

CHAPTER 26

BOARD OF HOSPITAL TRUSTEES

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26.01 STRUCTURE OF THE BOARD. The Board of Hospital Trustees shall consist of five (5) members who shall be elected as the terms of the present members expire, as provided by law. The term of office shall be for a period of four (4) years. Any vacancy occurring on the Board shall be filled as provided by law.

26.02 OATH; ELECTION OF OFFICERS. Members of the Board of Hospital Trustees shall, as soon as possible after January 1 following an election, qualify by taking the oath of office, and they shall immediately organize as a hospital board by the election of one of their members as Chairperson and one as Secretary, but no bond shall be required of them.

26.03 COMPENSATION. No member of the Board shall receive any compensation for services performed, nor shall any member have, directly or indirectly, any pecuniary interest in the purchase or sale of any service, commodity, equipment or supplies procured for or disposed of by the hospital; however, members may receive reimbursement for any cash expense actually made for personal expenses incurred as such trustees, but an itemized statement of all expenses and money paid out shall be made under oath and filed with the Secretary of the Board and allowed only by the affirmative vote of the full Board.

26.04 AUTHORITY. The Board of Hospital Trustees is vested with authority to provide for the management, control, and government of the hospital, but in the management thereof no discrimination shall be made against the practitioners of any recognized school of medicine or practice. Each patient shall have the right to employ at such patient's expense the physician or practitioner of his or her choice. Any such physician, when so employed by the patient, shall have exclusive charge of the care and treatment of the patient. Attending nurses shall be subject to the direction of the physician.

26.05 POWERS AND DUTIES GENERALLY. The Board of Hospital Trustees shall:

1. Purchase and provide suitable equipment, furnishings, fixtures and supplies for the hospital;
2. Have general supervision and care of the grounds and buildings of the hospital;
3. Employ a manager, superintendent, matron, and necessary assistants and employees and fix their compensation;
4. Have control and supervision over the physicians, practitioners, nurses, attendants and patients in the hospital;
5. Cause at least one of its members to visit and examine the hospital at least twice each month;
6. Fix the prices to be paid by patients admitted for treatment or care therein;

7. Fix, at their regular June meeting in each year, the amount necessary for the improvement and maintenance of the hospital during the ensuing year, and cause the president and secretary to certify the same to the Clerk before July first of each year;
8. File with the Clerk as soon as possible after the first day of July each year a report covering their proceedings with reference to the hospital, and a statement of all receipts and expenditures during the preceding fiscal year;
9. Accept property by gift, devise, bequest, or otherwise;
10. Adopt bylaws and rules for its own guidance and for the government of the hospital.

26.06 TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NURSES. The Board of Hospital Trustees shall have the power to establish and maintain a training school for nurses in connection with the hospital.

26.07 CONTAGIOUS DISEASE BUILDING ESTABLISHMENT. The Board of Hospital Trustees shall have the power to establish a suitable building for the isolation and detention of persons afflicted with contagious diseases subject to quarantine, as a department in connection with the hospital.