretary. Dr. Mackett made a motion to self-nominate. There were no further nominations, and Ms. Peshke announced the closure of the nomination process for Assistant Secretary. She asked the Trustees to vote and complete their ballots, which were passed down to her for review. She read each ballot nomination aloud and Dr. Mackett was elected Assistant Secretary unanimously.

Lastly, the process to nominate the Treasurer commenced and Ms. Peshke asked for a motion to nominate. Dr. Mackett made a motion to nominate Mr. Kint as Treasurer. There were no further nominations, and Ms. Peshke announced the closure of the nomination process for Treasurer. She asked the Trustees to vote and complete their ballots, which were passed down to her for review. She read each ballot nomination aloud and Mr. Kint was elected Treasurer unanimously.

Ms. Peshke stated that the Trustees must approve a meeting schedule for 2026. Mr. Kint stated that after further consideration he believes keeping the current schedule would be best due to the Trustees most likely having those dates set in their calendars. However, there could be future consideration about additional meetings should the need arise. The Trustees agreed with Mr. Kint's comments and Mr. Westcott made a motion to adopt the following meeting schedule. The regular monthly meeting will be held on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00 PM at the county commissioner chambers, with the Chairman's meeting being held the Wednesday before at 10:00 AM at the District offices. Ms. Bartlett seconded the motion for discussion. Ms. Deigl recommended that the Chairman's meetings begin at 9:00AM instead of 10:00 to allow for more time to meet in the morning. The Trustees agreed and Mr. Westcott amended his motion to state that Chairman's meetings would begin at 9:00 AM instead of 10:00 AM. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Cooney addressed the board and stated that it was a pleasure to serve as board chair. He wished Ms. Bartlett success this coming year. The Trustees thanked Dr. Cooney for this service to the board.

***Consent Agenda***

Ms. Bartlett asked for a motion to approve the December meeting minutes and a January disbursement of \$1,947,841.07. The motion was made by Mr. Kint and seconded by Ms. Deigl. The motion carried unanimously.

***District Counsel Report- Jennifer Peshke, Esq.***

Ms. McNally provided the counsel report on behalf of Ms. Peshke. She reminded the public that the attorney's summary, included in board packet, outlines the District's meeting processes and guidelines for public comment. We provided an update on items their office has been assisting with including the VCOM amended lease agreement and the VNA retention pond matter. They also assisted staff in reviewing the new funding agreement template which will be brought forth for consideration during the FY 26-27 funding cycle review.

***Financial Statement Review - Michael Kint, Treasurer***

Mr. Kint provided his report and stated that at the end of the first quarter the District remains in strong financial condition. He reviewed the financial snapshot report which outlines the District's investments and cash holdings which total \$22,546,607. Next, he reviewed the year-to-date expenses versus budget and discussed some variances throughout program spending. He further reviewed the administrative expenses and stated some updates were made to the P&L which allowed for a more aligned report. Lastly, he informed the board that the Finance and Audit committee met, and Mr. Jacoby provided the group with a review of the District fiscal year 24-25 audit report. During the meeting there was also discussion surrounding the District's current internal audit process and policy where Mr. Jacoby provided his insight and recommendations. There is a follow-up meeting schedule with appropriate staff, Mr. Jacoby, and Mr. Kint to have further detailed discussions on this matter. There was no further discussion and Mr. Westcott excused himself from the meeting.

***Executive Director Report- Frank Isele, Executive Director***

Mr. Isele provided his written report to the Trustees and gave a few verbal updates. He stated that a letter of congratulations recognizing CCIRH Forbes' achievement was sent to Dr. Rothman, per the request of the Trustees. Additionally, he attended the CCIRH ribbon cutting on Monday to kick off the beginning of the emergency department renovation project. Next, he asked District staff to provide some updates.

Ms. Carboni stated that she distributed two audit reports to the Trustees and is available should they have any questions or concerns. Additionally, she provided an updated audit schedule which shows the progress of her audits and reports. She has also submitted a few

policies to legal counsel for review and will present the same to finance and audit committee once they have been vetted by legal counsel.

Next, Ms. Dickens stated that community survey has been launched and Clearview will provide an update to the Trustees in February. She then provided a walk-through of some new data on the District dashboard which included individual encounters, something which has not been tracked in the past. They are hopeful that with this information, it will provide a better understanding of how many residents are seeking care and which service areas.

### ***Food Access Community Health Improvement Plan Presentation***

Miranda Swanson, Health Officer for Indian River County Health Department addressed the board and provided a presentation on the latest food access community health improvement plan. This presentation discussed food access which was identified as a critical public health priority in Indian River County, particularly for vulnerable seniors. She explained that food insecurity is closely linked to negative health outcomes across all stages of prevention, contributing to chronic disease, poor disease management, and reduced quality of life. Countywide survey data show that many households struggle to afford or access nutritious food, with cost cited as the primary barrier and more than half of respondents reporting limited access to fresh food in their neighborhoods

The presentation also highlighted the essential role of programs such as Meals on Wheels for older adults with limited income, mobility, and social support. She stated that for many clients, home-delivered meals represent a substantial portion of daily nutrition and support healthier eating, weight maintenance, and overall well-being. Beyond nutrition, these programs help address social isolation and connect seniors to additional services, positioning food access initiatives as vital components of prevention, safety, and quality of life for aging residents in Indian River County. Ms. Molly Steinwald, Community Health Improvement Manager also reviewed specific data on food insecurity within Indian River County. Ms. Swanson finished her presentation and encouraged the Trustees to reconsider their decision to sunset funding for the Meals on Wheels program.

Ms. Deigl thanked the women for the presentation. She also noted that while they spoke of the importance of the Meals on Wheels program, she was not aware that they were going to address this and was grateful that they shared this information. It was also clarified that the Health Department does not provide any funding to Meals and Wheels and supports their community outreach programs through state and federal funding only.

### ***Semi Annual Report- Mental Health Association***

Dr. Cromer provided an update on programs and key outcomes over the past six months. He stated that following the sunset of the Erica's Lighthouse program due to school access limitations, MHA pivoted to launch new skill-building and creative wellness programs and opened the PAC Center. These efforts proved successful and have since led to MHA's return to schools in Fellsmere, with expansion underway into Citrus and renewed interest from charter

schools. The demand for services has exceeded current staffing capacity, reinforcing the need for future workforce expansion. Additional program growth has occurred through partnerships with local nonprofits, including Wellness on the Water and sailing-based interventions, which integrate physical activity and therapeutic skill building but will require additional funding to scale

Next, he discussed emerging which included increased service demand related to mental health court referrals, particularly the need for bridge appointments to ensure continuity of care for individuals leaving jail. Pressures such as rising insurance costs were also noted as barriers to access. Dr. Cromer also identified opportunities for expanded family-centered interventions, including the addition of parent support groups to complement youth skill-building services. Looking ahead, a significant operational issue was raised regarding facility displacement, as MHA will be required to relocate by July 2028 following the sale of its current buildings, prompting future planning needs.

#### ***New Business- Approval of FY 24-25 Audit***

Mr. Jacoby provided an overview of the District's FY 24-25 financial audit report noting the issuance of a clean, unmodified audit opinion, representing the highest level of assurance. He stated that Management's Discussion and Analysis highlighted significant growth in the county tax base, which increased to approximately \$29.4 billion for the current fiscal year and supported total tax revenues of over \$21 million. Trustees' millage decisions and program priorities were reviewed, with key operational focuses including maternity care access, expansion of dental and behavioral health services through TCCH, and increased investment in mental health and substance use services. Financial highlights showed a strong overall fiscal position, with total assets increasing to approximately \$14.6 million and net position rising to \$12.2 million, driven in part by the \$4.09 million acquisition of the 10th Street property. Additionally, the District continues to operate without debt financing. Operating expenses increased primarily due to expanded program funding, while revenues exceeded budgeted projections, resulting in a favorable operating variance. The audit also confirmed no findings related to internal controls, compliance, or financial condition, and the District was noted to be in sound financial health despite limited benchmarking comparables for similar special taxing districts. Mr. Jacoby further stated that the Agreed Upon Procedures report has also been completed and will be discussed next month at the Chairman's meeting.

Finally, Mr. Kint made a motion to approve the FY 24-25 financial audit report which was seconded by Ms. Deigl. The motion carried unanimously.

***Public Comment/Adjourn***

There was no further discussion or public comment, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Deigl, Secretary