

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION MEETING OF THE HOSPITAL SERVICE
DISTRICT #2 OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HELD ON
AUGUST 5, 2026

A regular monthly business meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Hospital Service District #2 of the Parish of St. Mary was held on Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 12:00 P.M. in the Media Room of the Morgan City Harbor & Terminal District Building located at 7327 Highway 182, Morgan City, LA 70380

PRESENT: Dr. William A. Cefalu, Jr., William McCarty, Clarence Robinson, Jr., Barry Dufrene and Thane Aucoin

ABSENT: Jackie Cheramie and Courtney Bissonnette

Also present: William E. Bourgeois, Counsel for Hospital Service District #2

Dr. Cefalu called the meeting to order.

Dr. Cefalu lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken. Those Board Members present and those absent listed above.

On motion of Mr. McCarty, second by Mr. Robinson and unanimously carried, the Board approved and signed the Minutes of July 1, 2026.

Dr. Cefalu opened the floor for Guest/public comments, to which there were none. Raymond Pisani, Respiratory Therapist with Ochsner St. Mary (OSM), Lea Hebert, Member of OSM Governing Board and Bill Decker, Reporter with the Daily Review attended without comment. Attorney Bourgeois introduced Landyn LaCoste and her parents Jason and Jacquie LaCoste. Miss LaCoste is the first HSD #2 Scholarship Award recipient and is currently studying Radiology and Allied Health at Fletcher Technical Community College. She thanked the HSD Board for the award. The Board thereupon wished her success in the future and a picture was taken to commemorate this date.

Dr. Cefalu called for the Financial Report. Mr. Dufrene presented the Financial Report for the period ending June 30, 2026. On motion of Mr. Aucoin, second by Mr. McCarty and unanimously carried, the Board approved the financials as presented.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on accounts with Raymond James, First National Bank and LAMP. Attorney Bourgeois stated that Mr. Dufrene will transfer excess funds from First National Bank to the LAMP account with a higher interest rate of return. Mr. Dufrene made several comments regarding this matter.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action to authorize acquisition of a Zoll AutoPulse

NXT chest compression device and accessories. Attorney Bourgeois discussed this matter with the Board and referred them to the information/brochure contained in their packets. A brief discussion was held as to this matter and Dr. Cefalu added his comments/recommendations. On motion of Mr. Aucoin, second by Mr. Robinson and unanimously carried, the Board voted to purchase the Zoll AutoPulse NXT chest compression device and accessories.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on infrastructure projects. Attorney Bourgeois gave a brief update as follows:

YKH Consulting Engineers:

- a. DOAS Unit Normal Power - 3 of the 4 handlers have been started, balancing anticipated to occur this week - YKH is following up with the mechanical contractor on finalization of the Mechanical portion of the project.
- b. Emergency Generator Replacement - Still waiting on Eustis for report, boring completed, on going coordination between vendors and subs for final slab design and there will be a pending change order for generator foundation modifications.
- c. Phase 2
 - i. Domestic & Heating Water - signed contract sent to contractor, YKH has started receiving and reviewing submittals on the project, existing domestic water heater exchanger removed and end of project expected at the end of September.
 - ii. Air Handler Replacements - preliminary stages, floating submittals for review and contract in Gallo's court for signature.
 - iii. Chiller & Cooling Tower Replacement - YKH starting design for project and they will need to contract a structural engineer to address concerns regarding the existing structural issues around the chiller and will send proposal to HSD for approval. Not included in packet and will take up later.
- d. MEP Assessment - still working on it and should be complete within a couple of weeks.
- e. Discussion and any action on retaining Utility Maintenance Specialists, Inc. for new incoming power switchgear project - issues per William Cefalu, Sr. regarding the service entrance based on consultant that the City uses and was referred to YKH Electrical Engineers for discussion.

Grace Design:

- f. First floor Renovations:
 - i. Phase 1 - Kitchen (food service equipment)
 - ii. Phase 2 - Cafeteria, ED Entrance - discussions are being held regarding Phase 1 & 2 with OSM, YKH, Grace and vendors. OSM is having internal discussions regarding IT, mechanical, electrical and plumbing. Those items need to be finalized and Grace anticipates drawing to be completed by the end of month and bids submitted in September.
 - ii. Furniture, fixtures and equipment - still working on, will be discussed and finalized later.
- g. Replacement of Staff Elevators - there will be a pre-bid meeting Thursday (8-6-

2026) and bids will be opened on 8/18/2026.

h. 1st and 2nd Floor Roofing - bids were obtained and discussed - on motion of Mr. McCarty, second by Mr. Aucoin and unanimously carried, the Board awarded the contract to Roof Technology, LLC and authorized Dr. Cefalu to sign any/all contract documents regarding award.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion on the rooftop helistop weather station. Attorney Bourgeois stated that the instrument has been ordered and received. However we are waiting on scheduling with OSM to get it mounted and installed, hopefully within the next week. The Board will be emailed when it is installed.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on Capital Outlay and other grant funding issues. Michael Knobloch was present and gave a brief update on the Capital Outlay November 1st deadline. He advised that an account has been opened and he will be meeting with James Purpera to do application. We will also need to meet with our State Senator and State Representative to get letters of support and speak with them about the projects. Mr. Knobloch informed the Board that meetings have been held with the Young Foundation (Brenda Ayo) and they are very receptive of providing funds to the HSD #2. Further discussions were held as to the deadline for the application and he stated that a meeting will be held in September with the entire Board regarding this matter. He stated that the monies will become available in December. Mr. Knobloch stated that he has been working to obtain the HSD #2 UEI number. A brief discussion was held as to the issues in obtaining this number. Attorney Bourgeois made further comments. A brief discussion was then held as to funds being pursued and the use of said funds.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on orthopedic services, Intergovernmental Agreement with HSD #1 of St. Mary Parish and CEA's with OSM and OrthoLA for orthopedic services collaboration. Attorney Bourgeois advised there is a planned meeting with a possible recruit on Friday (8/14/2026) for a site visit with OSM and Bayou Bend and if all goes well Agreements/CEA's will be drafted shortly.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on Intergovernmental Agreement with HSD #1 of Terrebonne Parish and CEA with OSM for urological services collaboration. Attorney Bourgeois advised that some progress is being made, all the terms are defined and the scope of the work is defined and the recruiter is actively searching for a Urologist.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on recruitment of a General Surgeon. He stated that we have only Dr. Katrina M. Castille, she is fantastic but she needs help. Dr. Cefalu elaborated further on his conversations with OSM of that service line.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on the new Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) with OSM on Community Outreach funding. Attorney Bourgeois stated that he had nothing to inform the Board other than we are still waiting on the invoices for the payment of \$150,000.00 for Community Outreach.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on pediatric behavioral health services. Attorney Bourgeois stated he had nothing to report. However, he did state that maybe our new Board Member (CourtneyBissonnette) could add insight as to this matter.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on the HSD #2's web page design. Greg Guarisco with The Bearded Marketer addressed the Board and said it is done and ready to go live. Discussions were held regarding obtaining the 2025 and 2026 Minutes and Agendas to be posted. Attorney Bourgeois will provide a list of practitioner's and their public numbers only. The Board Member's head shots need to be taken and posted also.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action on administrative policies and procedures. Attorney Bourgeois stated that he had nothing to report.

Dr. Cefalu called for Administrative Report and Board Member Status. Board Members' Jackie Cheramie and William "Bill" McCarty have already notified the Parish Council that they wished to be re-appointed. A current list of Board Members with their term expiration date was provided in their packets. They were instructed that when the time comes, the Board Member **must** notify Lisa Morgan with the Parish Council **personally** that they want to be re-appointed if they are eligible to do so. At this time each Board Member can serve two (2) four year terms. Attorney Bourgeois then addressed the Board concerning Dr. Cefalu's position and the term limits. After a brief discussion regarding the removal of term limits, on motion of Mr. Dufrene, second by Mr. Robinson and with yeas by Dr. Cefalu, Mr. McCarty, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Aucoin and Mr. Dufrene and with Jackie Cheramie and Courtney Bissonnette being absent, the Resolution was adopted as follows:

HOSPITAL SERVICE DISTRICT NO. 2 OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARY RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Hospital Service District No.2 of the Parish of St. Mary, State of Louisiana, ("DISTRICT") exists as a hospital service district, duly created by Ordinance 572 of the St. Mary Parish Police Jury (formerly, now the St. Mary Parish Council), dated July 25, 1952, as modified and amended by Ordinance 727, of the St. Mary Parish Police Jury (formerly, now the St. Mary Parish Council), dated August 14, 1968, all pursuant to the provisions of La. R.S. 46: 1051 *et. seq.*; and

WHEREAS, the object and purpose of the DISTRICT, on behalf of its citizens, includes the ownership and operation of a hospital or other facilities for the care of persons in need of medical attention and to generally promote health care within the district for the welfare and benefit of the citizens of its district; and

WHEREAS, the DISTRICT acting through its duly appointed governing authority, its Board of Commissioners, has now determined that the best interests of the DISTRICT and its citizens will be served by the abolition of unique term limitations covering the commissioners of the DISTRICT as currently included within La. R.S. 46:1053(B)(2), which limits commissioners to service for no more than two consecutive four year terms; and

WHEREAS, if the above-mentioned statutory term limit is not abolished, DISTRICT would lose the services of its current physician chairman, William A. Cefalu, Jr., M.D, who has been instrumental in capably leading the DISTRICT for many years.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Commissioners, acting as governing authority of the DISTRICT, respectfully request that its Legislative Delegation sponsor a bill to have the unique term limitations on its members removed.

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Dr. Cefalu then gave a brief Administrative Report. He stated that he is hearing more and more compliments from Patients regarding the interior/exterior of the building and the treatment/care being given. The new focus is on low mortality rate and that we have a gem of a rural hospital. Several Board Members made comments regarding the good service received.

Attorney Bourgeois requested to return to the "Chiller and Cooling Tower Replacement" discussed earlier in the meeting. He stated that the Fox Nesbit proposal was received on 7/31/2026 for \$30,000.00 and informed the Board of the scope of the work to be done. After a brief discussion, on motion of Mr. Dufrene, second by Mr. Aucoin and unanimously carried, the Board authorized Dr. Cefalu to sign said proposal.

Dr. Cefalu called for discussion and any action to move the September Board Meeting Date and the Annual Facility Tour. Attorney Bourgeois informed the Board of his scheduling conflict with the September 2nd Board Meeting. After a brief discussion, on motion of Mr. Robinson, second by Mr. Aucoin and unanimously carried, the Board voted to cancel the regularly scheduled September Board Meeting and authorized the payment of the monthly bills with said invoices/documents to be forwarded to all Board Members. Attorney Bourgeois also stated that no dates have been provided by OSM regarding the annual facility tour and further advised the Board that this matter can be discussed more at the October 7th meeting.

Dr. Cefalu stated there were no matters to be taken up in Executive Session this date.

With no other business to come before the Board, on motion of Mr. Aucoin, second by Mr. Robinson and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned.



William A. Cefalu, Jr., M.D., Chairman



Barry Dufrene, Secretary/Treasurer