

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the **Board of Commissioners of Hospital Service District No. 2, Abbeville General Hospital**, Parish of Vermilion, State of Louisiana was called to order at **6.15 P.M. on Wednesday, January 28, 2026**, by Mr. Oswald Broussard, Chairman. Proceedings were taken at their regular meeting place in the Hospital Boardroom of Abbeville General Hospital with the following people present:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Oswald Broussard, Chairman
 John Boudreaux
 Claude Meeks, M.D.
 Kelly Richard
 Jody Landry, Vice Chairman
 Anita Levy
 Daleon Primeaux

STAFF PRESENT: Michael J. Bertrand, Chief Executive Officer
 Troy Hair, Chief Financial Officer
 Heidi Guidry, Chief Nursing Officer
 Gilbert Pellerin, M.D. Chief of Staff
 Abbey Palombo, Recording Secretary

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Anita Levy and unanimously carried, **the minutes of the Regular Board of Commissioners meeting held January 14, 2025, were approved as written.**

COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were reviewed:

- ✓ Medicare's Inpatient Only List to end per the 2026 Final Rule
- ✓ Risk Management Strategies for Addressing Maternal Healthcare Gaps in Louisiana
- ✓ USDA PAR Review Response
- ✓ Amicus Brief of Attorney General Liz Murrill
- ✓ Coffee Talk with Mayor and Guest Jamie Hebert
- ✓ Vermilion Parish Police Jury Meeting
- ✓ Introduction into Healthcare

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT

Gilbert Pellerin, M.D. Chief of Staff, presented the Medical Staff report

➤ **Credentials Committee Report**

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the recommendations of the Medical Executive/Credentials Committee were accepted as follows:**

Lift from Provisional Status

Practitioners Name

For Review

Consider
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Recommen

Brian Adams, MD	Emergency Medicine	<u>d Staff</u> <u>Category</u> ER Staff
Kennell Brown, DDS	Pediatric Dentistry	Courtesy Staff

Reappointment (Two Year Period) Dept of Medicine

<u>Practitioners Name</u>	<u>Clinical Privileges</u>	<u>Consider and Recommend Staff Category</u>
Moses Kitakule, MD	Pulmonology	Consulting Staff
Dustin Guillotte, APRN	Urgent Care Nurse Practitioner	Allied Health Staff
Laurie Lee, APRN	Clinic Nurse Practitioner	Allied Health Staff

Reappointment (Two Year Period) Dept of Surgery

<u>Practitioners Name</u>	<u>Clinical Privileges</u>	<u>Consider and Recommend Staff Category</u>
Joan Wojak, MD	Diagnostic Radiology	Active Staff I
Shilpa Nileshwar, DDS	Pediatric Dentistry	Courtesy Staff
Lisa Pagel, CRNA	CRNA	Allied Health Staff
Jeffrey Trahan, PA	Physician Assistant, Urgent Care PA, Clinic PA	Allied Health Staff

Approve Practitioners Reappointed by the Medical Board of Direct Radiology and added to the Privilege Agreement

<u>Practitioners Name</u>	<u>Clinical Privileges</u>	<u>Consider and Recommend Staff Category</u>
Alexander Vogel, MD	Teleradiology / Diagnostic Radiology	Telemedicine Staff
Qazi Uddin, MD	Teleradiology / Diagnostic Radiology	Telemedicine Staff

Approve Additional Privilege Requests

<u>Practitioners Name</u>	<u>For Review</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Seth Rosenzweig, MD	Lumbar Injection Techniques, Interlaminar Epidurals, L1-5 subpedicular Transforaminal Epidurals, Medial Branch Blocks, S1 Transforaminal Epidurals, Sacroiliac Joint Interventions	1/28/2026
Kyle Caswell, DO	Clinic - Physician	1/28/2026

Place on Inactive Status (Removed from Staff)

<u>Practitioners Name</u>	<u>For Review</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
Paul Lafleur, CRNA	No signed contract on file	1/5/2026
Stella Prejean, APRN	Voluntary relinquishment of membership and privileges	12/11/2025
Faranak Sadri Tafazoli, MD	No longer affiliated with Direct Radiology	12/22/2025

NEW BUSINESS

- **Additions and Renovations to the Maurice Community Care Clinic-Change Order #1**
On motion of Claude Meeks, M.D., seconded by Jody Landry, and unanimously carried, **the board approved change order No. 1, approving the six items changes proposed, and deducting the sum by \$31,192.00, making the contract amount \$2,025,421.00.**
- **Education/Travel Request – Maintenance**
On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by Jody Landry, and unanimously carried, **the board approved the travel request for Melvin Romero to attend the Grainger Show 2026, help maintenance to improve facility operations, learn about new vendor options and services, as well as capitalize on Premier pricing via Grainger partnerships at a cost of \$631.45 to Abbeville General for transportation, all other expenses paid for by Grainger.**
- **Education/Travel Request – VP of Support Services**
On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by John Boudreaux, and unanimously carried, **the board approved the travel request for Dondi Arceneaux, VP of support Services to attend 2026 Premier All-Committee Meeting, providing opportunities to discuss sourcing equipment and supplies to deliver smarter, faster, and better healthcare at zero cost to Abbeville General Hospital. All expenses are paid by Premier.**
- **Emergency Power Systems Preventive Maintenance Agreement**
On motion of Kelly Richard, seconded by Daleon Primeaux, and unanimously carried, **the board approved the agreement with Axis for emergency power systems preventative maintenance, annual inspections, and joint commission required annual diesel fuel polishing at an annual cost of \$69,400.00.**
- **AHU C and AHU 3**
On motion of John Boudreaux, seconded by Kelly Richard, and unanimously carried, **the board approved the purchase of AHU C and AHU 3 eunits at a cost of \$70,026.00, and approved the LAS with ADG to replace AHU C, new heating hot water VAV's, new DDC controls and thermostat, and the replacement of AHU 3 with new DDC controls needed to improve ventilation, air flow, and air quality within the main entrance, including patient access, and the kitchen.**
- **Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire**
On motion of Anita Levy, seconded by Kelly Richard and unanimously carried, **the Board accepted the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire for the 2025 Audit Engagement as presented.**

➤ **AI Clinical Notes Questionnaire**

On motion of Claude Meeks, M.D., seconded by Jody Landry and unanimously carried, **the Board approved the integration of AI-driven ambient clinical intelligence (ACI) into our orthopedic practice, helping to reduce physician burnout and improving patient throughput by automating the creation of clinical notes during patient encounters at a cost of \$17,500.00. (IT Operational Budget).**

➤ **Mimecast Email Security**

On motion of John Boudreaux, seconded by Kelly Richard and unanimously carried, **the Board approved the transition from Trend Micro email security to Mimecast, the industry leader in email security, strengthening our overall security and supporting the protection of patient data and hospital operations at a recurring monthly fee of \$2552.00 and a one time set up fee of \$1080.00(IT operational Budget).**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On motion of Jody Landry, seconded by Daleon Primeaux and unanimously carried, **the Board entered into Executive Session for Approval of Minutes, and Strategic Planning, and Performance Improvement.**

Other Business

➤ **Medical Scholarship**

On motion of Daleon Primeaux, seconded by Jody Landry and unanimously carried, **the board resolved:**

, the Board of Commissioners hereby establishes a policy for a Medical School Scholarship Program as follows:

1. Beginning on January 1, 2026, and continuing until this policy is formally amended, the Hospital Service District No. 2 of Vermilion Parish shall participate in the Medical Scholarship Program in the Board's discretion by awarding scholarships to qualified candidates who are medical students (and if applicable, interns and residents) and who will practice "family medicine" in geographical areas within the district of the Hospital Service District No. 2 where physician care is limited or unavailable. "Family medicine" is defined as primary care medicine, obstetrics, gynecology, general surgery, pediatrics, internal medicine, emergency medicine, or community and family medicine.
2. In order to be considered a qualified candidate, a medical student applicant or if applicable, an intern or resident must be a resident or former resident of the Hospital Service District who is admitted or engaged in the study of medicine at an accredited school of medicine, or is engaged in an internship or residency program, located in the United States.
3. A medical scholarship may be awarded for the purpose of defraying the cost of tuition and other related expenses and the costs for attendance at medical school, or the costs associated with internship or residency.
4. A successful recipient of the medical scholarship must complete all medical training (medical school, internship, and residency), must return to the portion of the District chosen by the Hospital Service District No. 2 to practice family medicine for a period of three years. Failure to do so will subject the scholarship recipient to the repayment rules contain in LSA R.S 46:1108.
5. It is official policy that this Medical Scholarship Program prohibits any discrimination of applicants based on race, creed, sex, age, or ethnic origin and prohibits any appearance of or possibility of nepotism. The

selection of an applicant to receive a scholarship will be based on the applicant’s educational success, service to the community and high moral character.

- 6. It is also the policy of the Board that death or permanent and total disability of the recipient cancels the recipient's obligation to comply with the contract. Furthermore, Hospital Service District No. 2 is authorized to waive or suspend any financial obligations of a recipient where compliance would involve extreme or unusual hardship to the recipient.
- 7. For calendar year2026, the Board elects to award no more than four (4) scholarships for a medical school student[s], and each scholarship shall be in an amount not to exceed \$25,000.00 per semester and \$50,000.00 per year.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Michael Bertrand be and is hereby authorized to take all necessary steps to establish and administer this policy in accordance with state law.

The vote on the resolution was as follows:

YEAS: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSENT:0

The resolution was approved and adopted this 28th day of January 2026.

Chairman

Secretary

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Kelly Richard, seconded by John Boudreaux and unanimously carried, **the Board adjourned at 7:03 P.M.**

MICHAEL J. BERTRAND, II, MS, MBA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SECRETARY / TREASURER

OSWALD BROUSSARD
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD