

**Nocona General Hospital
Board of Directors Meeting
August 18, 2026**

Board Members Present:

Paula Webb, President
Ken Koontz, Vice-President
Chris Keck, Secretary
Steve Bates
Kristal Ferguson
Shawn Patton

Absent:

Charles May

Hospital Administration:

Lance Meekins, CEO
Rebecca Hamilton, Admin Asst./HR

Medical Staff:

Len Dingler, MD

Others Present:

Brian Jackson, Jackson & Carter, PLLC
Dr. David Waters
Austin Wright
Zac Renfro
Ken Coop
Chris & Cindy Petty
Tracy Mesler

Meeting was called to order by President Paula Webb at 12:21 PM.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Ken Koontz made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2026 Regular Meeting. Shawn Patton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Community Input

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Discussion and Possible Vote on July 2026 Financial Statements

Lance presented the following report on the July 2026 Financials:

For the month of July, the hospital had 27 admissions; 613 outpatient discharges, including 10 surgeries, and 40 pain management procedures; **447 ER visits**; 317 home health visits; and 1573 clinic visits. Additionally, there were **29 observation admissions**. This utilization resulted in gross revenue of about \$3.3M, exceeding the new fiscal year budget by about 6.67%. The average daily census was 2.7 patients with an average length of stay of 4.2 days. More importantly, net operating revenue was about 6.55% over budget. Expenses were 1.6% under budget.

For year over year comparison: (Please remember we are only one month into the fiscal year so yearly comparisons can be skewed)

- Gross revenue is up 52.2%.
- Net revenue is up 56.7%.
- The ADC is down 1.2 patients from last year. This does not account for Observation patients.
- Admissions are down 11 from last year.
- The ALOS is the up 0.8 days.
- Outpatient discharges are up 20% compared to last year.
- ER visits are up 57.4%.
- Ambulance calls are up 37%.
- **Obs admissions are up 70%.**
- O/P surgeries are up 3.
- Clinic visits are the same.
- FTEs are the same.
- Days Cash on Hand are down 12%.
- Receipts of patient accounts are up 27% for hospital accounts, up 13% for home health, and down 4% in the clinic.

Chris Keck made a motion to approve the financials as presented, and Kristal Ferguson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on the 2026 Certified Tax Appraisal Roll

Ken Koontz made a motion to accept the 2026 Certified Tax Appraisal Roll and Kristal Ferguson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote to Propose the Hospital Tax Rate for 2026 and Schedule the Required Public Hearings

The board was presented with information to review concerning setting the hospital district's tax rate and certifying the 2026 tax roll. Lance explained that, if the Board considers a tax rate that exceeds the no new revenue tax rate (effective rate), then the vote must be recorded and public hearing(s) set. This vote does not tie the Board to the rate proposed. This is a requirement that must be done at the August meeting. Kathryn Phillips with the Montague County tax office has calculated both the no new revenue tax rate (effective) and the voter approval tax rate (rollback tax) rates for 2026. The hospital's 2026 net certified tax rolls increased approximately \$28 million to \$727,534,827. The hospital's current rate is \$0.1746 producing a tax levy of close to \$1,233,000. The no new revenue rate is \$0.1715 and the voter approval rate is \$0.1883 (levy would be about \$1,370,000). Kathryn will take care of publishing the hospital's notices in the paper once I instruct her as to the rate the Board is considering.

As a taxing district, the hospital is required to provide indigent/charity care based on a written hospital policy. A small change in the charity care policy could vastly change the identification of bad debt or charity. The tax levy is the main option to pay for those "free services." Also included in the board packet is the latest tax rate

booklet which shows every hospital tax rate and the Truth in Taxation worksheets from Ms. Phillips. You will note that we are still in the lower 25th percentile for both tax rate and tax levy.

Ken Koontz made a motion to adopt a tax rate of \$0.1880/\$100 value for 2026. Chris Keck seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Request for Paramedic Tuition Reimbursement for Ty Debord

Chris Keck made a motion to approve the request and Shawn Patton seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Capital Purchase: ER Patient Monitoring System

Chris Keck made a motion to approve the purchase as presented (pending confirmation of the capability to interface with the hospital's existing EMR). Shawn Patton seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Convene to Closed Session for the Following Purpose:

- a) **Texas Government Code Sec. 551.071 – Consultation with Attorney**

The board dismissed to closed session at 1:02 PM.

Reconvene to Open Session and Take Action as Follows:

- a) **Discussion and Possible Vote on Matters Related to Consultation with Attorney**

The board reconvened to open session and adjourned the meeting at 2:27 PM.

Discussion and Possible Vote on Agreement to Toll Statute of Limitations for Matters Related to Water Drainage onto Properties Adjacent to Hospital Premises

Brian Jackson reported that there had been no success in securing a firm to perform the needed water study, so it was his recommendation that the hospital choose to suspend the statute of limitations and draft an agreement to that effect. This would, in good faith, extend the time needed to attempt to perform the needed drainage studies.

Shawn Patton made a motion to temporarily suspend the referenced statute of limitations and Steve Bates seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrative Report

Lance gave the following update:

Renovation Project

All areas of the renovation project are up and running. We are still completing a small portion of the final punch list. The final retention payment will be forthcoming.

ER Update

The hospital had another outstanding volume month in the emergency room. Over the past quarter of a century, the three highest volume months have been May, June, and July of 2026.

Year over year comparison to August 2025:

- ER volume up (283 to 447)
- Total Admits up (55 to 57)
- Left without being seen rate is down 0.4%
- Transfers up 8% (23 to 39)

Medical Staff Report

Dr. Len Dingler noted that they were still visiting with a potential gynecologist who would come to Nocona for clinic and outpatient surgeries.

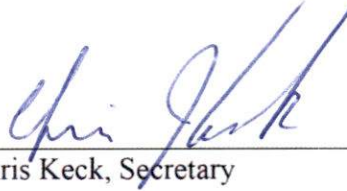
Other Business

None.

Shawn Patton made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Ken Koontz seconded.
Meeting was adjourned at 2:43 PM.



~~Paula Webb, President~~
Ken Koontz, VP



Chris Keck, Secretary