

Lessons Learned -Public Boards

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About Me



- Chief Legal Officer
- Specialized in Health law and Public law.
- Dual report to CEO and Board of Trustees
- Executive sponsor of Board Governance Committee
- Partners with Board Services Team

Background

- Harris Health System
- Hospital District created by Texas Constitution
- Board appointed by Commissioner's Court (Elected)
- 2 year term
- Subject to Texas Open Meetings Act & Public Information Act

Challenges

- What is Role of Board?
- Effective Agenda Planning
- Board Self- Governance



Role of Board – Governance & Oversight



QUALITY OF CARE

- Legal responsibility for ensuring quality of the health care delivered within Harris Health.
- Board ensures effective systems exist for evaluating and improving the delivery of high quality care including regularly reviewing reports of quality indicators.
- Oversight over approval of medical staff bylaws, medical staff appointments and reappointments.

FINANCE

- The Board's duty is to provide financial oversight for the organization. Boards must protect and enhance organization's financial resources, and must ensure effective use of resources to achieve organizational goals.

COMPLIANCE

- The Board is responsible for ensuring that there is a strong and effective Compliance Plan.
- Ensure that organization has a Compliance Officer in place with a direct line of reporting to the Board.

CEO SELECTION & RETENTION

- The Board has a duty to select, oversee and evaluate a CEO who directs the affairs of the system effectively.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- The Board must ensure that a strategic plan is in place and ensuring achievement of strategic direction.

SELF - GOVERNANCE

- The Board must create and maintain all the processes of self-governance and self-evaluation.

Agenda Planning - Tips & Tricks



- Authority Matrix for must-do items
- Board Committees
- Maximize Consent Agenda
- One page transmittal with Executive Summary for board approval items
- Seven Slide limit
- Training & Dry runs on Board presentations
- Strategic Plan focused Agenda

Board Self - Governance Strategies



- Governance Committee
- Standard Operating Procedures
 - Board developed and approved
 - Who is Board's vs CEO's direct report?
 - How Board members can ask questions?
 - How can information be shared with Board after a meeting?
 - Fiduciary duties of Board members
 - Use of parliamentary procedures
 - Executive Session