HEALTH FACILITIES COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
July 22, 2026

Cordell Hull State Legislative Building
Senate Hearing Room 1
425 N Rep. John Lewis Way
Nashville, TN 37243

Commission Members Present
Rick Chinn, Chairman
Barbara Brennan, Registered Nurse
Michael Denney, Representative of Nursing Homes
Katie Evans, Designee for TennCare
Dr. Steven Flatt, Representative of Physicians
Lauren Legate, Designee for the Department of Aging and Disability
Rebecca Mink, Designee for Comptroller (Prox for Nicole Sweitzer)
Dr. Andy Russell, Representative of Physicians
Mike Ussery, Representative of Assisted-Care Living Facilities
James Wright, Representative of Nursing Homes

Commission Members Absent
Jeremy Biggs, Representative of Hospitals
Tim Evans, Representative of ASTCs

Court Reporter
Nathan Briggs

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mr. Rick Chinn with the following members present Brennan, Denny, K. Evans, Flatt, Legate, Mink, Russell, Ussery, Wright, and Chinn. A quorum was established with 10 members present.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR
Ms. Legate nominated Ms. Brennan to be the new Vice-Chair.

Ms. Brennan abstained. Denney made a motion to approve Ms. Brennan as Vice-Chair. Mr. Wright seconded. The motion was approved and Ms. Brennan claimed the Vice-Chair position. The motion CARRIED [8-0-0].

Director's Announcements
The August 26, 2026, meeting will be held at the Cordell Hull State Legislative Building, Senate Hearing Room 1, Nashville, TN.

Approval of Minutes
Mr. Chinn presented June 24, 2026, minutes for approval.
Dr. Russell moved for approval with Ms. K. Evans providing the second.

The motion CARRIED [9-0-0] unanimously by roll call. APPROVED.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS
An explanation of changes was provided by Mr. Jim Christofferson. A roll-call of voice declarations was taken with members Ussery and Dr. Russell making declarations and all others denying having any conflicts of interest.

HEALTHCARE FACILITIES LICENSURE AND DISCIPLINARY CONSENT CALENDAR

A. License Status Requests (Inactive Status)
N/A

B. Board Policy(ies)

1. THE FOLLOWING NURSING HOMES ARE REQUESTING TO WAIVE NURSING HOME REGULATIONS 0720-18-.04(1) FOR TENNESSEE REPLACEMENT IS HIRED OR RECEIVE HIS/HER LICENSE IN TENNESSEE BY BOARD POLICY #81:

a. Church Hill Post-Acute and Rehabilitation Center, Church Hill – NH #125 Debra Cloninger, Temporary Administrator

b. Magnolia Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Columbia – NH #182 Vina Bonner, Temporary Administrator

Mr. Ussery made a motion to approve these board policy requests. Mr. Denney seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. Consideration and Ratification Licensure Applications – Change of Ownership (CHOW) and Initials

1. Qualifying Applications – (Initials)

a. Home Health Agencies
Abby Care Tennessee, LLC, Hermitage – File No. 718 Atomic Legacy Care, LLC, Kingston – File No. 729
Liberty Homecare, LLC, Oak Ridge – File No. 721
Southern Comfort Home Health Care, LLC, Oak Ridge - File 733

b. Home Medical Equipment
Atlas Medical, LLC, Athens, TN – File No. 1564
Avanos Medical Sales, LLC, Alpharetta, GA – File No. 1513
Continental Exquisites, LLC d/b/a Continental Medical Cleaning and Supplies, Clarksville – File No. 1574
Magnolia Medical, LLC, Baton Rouge, LA – File No. 1522
Med Supply US, LLC, Hollywood, FL – File No. 1584
National Diabetes Care, LLC, Volusia, FL 32763 – File No. 1578
Stymco Medical, LLC, Tampa, FL – File No. 1576
TenderHeart Health Outcomes, Inc., Austin, TX – File No. 1518
VGM Group, Inc., Waterloo, IA – File No. 1594

c. Professional Support Services
Healthy Outcomes, LLC, Memphis – File No. 482
The Goode Living Home, Cordova – File No. 479

Ms. Brennan made a motion to approve these qualifying applications. Mr. Wright seconded. These qualifying applications were approved unanimously.

2. Qualifying Applications – (CHOWS)

a.Nursing Homes
Magnolia Ridge Care & Rehabilitation, LLC fka The Waters of Union City, Union City –License No. 197
Wyndridge Health and Rehabilitation Center, Crossville – License No. 312

Mr. Denney recused. Mr. Wright made a motion to approve these qualifying CHOW applications. Dr. Russell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Applications - Change of Ownership (CHOW's and Initials)- Special Consideration

a. (INITIALS)
N/A

b. (CHOWS)
N/A

D. License Status Updates

1. Closed Facility Listing for June 2026

This item was for Commission Information. No vote was taken on this item.

E. Disciplinary Orders and Orders of Compliance

1. Assisted Care Living Facilities
a. RiverWick Assisted Living – ACLF Lic. No. 200
The Office of Legal Services proposed a Consent Order assessing one (1) civil monetary penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars ($1,000.00) and one civil monetary penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars ($500.00), for a total CMP of one thousand five hundred dollars ($1,500.00) due within thirty (30) calendar days of ratification.

Ms. Evans made a motion to approve this Consent Order as written. Mr. Ussery seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. American House Kingsport – ACLF Lic. No. 121
The Office of Legal Services proposed a Consent Order assessing one (1) civil monetary penalty in the amount of three thousand dollars ($3,000.00) due within thirty (30) calendar days of ratification.

Ms. Evans made a motion to approve this Consent Order as written. Dr. Russell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Policies and Interpretive Guidance
a. Surgical Tech Interpretive Guidance- this IG addresses three issues that facilities and programs have faced related to certification and accreditation.

Ms. Evans made a motion to accept the Interpretive Guidance with edits to XXXXX. Mr. Ussery seconded. The Interpretive Guidance was approved with recommended edits.

b. Schedule of Reasonable Charges- OLS Policy 26-001- Based on the amendment to T.C.A. 68-11-213, the Commission may now assess costs of disciplinary action against all facilities, so need approval of new Schedule of Reasonable Charges.

Ms. Brennan made a motion to approve these amendments. Dr. Russell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Rulemaking

3. NICU License Rules:
Request for the waiver of Rule 0720-14-.07(16)(b)(2.) requiring "all neonatal providers" to maintain current S.T.A.B.L.E. provider status. Commission staff recommend this waiver to match the new 10th Edition of the PAC's Guidelines, which will result in a proposed rule change to delete the provision to be waived.

Ms. Legate requested to review the 10th Edition after drafting. Ms. Evans made a motion to approve these licensure rules as outlined in the memo. Dr. Russell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

F. Healthcare Facilities License Regular Calendar

1. Facility Waiver Requests

a. Hardin Valley Pediatrics Clinic under Dolly Parton Children's Hospital – Hospital Lic. No. 41
Hardin Valley Pediatrics Clinic was seeking to waive several FGI guidelines requirements. This clinic has been operating within its current space for approximately 8 years. Hardin Valley Pediatric existing exam rooms accommodate routine clinical activities while maintaining patient comfort, safety, and accessibility. Here are the following requests to waive FGI guideline requirements:

Waive seven (7) exam rooms to have a sink in each exam room. The existing exam rooms currently have a dedicated hand sanitizer dispenser within each exam room, and a handwashing sink in each corridor adjacent to the exam room.

Waive exam rooms to have a minimum 80 square feet requirement per exam room be waived. There are seven (7) total exam rooms in the space, six (6) exam rooms do not meet FGI Guidelines ranging from 70 to 73 square feet of clear floor space. Also, Hardin Valley Pediatric is requesting the 2'-8" minimum clearance at each side of the examination table be waived. The existing clearances have not hindered the functionality of the space or caused any issue or concern for patients or staff in the past.

Representative(s): Terry Hall, CHFM, Director of Engineering Dolly Parton Children's Hospital.

Dr. Russell made a motion to approve this waiver request as presented. Ms. Evans seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Seymour Pediatrics Clinic under Dolly Parton Children's Hospital – Hospital Lic. No. 41 Seymour Pediatrics was seeking to waive exam rooms to have a minimum 80 square feet requirement per exam room. There are twelve (12) total exam rooms in the space, with clear floor areas that do not meet FGI Guidelines ranging from 65 to 75 square feet of clear floor space. Also, Seymour Pediatrics is requesting the 2'-8" minimum clearance at each side and foot of the examination table be waived. The existing clearances have not hindered the functionality of the space or caused any issue or concern for patients or staff in the past.

Representative(s): Terry Hall, CHFM, Director of Engineering Dolly Parton Children's Hospital.

Dr. Russell made a motion to approve this waiver request as presented. Mr. Wright seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

c. Highpoint Health Winchester/Sewanee, Winchester – NH Lic. No. 84 – Board Policy #81 Highpoint Health was seeking a waiver of Board Policy #81 to have the Chief Operating Officer serve as the Temporary Administrator until a permanent licensed Nursing Home Administrator can be hired and placed.

Representative(s): Greg Dickerson, COO, Temporary Administrator

Mr. Denney made a motion to approve this waiver request with terms that Mr. Dickerson return to within ninety (90) days at the Commission meeting presented in October 2026 if Highpoint Health has been unable to place a qualified licensed Nursing Home Administrator for an update on the process. Mr. Wright seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

2. Discussion(s)

N/A

Dr. Russell made a motion to approve these interpretive guidelines. Mr. Evans seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Reports

Trauma – Robert Seesholtz, Trauma System Director

a. Vanderbilt Wilson County Hospital – Trauma Center Designation Site Visit Report

Dr. Russell made a motion to approve this trauma center report as presented. X person seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Changes to the Tennessee Trauma Registry Data Dictionary

Ms. Brennan made a motion to approve these changes. Dr. Russell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Nurse Aide/Abuse Registry – Ann R. Reed, Deputy Director

a. June 2026 Nurse Aide Registry/Abuse Registry Report

This item was for Commission Information. No vote was taken on this item.

b.A presentation by the new Nurse Aide Registry vendor, Credentia, and how they calculate testing results and pass/fail rates.

Representative(s): Brenda Scafiro and Bharath Sagar, COO

Mr. Denney requested a follow-up report in sixty (60) days for an update from the testing vendor. Mr. Ussery made a motion to approve the report as presented. Mr. Wright seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Evans made a motion to approve this report. Mr. Ussery seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Qualifying Applications (Initials)

List of Providers for Ratifying Quality Service License – Consent Calendar

Other Affiliations:

Hamilton County	**CommonSpirit Memorial Hospital (MRI, PET)**
Hamilton County	**CommonSpirit Memorial Hospital Hixson (MRI)**
Hamilton County	**CommonSpirit Memorial Ooltewah Imaging Center (MRI)**
Putnam County	**Tennessee Heart (PET)**

Dr. Russell made a motion to approve these Quality Service licenses. Mr. Ussery seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

CERTIFICATE OF NEED APPLICATIONS

A. St. Thomas West Hospital dba St. Thomas Midtown, Mt. Juliet (Wilson County), TN – CN2605-014

Request: For the establishment of a freestanding emergency department (FSED) located at the Southern portion of the Legacy Pointe development, commonly known as Lot 12, near the intersection of Bear Crossing and Legacy Pointe Boulevard, Mt. Juliet (Wilson County), Tennessee 37122. The proposed FSED will consist of approximately 11,250 square feet with 10 exam rooms, including 1 trauma room, imaging services, lab and associated support space. The service area for the proposed FSED has been defined as the ZIP codes 37122 (Mount Juliet), 37087 (Lebanon), and 37090 (Lebanon). The applicant is owned by Saint Thomas Health. Estimated project cost: $23,000,000.

OPPOSITION: TriStar Summit Medical Center

***Applicant Requested Deferral to August 26, 2026**

B. Ascension St. Thomas Sumner Rehabilitation Hospital, Galatin (Sumner County), TN – CN2605-012

Request: For the establishment of a 40-bed inpatient rehabilitation facility (IRF) at an unaddressed site at the NW quadrant of Big Station Camp Blvd and Vietnam Veterans Blvd intersection, near Highpoint Health-Sumner Station, Gallatin (Sumner County), Tennessee 37066. The applicant is owned by Sumner Healthcare Operation, LLC a limited liability company that is a joint venture of Saint Thomas Health (a Tennessee non-profit corporation that owns 51% of the LLC) and LPNT IRF Development 89, LLC (Lifepoint Health's wholly owned subsidiary, established solely to own 49% of the applicant LLC). Estimated project cost: $89,496,217.

Condition: The existing 17 licensed inpatient rehabilitation beds will be closed at Sumner Regional Medical Center (located at 555 Hartsville Pike, Gallatin, TN 37066) upon licensing of the new freestanding IRF.

Mr. Ussery recused. Ms. Brennan moved for approval. Mr. Denney seconded. Eight members voted to approve the application – Brennan, Denney, K. Evans, Flatt, Legate, Mink, Russell, and Wright. The motion CARRIED [8-0-0].

C. Stern Cardiovascular Surgery Center, Germantown (Shelby County), TN – CN2605-013

Request: For the establishment of a single-specialty ambulatory surgical treatment center (ASTC) located at 1275 South Germantown Road, Germantown (Shelby County), Tennessee 38138. The project will include the initiation of diagnostic and therapeutic cardiovascular catheterization and diagnostic and therapeutic electrophysiology procedures The project will be wholly owned by Stern Cardiovascular Center, P.A. Estimated project cost: $23,871,439.

Dr. Russell moved for approval. Dr. Flatt seconded. Nine members voted to approve the application –Brennan, Denney, K. Evans, Flatt, Legate, Mink, Russell, Ussery, and Wright. The motion CARRIED [9-0-0].

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

Rulemaking

Emergency Rule to eliminate the Commission's Rule re. Conflict of interest (0720-08-.02) that reflects prior law but contradicts the law that took effect on July 1, 2026.

OTHER BUSINESS

Executive Director Performance

The Commission will discuss and be requested to adopt criteria for evaluation of the Executive Director's performance

ADJOURNMENT
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

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Logan Grant, Executive Director

HFC Minutes provides a brief summary of commission actions. A detailed record of each meeting (recording and transcript) is available upon request by contacting the HFC office.