



GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

June 26, 2025

Members' Present Duffie Harrison, Chairman; William Zester, Vice-Chair; Myrtice Wynn, Secretary; John Berry; Patrick Conrad, MD

Members Absent Kristin Willis

Staff Present David Walker, CEO; Courtney Alford, Director of Nursing; Melanie Shiver, HR Coordinator; David Bowling, CFO, Alliant Management; Heather Dugger, Revenue Cycle Manager; James O'Steen, EMS Director; Michael Kozar, CEO, Alliant Management; Susie Buskirk, Practice Manager

Guests Present Mark Shields

CALL TO ORDER / VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- The meeting was called to order at 9:00am. The quorum was confirmed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MOMENT OF SILENCE

David Walker, CEO

- A moment of silence was observed in honor of Heather Faircloth.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- May 29, 2025 minutes were presented for approval.

ACTION

Zester made a motion to approve the May 29, 2025 minutes as presented; seconded by Wynn. The motion was carried unanimously.

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



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David Walker, CEO

- Walker announced the July 2025 employee of the month, Monica Varnes. Monica is an RN at Weems who excels on every shift she works. She volunteers to help others while she is working her shift. Monica has excellent customer service skills and is a pleasant person to work with.
- Mr. Walker read a statement from Kristin Willis, who could not attend the meeting. She expressed gratitude to the Alliant Corporation for donating 19 Pallets of bottled water to the citizens of Apalachicola, who have been in a water crisis. She also recognized Mr. Walker and Craig Gibson for setting up an Aqua Pro water station in front of Weems, making clean water available for the citizens of Apalachicola. The City of Apalachicola Mayor, Brenda Ash, wanted to extend her appreciation for the water, also.
- There was a tragic incident that took place at Weems last night where a child died. Mr. Walker complimented Dr. Conrad and the staff on their professionalism and dedication during this tragic event.

QUALITY

Medical Staff Report

Patrick Conrad, MD

- Dr. Conrad commended Mr. Walker for coming out to the hospital during the tragedy of the child to offer prayers and support for the family and staff.
- Dr. Conrad shared a recent incident where the ER was very busy. There were three patients with very serious conditions here simultaneously. He commended the doctor, nurses, and ambulance crew for the outstanding actions performed. Thankfully, all three patients had a positive outcome.
- Dr. Conrad spoke on behalf of Southland, sharing their commitment to keeping the ER up and running to the maximum potential possible during the upcoming hurricane season.



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Clinical Services Report

Courtney Alford, RN, DON

- No updates to report.
- Jennifer Sockwell, Respiratory Director, presented two quotes for the replacement of a Blood Gas Analyzer. The current equipment is outdated and cannot be serviced.

ACTION ITEM:

Zester made a motion to approve the purchase of the blood gas analyzer equipment; seconded by Berry. The motion was carried unanimously.

EMS Report

James Osteen, EMS Director

- May had a total of 186 calls for EMS services, of which 74% were transported.
- Osteen shared the increase in EMS overtime due to 2 full-time paramedics and 1 PRN paramedic resignations. One full-time paramedic has been hired and is in training.

SAFETY / ENVIRONMENT OF CARE

Plant Operations Report

Craig Gibson, POD

- Gibson gave an update on the water crisis that he recently received from the Department of Health.
- Bottled water has been placed in the ER and nurses' station for staff and patients residing in Apalachicola. The hospital's current water filter system is only 4 months old and is a reverse osmosis system, which makes the hospital's filtered water safe for drinking. Aqua Pro that is set up outside is using our water from the hospital and purifying it to provide safe water for Apalachicola residents. It is self-serve. Residents can bring their own container and fill it up as much as they would like.
- The CT project has been temporarily delayed due to a problem with Duke Energy putting another meter on the side of the building. An engineer was required to draw up an alternative mapping plan for the electricity.



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Break 9:52am to 10:15am

FINANCIAL REPORT

David Bowling, CFO, Alliant Management

- The following financial statements for the month ending 5/31/25 were presented and reviewed:
 - Income Statement & Balance Sheet
 - Operating Statistics
 - Comparative Consolidated Monthly Income Statements
 - EMS Monthly Gross Margin
 - Consolidated Balance Sheet Accounts
 - Alliant Dashboard for 2024: Financial Indicators, Operating Indicators, Key Project Status Indicators

CEO REPORT

David Walker, CEO

- There is a groundbreaking ceremony scheduled on July 11th at 10:30am for the new EMS facility in Lanark Village.
- The Rural Hospital Capital Improvement Grant proposal has been submitted.
- HRSA 340B Audit survey resulted in no findings that required corrections. There were recommendations for additional policies and procedures. We are working on those now.
- The Baker Tilly Operational Assessment recommendations are being addressed.
- The IT policies recommended by CommHIT's Security Risk Analysis are being drafted. They will be brought to the Board for approval on completion.
- We have been in contact with a Physician who is an Allergist & Clinical Immunologist Specialist who is interested in coming to our area.
- The County Budget Workshop will be on July 24 and 25. Weems will attend on July 24 to present our preliminary budget.



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- Mr. Walker thanked Alliant again for the donation of 19 pallets of water to the city of Apalachicola.
- The City of Apalachicola/ AquaPro Water Tanker is in our front parking lot for the citizens of Apalachicola to access clean water.

ALLIANT UPDATE

Michael Kozar, CEO, Alliant Management

- Alliant is currently planning for its executive team to meet in September.
- Alliant is planning next year's board retreat in Destin, Florida, in early March 2026.

FOUNDATION UPDATE

Bill Zester

- July 3rd festivities are coming up in Apalachicola. The Foundation will be there, representing Weems with a lemonade stand. There will also be tickets for sale for a raffle.
- Weems Foundation will also assist ACE Hardware in a shrimp dinner fundraiser for Hoyt Vaughn.

ADJOURNMENT

Duffie Harrison, Chair

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:39 am.