



## GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

**For Immediate Distribution** | March 16, 2020 | (512) 463-1826

### **Governor Abbott Allows Virtual And Telephonic Open Meetings To Maintain Government Transparency**

*Ensures continued government operation while preserving transparency*

AUSTIN - Governor Greg Abbott today acted to maintain government transparency and continued government operations while reducing face-to-face contact for government open meetings. As Texas works to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the Governor granted the Office of the Attorney General's request for suspension of certain open-meeting statutes. This temporary suspension will allow for telephonic or videoconference meetings of governmental bodies that are accessible to the public in an effort to reduce in-person meetings that assemble large groups of people.

"Even as the State of Texas takes precautionary measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, we also have a responsibility to maintain government transparency," said Governor Abbott. "With today's action, Texas is reducing non-essential in-person contact for a limited period, while ensuring that state and local government entities continue to work to fulfill necessary functions and with full transparency for the people of Texas. I urge state and local officials to do their part to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 by avoiding meetings that bring people into large group settings."

In accordance with section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, Governor Abbott has suspended various provisions that require government officials and members of the public to be physically present at a specified meeting location. This temporary suspension will leave important open-meeting protections in place:

- Members of the public will be entitled to participate and address the governmental body during any telephonic or videoconference meeting.
- To hold a telephonic or videoconference meeting, a governmental body must post a written notice that gives the public a way to participate remotely, such as a toll-free dial-in number, and that includes an electronic copy of any agenda packet that officials will consider at the meeting.
- A governmental body must provide the public with access to a recording of any telephonic or videoconference meeting.

State and local officials who have questions about open-meeting requirements after this suspension should submit them to the Office of the Attorney General via e-mail at [TOMA@oag.texas.gov](mailto:TOMA@oag.texas.gov), or by leaving a message at (888) 672-6787. Officials with questions about teleconference and videoconference capabilities offered by the Texas Department of Information Resources should visit [dir.texas.gov](http://dir.texas.gov) or call (512) 475-4700. Officials who hold

videoconference meetings are encouraged to provide for participation via telephone for members of the public without videoconferencing capability. If officials are not holding a telephonic or videoconference meeting, all open-meeting requirements apply.

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**KEN PAXTON**  
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS

FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE

March 16, 2020

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**Governor's Office Clears Path for Governmental Bodies to Meet Telephonically or  
by  
Videoconference During Coronavirus Disaster**

AUSTIN - Governor Abbott's office today approved a request by the Office of the Attorney General to temporarily suspend a limited number of open meeting laws in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) disaster. This action will allow governmental bodies to conduct meetings by telephone or video conference to advance the public health goal of limiting face-to-face meetings (also called "social distancing") to slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Importantly, however, this action does not suspend requirements that governmental bodies conduct meetings in a transparent and accessible manner. Specifically, governmental bodies are still be required to do the following:

- provide online written notice containing a public toll-free dial-in number or a free-of-charge videoconference link, as well as an electronic copy of any agenda packet,

- before conducting telephonic or video conference meetings;
- provide the public with access and a means to participate in those meetings, preferably through two-way audio or video connections; and
- provide the public with access to a recording of those meetings.

Please click [here](#) for a complete list of the open meeting provisions that have been temporarily suspended. State agencies and local governmental bodies may contact the Office of the Attorney General with question about the suspension order by telephone at (888) 672-6787 or via email at [TOMA@oag.texas.gov](mailto:TOMA@oag.texas.gov). Officials with questions about teleconference and videoconference capabilities offered by the Texas Department of Information Resources should visit [dir.texas.gov](http://dir.texas.gov) or call (512) 475-4700.

For information on the spread or treatment of Coronavirus (COVID-19), please visit the Texas Department of State Health Services.

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TARRANT COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT (TCHD)  
d/b/a JPS HEALTH NETWORK

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO  
GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT' S AND  
ATTORNEY GENERAL KEN PAXTON'S  
TEMPORARY MEETING SUSPENSION GUIDELINES  
THIS MEETING IS AVAILAB FOR VIEWING VIA  
NORMAL JPS HEALTH NETWORK YOUTUBE CHANNEL

WEBEX-TCHD MEETING – VIRTUAL JOINT BOARD OF MANAGERS  
JOINT BOARD OF MANAGERS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

12:00 P.M, February 25, 2021

Meeting Minutes

The Joint TCHD Board of Managers Governance Committee met virtually on Thursday, February 25, 2021.  
The following Committee members were present:

Roger Fisher II, Committee Chair  
Charles Webber, M.D., Board Chair  
Dorothy DeBose, Board Vice Chair, Board Member  
DT Nguyen, Board Member  
Zim Zimmerman, Board Member  
Dr. Jay Haynes, M.D, Committee Member  
Dr. Janet Miles, M.D., Lab Administration, Committee Member

Committee Members Absent: Amanda Arizola, Board Member  
Rev. Ralph Emerson, Board Member  
Steve Montgomery, Board Member

Others Attending: Robert Earley, President, and CEO  
Dr. Karen Duncan, Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer  
Sharon Clark, Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
Ron Skillens, Senior Vice President, Enterprise Risk Management, Chief Compliance Officer  
David Mendenhall, Vice President, Chief Technology Officer  
Zelia Baugh, Executive Vice President, Behavioral Health Administrator  
Dr. Jay Haynes, M.D., Sr. Medical Director Innovation and Integration,  
Dr. Cheryl Hurd, M.D., Program Director, Behavioral Health Acclaim Administration  
Dr. Tricia Elliott, M.D., Senior Vice President, Medical Academic Research Affairs  
Robert Browder, Vice President, Government Affairs and Special Projects  
Dr. Richard Miller, M.D., Senior Vice President Chief Medical Officer  
Daphne Walker, Senior Vice President, Chief Legal Counsel

Diana Prachyl, Senior Vice President, Chief Operating Officer, Acclaim Administrator  
Michelle Atkins, Executive Director, Compliance & Internal Audit  
Tim Lachiusa, Director, Internal Audit  
Erana Hughes, Director, Enterprise Risk Management  
Suzanne Barnes, Executive Office Manager  
De'Angela Wright, Recording Secretary

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Managers Governance Committee was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Committee Chair, Roger Fisher.

II. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE

There were no citizens signed in to speak.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Thursday, October 22, 2021

Mr. Fisher called for a motion to approve the October 22, 2021 Governance Committee minutes. The motion was made by Dorothy Debose and seconded by Dr. Charles Webber, M.D. The motion was approved unanimously.

IV. COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT – R. Fisher

Mr. Fisher thanked Ron Skillens for his services to the network as well as all JPS team members for stepping up during the winter storm to ensure that productivity throughout the network ran smoothly.

V. CONSIDER GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR COMMITTEE ACTION

A. ERM Update – Ron Skillens

1. Key Planned ERM Activities – R. Skillens and E. Hughes

**Summary:** Ron Skillens discussed the refresh of the Enterprise Risk Management Program. Ron Skillens informed the board that the risks will be updated to ensure that they are in alignment with the strategic direction of JPS. Erana briefed the board of the industry risk trends of 2021.

**Action items:** Erana Hughes will send the Industry Risk Trends report to the Governance Board Committee.

B. Compliance Program and Updates- R. Skillens and M. Atkins

1. Key Compliance Headlines

**Summary:** Ron Skillens updated the Board on recent fines and enforcement actions.

**Action items:** There are no action items.

2. 340B Board Refresher Training

**Summary:** Michelle Atkins facilitated a board refresh training regarding 340B. The refresher covered the following: 340B Account, Group Purchasing Organization Account (GPO), Wholesale Acquisition Cost (WAC), Drug Diversion and Duplicate Discounts.

**Action Items:** There are no action items.

C. Policies and Procedures

1. LD 1000 Orientation for the Board of Managers, Senior Management and Leaders of the Organized Medical Staff

**Summary:** Ron Skillens addressed the board to consider for approval of LD 1000 Orientation for the Board of Managers, Senior Management and Leaders of the Organized Medical Staff.

**Action items:** Ms. Dorothy Debose motioned to approve LD 1000 with Strategic Planning added as part of the Board education materials, Zim Zimmerman seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

2. LD 8000 Compliance with Medicare Two Midnight Rule

**Summary-** Ron Skillens addressed the board to consider for approval of LD 8000 Compliance with Medicare Two Midnight Rule.

**Action items:** DT Nguyen motioned to approve. Dorothy Debose seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

3. COM 8600 Compliance Coding Policy

**Summary:** Ron Skillens addressed the board to consider for approval of COM 8600 Compliance Coding Policy.

**Action items:** Zim Zimmerman motioned to approve. DT Nguyen seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

4. IA 9000 Internal Audit Charter

**Summary:** IA 9000 Internal Audit Charter was tabled.

**Action Items:** IA 9000 Internal Audit Charter tabled.

5. LD 9000 Internal Audit Scope and Independence

**Summary-** Ron Skillens addressed the board to consider for approval LD 9000 Internal Audit Scope and Independence.

**Action Items:** Zim Zimmerman motioned to approve. Dr. Webber, M. D., seconded. Motion was approved unanimously.

VI. **REPORT OF LEGAL COUNSEL AND/OR LEGAL MATTERS REQUIRING DISCUSSION(S), UPDATE(S), DELIBERATION(S), ACTION(S) AND/OR APPROVAL-** Daphne Walker

VII. **RECONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 551, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE**  
The Committee reconvened in Executive Session at 12:32 PM.

In addition to the matters posted for deliberation in executive (closed) session, the Board may from time to time during the meeting adjourn and meet in executive session to receive legal advice pursuant to Section 551.071 of the Texas Open Meetings Act regarding any matter included on this agenda.

A. Consultation with General Counsel to Receive Legal Advice on Pending/Contemplated Litigation and Other Matters under Subsections 1 and 2, Section 551.071, Texas Open Meetings Act.

- B. Deliberate Information Relating to a Proposed New Service or Product Lines.
- C. Receive Records, Information and/or Reports from Senior Vice President, Enterprise Risk Management and Chief Compliance Officer Pursuant to Section 161.032(b)(2), Texas Health and Safety Code, Texas Open Meetings Act.
- D. Receive Records, Information and/or Reports from Director of Internal Audit Pursuant to Section 161.032(b)(2), Texas Health and Safety Code, Texas Open Meetings Act.
- E. Serve as Medical Peer Review Committee and/or Medical Committee Pursuant to Chapter 160 Texas Occupations Code, Section 161.031 et Seq. Texas Health and Safety Code, and/or Receipt of Report(s) from Medical Staff Executive Committee or other Medical Staff Committees, Texas Occupations Code, Texas Health and Safety Code, and/or Medical Committee(s).
- F. Deliberation Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Act Regarding Appointments, Evaluations, Contracts and Compensation of District's Personnel, Vice Presidents and its Other Upper Level Management Staff, Including but not Limited to the Following: President/Chief Executive Officer; Senior Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer; Senior Executive Vice President/Chief Financial Officer; Executive Vice President/Acute Care, Chief Nursing Executive; Executive Vice President, Behavior Health; Senior Vice President, Human Resource & Learning; Senior Vice President, Community Affairs & Development; Senior Vice President/Enterprise Risk Management & Chief Compliance Officer; Senior Vice President, Strategy, Chief Patient Experience Officer; Senior Vice President, Revenue Cycle; Vice President, Chief Nursing Officer; Chief Medical Information Officer; Senior Vice President, Medical Academic, and Research Affairs Chief Academic Officer; Vice President, Community Health Administration; Vice President/Chief Quality Officer; Vice President, Finance; Vice President, Legal Services; Vice President Communications; Vice President Diversity & Inclusion; Vice President, Chief Facilities Management Officer; Vice President, Clinical Ancillary Services; Vice President, Chief Technology Officer; Chief Clinical Officer, President and Chief Medical Officer of Acclaim Physicians; Acclaim Senior Vice President/Chief Operating Officer; Chief Audit Executive; Director Compliance; and Legal Counsel.

VIII. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION FOR DELIBERATION(S) AND/OR ACTION(S) DEEMED NECESSARY REGARDING ANY MATTER LISTED ON THE CLOSED SESSION AGENDA, PARAGRAPHS VII. A., B., C., D., E., AND F. - The Committee reconvened in Open Session at 2:01 p.m.

IX. ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.

  
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Roger Fisher II, Chair, Governance Committee

4/22/21  
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Date