



**Minutes of Regular Scheduled Board Meeting
Dawson County Hospital District
March 31, 2026**

Members Present: David Sanderson, Board President Nicky Chapman, Board Secretary
Mike Johnson, Board Member

Members Absent: Steven Hatchett, Board Vice-President (voting);
and Leslie Hawkins, Board Member (voting)

Guests Present: Craig Carter, Attorney for Jackson & Carter, PLLC (via conference call);
Renaë Thomas, President for Thomas & Thomas Financial Management
Services; and Mary Elizabeth Davis, Reporter for Lamesa Press Reporter

Staff Present: Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer; Diane Sherrill, Director
of Nursing and Registered Nurse; Miriam Jasso, Human Resources
Generalist; and Sara Del Busto, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** David Sanderson, Board President, called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m., with the above-mentioned members, staff, and guest present.
2. **Invocation:** The invocation was given by David Sanderson, Board President.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The pledge of allegiance was given by David Sanderson, Board President.
4. **Public Comment Session:** The Board of Directors entered Public Comment Session pursuant to the provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act Government Code Section 551.001(4)(B) at 8:36 a.m.
 - A. The Board of Directors received no public comments.
 - B. David Sanderson, Board President, adjourned the Public Comment Session at 8:36 a.m.

5. New Business:

A. Public Hearing on Proposed Budget of 2026–2027 for Dawson County Hospital District.

I. Call to Order Public Hearing for Proposed Budget of 2026 – 2027 for Dawson County Hospital District: David Sanderson, Board President, called the public hearing to order at 8:38 a.m. with the above-mentioned members, staff, and guest present.

II. Presentation for Proposed Budget of 2026-2027 for Dawson County Hospital District: David Sanderson, Board President, presented to the board Renae Thomas, President for Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services, to present the proposed budget for 2026-2027. Renae Thomas presented to the board the final budget for fiscal year 2026–2027 as provided in the board packets. Renae Thomas presented to the board the budget hearing outline and change in legislation of required posting of budget with the board agenda. Renae Thomas presented to the board a detailed presentation of the recap page for the fiscal year 2026–2027 final budget with the proposed budget process unchanged. Renae Thomas presented to the board budget changes of revenue projections, employment positions in relation to agency coverage. The board had the opportunity to ask questions. Renae Thomas facilitated discussion between Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer, and the Board of Directors on the budget structure, budget capital items, and budget adoption timeline.

III. Open Discussion for Proposed Budget of 2026 – 2027 for Dawson County Hospital District: The board held an open discussion of the proposed budget of 2026–2027 for Dawson County Hospital District. No action was taken by the board.

IV. Public Comment:

A. David Sanderson, Board President, presented the public with an opportunity to address the board.

B. The Board of Directors received no public comments.

V. Adjournment of Public Hearing for Proposed Budget of 2026-2027 for Dawson County Hospital District: There being no further discussion and no public comment, David Sanderson, Board President, adjourned the public hearing at 8:45 a.m.

B. Receive and Take Action on the Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026 Final Budget – Renae Thomas, President, Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services.

Renae Thomas presented to the board the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget provided in the board packets for deferment of approval to the next board meeting. The board had the opportunity to ask questions. The board held no further discussion. No action was taken by the board.

6. Report of Officers and Committees:

A. Receive and take action on the Financial Reports for the month of February 2026

– Renae Thomas, President, Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services.

Renae Thomas presented the February 2026 financial reports to the board. Renae Thomas, President, Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services, facilitated discussion with Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer, and the Board of Directors about PARO (presumptive charity care), grant funded projects, and revenue projections. After discussion, motion was made by Nicky Chapman to approve the financials for February 2026, and seconded by Mike Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Administrative Report:

A. Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer – Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer presented to the board the following:

1. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board the April 2026 Specialty Annex calendar as provided in the administrative report packet;
2. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board Medical Arts Hospital will hold its 7th annual child abuse awareness balloon launch on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at the hospital helipad. Freddy Olivarez extended an invitation for board members to join the event and to wear blue in honor of child abuse awareness;
3. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board the Butterfly Release and Family Celebration scheduled for Sunday, April 12, 2026 in the hospital community room from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. as hosted by Home Hospice;
4. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board Medical Arts will be volunteering again at the Lamesa Chicken Fried Steak Festival on Friday, April 24, 2026 and Saturday, April 25, 2026;
5. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board for the third year in a row Medical Arts Health Clinic was voted Best Medical Clinic for the 2026 Best of Dawson County. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board for the third year in a row Dr. Mary Key, MD, Clinic Provider, was voted Best Physician. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board for the third year in a row Mrs. Laura Weatherman, Clinic Physician Assistant, was voted Best Physician Assistant. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board for the second time Ms. Nancy Sauseda, EMS EMT-Intermediate, was voted Best Local First Responder;
6. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board Medical Arts Hospital held the first annual Easter egg hunt in the hospital courtyard on Thursday, March 26, 2026. Freddy Olivarez expressed appreciation to the Community Engagement Committee, Sara Del Busto, Kylar Parks, and staff for their contribution and support. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board limited community participation this year with plans to grow the event with extended group invitations and best times for community. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board about eight hundred eggs were donated to the Lamesa Boys and Girls Club for their Easter egg hunt;

7. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board an invitation to attend the Texas Healthcare Trustees (THT) Healthcare Governance Conference scheduled for June 4, 2026 to June 6, 2026 at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel. Freddy Olivarez presented interested board members may contact Sara Del Busto for registration;
8. Freddy Olivarez presented to the board the tax abatement agreement with Longview Wind, LLC as provided in the administrative report packet for board consideration next month;
9. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board the hospital district has received the Stabilization Grant for two HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) replacements units located in patient care areas;
10. Freddy Olivarez announced to the board the Dawson County commissioners approved the new EMS ambulance box. Freddy Olivarez expressed appreciation to the county, county commissioners, and Judge Foy O'Brien.

8. Consent Agenda:

A. Old Business:

1. **Receive Quarterly Investment Report.**

- B. Approval of Minutes:** Action will be taken to approve the minutes of the Regular Scheduled Board Meeting held February 24, 2026.

C. Medical Staff Report:

1. **Receive report from Medical Staff representative.**
2. **Take action on any credentialing recommendations.** None

D. Report of Officers and Committees:

1. **Receive and take action on the payments for the month of February 2026 Accounts Payable** – Renae Thomas, President, Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services.

- E. Medical Staff – Review and Approval of Medical Staff Bylaws and Medical Staff Rules and Regulations** – Lorina Gaitan, Health Information Management Director and Medical Staff Coordinator.

- F. Medical Staff – Review and Approval of Abbreviation List** – Lorina Gaitan, Health Information Management Director and Medical Staff Coordinator.

- G. Medical Staff – Review and Approval of Departmental Policies & Procedures** – Lorina Gaitan, Health Information Management Director and Medical Staff Coordinator.

Motion made by Mike Johnson to accept the Consent Agenda, and seconded by Nicky Chapman. Motion carried unanimously.

9. New Business:

A. Receive and Take Possible Action on Signature Authority

– Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer.

Freddy Olivarez presented to the board for action the signature authority letter to add Renae Thomas, President, Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services. Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer, facilitated discussion with Renae Thomas, President, Thomas & Thomas Financial Management Services, and the Board of Directors about the accounts payable process and board members listed with signature authority as back-up support. A motion was made by Nicky Chapman to approve it (letter) for signature authority, and seconded by Mike Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Executive Session: Enter into Executive Session pursuant to Texas Health & Safety Code Sections: 161.032/compliance reports; and Texas Government Code Sections 551.074/personnel matters; 551.071/ consultation with attorney regarding legal issues related to personnel.

A. The Board of Directors of Dawson County Hospital District now convenes in Closed Session the date is March 31, 2026 and the time is 9:20 a.m.

B. Enter into Executive Session pursuant to the above cited authorities:

1. Personnel Matters – Freddy Olivarez, Chief Executive Officer.

2. Consultation with Attorney – Craig Carter, Attorney of Jackson & Carter, PLLC.

C. The Board of Directors of Dawson County Hospital District now adjourns its Closed Session and will return to Open Session. The date is March 31, 2026 and the time is 10:52 a.m..

11. New Business:

A. Receive and Take Action to Approve Rural Health Clinic Physician Contracts

– David Sanderson, President of the Board.

David Sanderson presented to the board a deferment of the rural health clinic physician contracts. No action was taken by the board.

B. Receive and Take Action on Chief Executive Officer Contract Amendment

– **Bonus Structure** – David Sanderson, President of the Board.

David Sanderson presented a deferment to the board of the Chief Executive Officer contract amendment for bonus structure. No action was taken by the board.

12. Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by a motion made by Nicky Chapman. Mr. David Sanderson, President of the Board, adjourned the meeting at 10:53 a.m.