

MEETING MINUTES
ST. TAMMANY PARISH HOSPITAL SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 2
d/b/a SLIDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MONDAY - AUGUST 25, 2025 - 6:00 P.M.

SLIDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL REGIONAL CANCER CENTER
SKYVIEW CONFERENCE ROOM (#302), 1120 ROBERT BLVD., SLIDELL, LA

The meeting of the St. Tammany Parish Hospital Service District No. 2 Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, August 25, 2025.

THOSE BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Joseph “Joe” DiGiovanni
Mr. Larry Englande
Dr. Robert Mercadel
Dr. Tommy Morris
Mr. James “Bill” Newton
Dr. Francis Petitto (*arrived at 6:35 p.m.*)
Ms. Kristen Stanley-Wallace

THOSE BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Georgia Johnson
Dr. Walter “Dub” Lane

THOSE ALSO PRESENT:

Ms. Sandy Badinger, Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Pat Bolander, Chief Financial Officer
Ms. Kathy Sponge, Senior Executive Assistant
Mr. Gilbert Ganuchau, Chief Legal Officer
Mr. Ray Holmes, Chief Nursing Officer
Ms. Melinda James, Director of Case Management
Dr. Charlane Liles, Vice President Medical Affairs
Ms. Marisa Stubbs, Digital Content Specialist
Mr. Jason Wilson, Chief Operating Officer

Dr. Samy Abdelghani, Ochsner Associate Regional Medical Director-St. Tammany East
Mr. Jeff Edge, Ochsner Chief Operating Officer-Northshore and Mississippi Gulf Coast Region
Dr. Alisha Lacour, Ochsner Chief Executive Officer-Northshore and Mississippi Gulf Coast Region
Dr. Richard Leblanc, Ochsner Regional Medical Director-Northshore and Mississippi Gulf Coast, and Rush Regions

Mr. Matthew Block, Ochsner EVP-Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Ronnie Simpson, Ochsner Director of Economic Development & Community Initiatives

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Ms. Stanley-Wallace, Chair.

DECLARATION OF QUORUM

Ms. Stanley-Wallace declared a quorum of the Board was present.

PRAYER

Mr. Ganuchau delivered the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Stanley-Wallace led in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Ms. Stanley-Wallace welcomed all guests in attendance.

COMMENDATION – MELINDA JAMES

On behalf of the Board of Commissioner, Mr. Bolander presented a Commendation to Ms. James, Director of Case Management, for her excellent leadership of the Case Management Department leading to drastically improved metrics since January 2024. Ms. Badinger also commented that the length of stay metrics have reach an all-time low and commended her and all of her team. Ms. James thanked everyone and stated her appreciation to all the senior leaders for always being there and pushing through their efforts and support as well.

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NEXT BOARD MEETINGS

The next Board of Commissioners meetings will be held as followed.

- a. **Special Meeting on September 5, 2025** – held annually for purposes of Board Education and Strategic Planning
- 9:00 a.m. in the Southern Hotel’s Olympia Room, Covington, LA
- b. **Special Meeting on September 8, 2025** – held quarterly in conjunction with the OH/SMH JOA Strategy and Oversight Committee
- 5:30 p.m. in the SMHRCC Skyview Conference Room, Slidell, LA
- c. **Regular Meeting on September 29, 2025** – held monthly
- 6:00 p.m. in the SMHRCC Skyview Conference Room, Slidell, LA

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT

Ms. Stanley-Wallace made the following recommendations of Board of Commissioners Committee Appointments in accordance with the Board Bylaws Article III Section 2. Upon discussion led by Chair opening up the below item for further edits and there being none, all accepted appointments made by Chair with no dissent.

- a. **Master Facility Plan (MFP) Committee**
Dr. Morris as Chair; Mr. Newton as Vice-Chair; Mr. Englande, Dr. Lane, Ms. Stanley-Wallace

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- a. **Matthew Block, EVP-Chief Administrative Officer, OH**
 - **Federal Legislative Update** – Report included information on the “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” , Ochsner’s role in shaping the outcome, impacts and implications. Also touched on key federal provisions and strategic discussions in Washington D.C.
- b. **Commissioners Trustee – Joe DiGiovanni**
 - **SMH Foundation Board Update** – Report included highlights on grants report and in only August, have almost reached their \$220K annual goal which is fantastic. Rooftop Rendezvous is scheduled for November 1st so please mark the date and try and attend this fun event. Two new Fair type events, supported by sponsorships, have been scheduled so far with more to come. The fairs have made \$66,750 a year and are a new concept as a revenue stream. Contributions by our SMH Board are highly encouraged (no matter what amount); striving for 100% participation which shows connected support and is extremely helpful with grant-writing efforts.
- c. **Chief Legal Officer – Gil Ganucheau**
 - **SMH Annual Training Reminder** – Congratulations expressed to one Board member who has already completed 100% of his training. Reminder given others of several required courses to be completed by September 30, 2025 via the Workday Learning site. Instructions to access the Workday Learning were handed out and can also be viewed via the Board’s Nasdaq Boardvantage Portal under the Board Education or Miscellaneous Info folder.
- d. **Chief Executive Officer – Sandy Badinger**
 - **Healthier Northshore Update** – Working really hard with all of the partners (St. Tammany, Lakeview, Ochsner, Riverside, FMOL) with new ones added through the collaborative agreement. Exciting things are being brought up to legislation by Senator McMath (SB14) to help improve health in our communities.
- e. **Board Chair – Kristen Stanley-Wallace**
 - **Louisiana Hospital Association Summer Conference**
Report to SMH Board (Per Act 365; R.S. 46:1098.7 (24)(a)) – Attended by Commissioners, Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane, and Ms. Stanley-Wallace; also attended by several senior leaders, Ms. Badinger, Mr. Bolander, Mr. Ganucheau, and Mr. Wilson. A lot of incredibly good presentations were made at the Symposium, and these will be uploaded by Ms. Esponge to the Board’s Nasdaq Boardvantage portal soon under the Board Education folder.

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GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2025

BID ACCEPTANCE APPROVAL FOR PURCHASE RESOLUTION

Upon Mr. Schlueter and Ms. Ferry presenting bid results and leading discussion previously at the Board's Finance Committee meeting on August 18th, a motion was made by Mr. DiGiovanni and seconded by Mr. Englande to adopt a resolution approving the acceptance of the bid of Robert W. Baird & Co., Inc., of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for the purchase of Thirty-One Million Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$31,500,000) of General Obligation Bonds, Series 2025, of St. Tammany Parish Hospital Service District No. 2, and providing for other matters in connection therewith as presented.

There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held by roll call as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto, Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

RADIATION THERAPY QA EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE

PUBLIC BID ACCEPTANCE AND AWARD

A motion was made by Dr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Newton to accept the public bid (#25-08-01E) by Sun Nuclear Corp. for the price of Two Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Two Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$234,322.20), with a one year limited warranty, for the acquisition of SunCheck Software and Quality Management Package – Patient QA Equipment related equipment and services; and for a resolution to authorize the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, or any of them, to execute an agreement or purchase order for said project; and to authorize execution of such documents and to have such additional authority as necessary and appropriate to accomplish the intent of this resolution as presented.

There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

ULTRASOUND SYSTEM (SMH Heart Center)

A motion was made by Dr. Morris and seconded by Dr. Mercadel to approve the Ultrasound System (SMH Heart Center) capital expenditure at a cost not to exceed \$257,152.00 and to authorize the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the Chief Financial Officer, or any of them, to execute an agreement between Slidell Memorial Hospital and GPO vendor selected for said project as presented.

There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Dr. Morris and seconded by Mr. DiGiovanni to approve the Consent Agenda as presented:

- a. **Approve Board Meeting Minutes, July 28, 2025** *(Regular Meeting)*
- b. **Accept G.O. Bonds, Series 2025 Winning Bid Report**
- c. **Accept G.O. Bonds, Series 2025 S&P Global Ratings Report**
- d. **Adopt Resolutions Regarding Authorization of Bank Depository (Hancock Whitney/SMH) for the construction funds account related to the G.O. Bonds, Series 2025**
- e. **Accept FY 2024 Independent Auditor's Report on Single Audit**
- f. **Approve Contracts, August 2025**

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There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE/STRATEGIC SESSION

There being no comments by the public and there being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Englande and seconded by Mr. DiGiovanni for the Board of Commissioners to go into Executive Session in order to receive the records and proceedings of the Hospital Medical Executive/Credentials Committee, reports, statistics, minutes and proceedings of the Hospital/Medical Staff Quality Assurance Committee, standing committees of the Board, and any other related records and documents, pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17, La. R.S. 42:16, and La. R.S. 44:7D, and those items considered key to strategic planning and marketing as provided by La. R.S. 46:1073.

Vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

The Board of Commissioners went into Executive Session at 6:50 p.m.

Guest presenters exited the meeting.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

A motion was made by Mr. DiGiovanni and seconded by Dr. Petitto for the Board of Commissioners to return to open session.

Vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

The Board of Commissioners returned to Open Session at 7:40 p.m.

MEDICAL STAFF AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL PRIVILEGES

A motion was made by Dr. Petitto and seconded by Dr. Mercadel to approve the Medical Staff and Allied Health Professional Privileges as presented.

There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

SMH FINANCIAL REPORT

A motion was made by Dr. Morris and seconded by Mr. DiGiovanni to accept the monthly SMH Financial Report as presented.

There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

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EXECUTIVE CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Mr. DiGiovanni and seconded by Dr. Mercadel to approve the Executive Consent Agenda as presented:

- a. Approve Draft of Master Facility Plan Committee Minutes, August 11, 2025**
- b. Approve Draft of Finance Committee Minutes, August 18, 2025**
- c. Accept Draft of Quality Committee Minutes, August 20, 2025**
- d. Accept Master Facility Plan Report**
- e. Accept Clinical Contracts Annual Report**
- f. Accept Quality Report (Hospital)**
- g. Accept Compliance Report**
- h. Accept G.O. Bonds, Series 2025 Results of Sale Report**
- i. Accept Northshore Rehabilitation Hospital Financial Report**
- j. Approve Marketing/Strategic Contracts for August 2025 and Ratify Signed Marketing/Strategic Contracts Received in July 2025**

There being no comments by the public and after complete discussion, vote was held as follows:

Affirmative – Yea:	Mr. DiGiovanni, Mr. Englande, Dr. Mercadel, Dr. Morris, Mr. Newton, Dr. Petitto
Negative – No:	None
Abstain:	Ms. Stanley-Wallace (Chair)
Absent:	Ms. Johnson, Dr. Lane

The motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no final comments by the public or further discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Morris and seconded by Mr. Englande to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was *adjourned at 7:42 p.m.*

(original signature on file)
KRISTEN R. STANLEY-WALLACE
CHAIR

(original signature on file)
WALTER J. “DUB” LANE JR.
SECRETARY

(Minutes approved by Board of Commissioners on September 29, 2025)