**Arkansas Health Services Permit Commission**
**Permit of Approval Meeting**
**Mosaic Templars State Temple- 2nd Floor Conference Room**
**March 18, 2026**
**10:00 A.M.**

# Minutes

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| Presiding: | Mr. Eric Bell |
| Members' Present: | Dr. Jack Robertson<br>Ms. Jamie Ewing<br>Mr. John Montgomery<br>Mr. Haden Gilder<br>Mr. David Deaton<br>Mr. Murry Reagor<br>Mr. Greg Wood |
| Member(s) Absent: | |
| Health Services Agency Staff: | Director Sandra Hollowell<br>Ms. Traci Harris<br>Ms. Jennifer Cooper |
| Legal Counsel: | Jessica Kloss |
| Guests: | Attendance Sheet attached |

## I. COMMISSION BUSINESS

Chairman Bell called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. After roll call, Chairman Bell called for a motion to approve the minutes from the December 9th , 2025 meeting.

**MINUTES:** **A motion was made by Mr. Deaton to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Montgomery. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

**AGENCY REPORT:** Director Sandra Hollowell reviewed the Agency Application Decisions of December Review Cycle. The West Shores AFL II application was discussed due to their being an agency miscalculation in the total number of beds being over 100. Any addition of over 100 beds must be referred to the Commission for approval. Since the application was not referred to the Commission prior to the awarding of the Permit of Approval, the Commission asked that the application be brought before them at the June Commission Meeting for their formal review.

**Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Reagor to approve the Agency Application Decisions Report for the December Review Cycle. The motion was seconded by Dr. Robertson. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

**LEGAL UPDATE**

**Jessice Kloss Attorneys General Office Liaison updated the Commission on Step by Step, Inc. filing a petition for a Judicial Review (of the Commission decision to overturn the Agency decision to grant Step by Step a POA to provide Home Health services in Faulkner County) in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County. Agency filed a brief on October 20, 2025. Awaiting the court decision. No other actions for the Agency to take at this time.**

**Ms. Kloss also reported on Collage Home and Community which filed appeals in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County to overturn the Commission's decision to uphold the Agency's denial of their application to provide Home Health Services Class "B" to be located at 400 W. Capitol Ave, Little Rock, Arkansas, to serve Pulaski County and the Commission's decision to uphold the Agency's decision to deny their application to provide Home Health Services Class "B" to be located at 2894 N. McKee Circle, Fayetteville, Arkansas, to serve Washington County. Filed administrative records. No other actions for the Agency to take at this time.**

**Ms. Kloss also reported on 1st Choice Home Care which filed appeals in the Circuit Court of Pulaski County to overturn the Commission's decision to overturn the Agency's decision to approve the 1st Choice Home Care, File# HSPA (1643)25 application to provide Home Health Services Class "B" License location to be determined, Arkansas, to serve Phillips County. Also, the Commission's decision to overturn the Agency's decision to approve the 1st Choice Home Care, File# HSPA (1644)25 application to provide Home Health Services Class "B" License location to be determined, Arkansas, to serve Union County. Filed administrative records. No other actions for the Agency to take at this time.**

## II. EXTENSION REQUESTS

1. **Arkansas Home Helpers, Greene Co. File# HSPA (1639) -** requested their **first** six-month extension to obtain licensure. Applicant states…. Our license extension request was made because we are taking on a financial partner, which means we are going to transfer the hospice POA and our home health POA to a new company that will be submitting the licensure information. However, due to CMS guidelines we needed to stop that process on our current entity and slow down the process until the new entity is formed. Commissioner Gilder recused himself from the discussion and the vote. Mr. Haden Gilder was present and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Reagor and seconded by Dr. Robertson to grant the first six- month extension to obtain licensure. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

2. **Belvedere Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, LLC, Garland Co. File# HSPA (1638) -** requested their **first** six-month extension to complete the foundation. Belvedere offers the following to demonstrate "good cause" for extending the time to complete the foundation. As you know, this project is for the expansion of the current skilled nursing facility, to add twenty (20) beds from a closed facility. At this time, the project is undergoing final touches to its layout design. Thereafter, the Permit Holder anticipates submitting finalized site plans for approval and local permitting within the next several months. Please note, this project was initiated as an expansion to accommodate beds from a closed facility previously operated in Garland County. Ms. Emily Mizell was present and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Mr. Gilder to grant the first six- month extension to complete the foundation. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

3. **Lake Hamilton Health & Rehab, Garland Co. File # HSPA (1637) -** requested their **first** six-month extension to complete the foundation. Lake Hamilton Health & Rehab offers the following to demonstrate "good cause" for extending the time to complete the foundation. As you know, this project is for the expansion of the current skilled nursing facility, to add fifty-six (56) beds from a closed facility. At this time, the engineers hired to support this project are finalizing the site plans which will then be submitted to the appropriate authorities for permitting. The Permit Holder anticipates construction beginning within forty-five (45) days of permitting, with the foundation expected to be completed within the next months thereafter. Ms. Emily Mizell was present and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Reagor and seconded by Mr. Montgomery to grant the first six - month extension to complete the foundation. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

4. **Grand Village Health and Rehab., Washington Co. File# HSPA (1629) -** requested their **third** six-month extension to obtain the construction contract. Applicant states… In our previous update, we mentioned that we are continuing to refine the project through our ongoing value engineering efforts and that we are in the initial stages of the design phase, anticipating a minimum of six more months before we finalize the plans and potentially break ground. Chairman Bell recused himself from the discussion and the vote. Ms. Blakely Adams was on the phone and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Deaton and seconded by Ms. Ewing to grant the third six- month extension to obtain the construction contract. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

5. **Alma Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center, Crawford Co. File# HSPA (1577) & (1597) -** requested their **seventh** six-month extension to obtain licensure. Alma H&R offers the following to demonstrate "good cause" extending the time to complete licensure for this project. As you know, this Permit of Approval was for the expansion and renovation of Alma H&R, a currently licensed and operating facility located in Crawford County. Additionally, as previously reported, this project is for an expansion of the current skilled nursing facility. Ms. Emily Mizell was present and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Deaton and seconded by Mr. Gilder to grant the seventh six-month extension to obtain licensure. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

6. **Applewood Trail Health & Rehab., Craighead Co., File# HSPA (1579) -** requested their **tenth** six-month extension to obtain a construction contract. Applicant states… We previously provided an informal three-month update indicating that the plans and the building permit for the facility have been completed and that we had a predicted start date of May 2026. However, at this time, we are requesting a six-month extension on the basis that a construction contract has not been signed. Chairman Bell recused himself from the discussion and the vote. Ms. Blakely Adams was on the phone and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Reagor and seconded by Mr. Montgomery to grant the tenth six- month extension to obtain the construction contract. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

## III. MOVEMENT OF BEDS

1. **Southern Trace Rehabilitation and Care Center** requested an intercounty movement of beds. Nine (9) beds from St. James Place of Arkansas ("St. James Place"), a closed facility located in Phillips County. and an additional twelve (12) beds from Ouachita Nursing and Rehabilitation Center ("Ouachita N&R"), located in Ouachita County, Arkansas, for a total of twenty-one (21) beds be transferred to their facility. Commissioner Montgomery recused himself from the discussion and the vote. Ms. Emily Mizell was present and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Dr. Robertson and seconded by Ms. Ewing to grant the movement of nine (9) beds from St. James Place of Arkansas ("St. James Place"), a closed facility located in Phillips County. and an additional twelve (12) beds from Ouachita Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (Ouachita N&R"), located in Ouachita County, Arkansas, for a total of twenty- one (21) beds to be moved to the Southern Trace Rehabilitation and Care Center. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

2. **The Cottages at Texarkana, Miller Co**., requested an intercounty movement of beds. To move twenty (20) beds from Lake Village Rehabilitation and Care Center, located in Chicot County, Arkansas, to be transferred to their facility in Miller County. Commissioner Montgomery recused himself from the discussion and the vote. Ms. Emily Mizell was present and gave an update

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Reagor and seconded by Dr. Robertson to grant the intercounty movement of twenty (20) beds from Lake Village Rehabilitation and Care Center, located in Chicot County, Arkansas, to the Cottages at Texarkana in Miller County. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

## IV. REFERRED TO THE COMMISSION

1. **KMJ Enterprises Fianna Hills, LLC d/b/a Fianna Hills Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, File# HSPA (1671)26, Sebastian Co.** referred to the Commission and was granted a Permit of Approval for the purpose of adding an additional eight (8) beds from Murfreesboro Rehab and Nursing (Pike County) to be located at 8411 S. 28 Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Sebastian County for a total of one hundred and ten (110) Nursing Facility beds. Mr. Michael Hathorn was present and gave an update.

   **Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Wood and seconded by Mr. Reagor granting a Permit of Approval for the purpose of adding an additional eight (8) beds from Murfreesboro Rehab and Nursing (Pike County) to be located at 8411 S. 28 Street, Fort Smith, Arkansas, Sebastian County for a total of one hundred and ten (110) Nursing Facility beds. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**

## V. OTHER BUSINESS

1. **Review of the Health Services Permit Agency – 2026 Control Self-Assessment (CSA).**

   **The agency discussed their 2026 Control Self-Assessment (CSA). Commissioners reviewed and accepted the CSA by email due to the internal ADH deadline being prior to the March 2026 HSP Commission Meeting. The Commissioner's responses will be kept with the minutes of the March 18th HSP Commission meeting.**

2. **The Commission discussed the requirement of entities submitting Nursing Facility(NF) Replacement Facility requests for extensions. The Commission asked that the agency come up with appropriate verbiage to address the need for NF Replacement projects to request extensions on the current project completion schedule in the Rulebook.**

**There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:18 a.m.**

**Motion: A motion was made by Mr. Montgomery and seconded by Mr. Reagor to adjourn the meeting. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried.**