

Mike Constantino
Senior Project Manager
Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board
525 West Jefferson Street, 2nd Floor
Springfield, Illinois 62761

April 7, 2022

Dear Mr. Constantino,

We are writing to you to share our concerns about the sale of Weiss and West Suburban hospitals. Over the past several months members of our community have tracked the unfolding of the proceedings around these sales. We have been pleased with the work that the Board has performed to date in their effort to assess the exact nature of this transaction.

We have reviewed all of the documents that are publicly available on the IHFSRB website about this sale and realize that a number of critical questions have yet to be answered about the sale of these two hospitals. We believe that you are in your right to demand full and relevant responses to the questions that you already posed to both the buyer and the seller. In particular, we would expect that the concerns outlined below be addressed prior to any decision on this exemption application.

- The professional and financial background of the buyers is still not clear. We still would like to know the following which we believe is necessary to assess if in accordance with the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Act “the applicant is fit, willing, and able to provide a proper standard of health care service for the community”:
 - o The educational background of Manoj Prasad.
 - Educational institutions from which he received his degrees and certification and the years that they were received?
 - Subject/title of Prasad’s Ph.D. dissertation and date of completion.
 - Facility where/date when Prasad completed his medical residency?
 - Organizations where Prasad volunteered to fulfill the requirements of his FACHE certification?
 - o The professional background of Manoj Prasad
 - List of hospitals, FQHCs, LTC facilities, LTACHs, physicians’ practices, and other healthcare facilities with which Prasad has worked in the last twenty years both in the United States and abroad, the years worked at each, and his title on each of those projects.
 - List of Xpertease Consultants healthcare clients
 - Explanation of the “Patient Delight Training Model” Prasad supposedly pioneered while in India.
 - o Prasad’s finances
 - A complete list of his assets

- A complete list of his liabilities
- The professional and financial background of Rathnaker Reddy Patlola is not clear. It is not possible to determine economic feasibility, specifically whether he has the resources necessary to purchase and operate, and sustain the operation of these facilities. Therefore, we still would like to have information on the following:

Copies of the most recent annual and quarterly consolidated financial statements for Patlola’s energy industry business and any/all other businesses he currently operates.

 - An accounting of Patlola’s personal finances including assets, liabilities and net worth (to verify he has the \$32 million necessary to finance the transaction).
 - A copy of Patlola’s loan agreement with Provizia Capital, LTC.
 - A list of the boards on which Patlola has served in the past fifteen years
 - A list of all work that he has conducted in the field of healthcare either as a professional or a volunteer during the past fifteen years
- The methodology used to determine the purchase price is not clear. Information on the following would be needed:
 - The outstanding debts for each of the hospitals
 - The total amount for infrastructure assets of each facility
 - The revenue and expenditures for the past two years for each of the facilities
 - A list of all state and federal funds received by the seller during past three years
- Although, the buyer and seller refer to a “revenue enhancement” strategy, they did not provide information about what that would entail and how it would impact existing and future hospital operations or access to/quality of care.
- The seller has yet to submit a quality improvement plan for Weiss Memorial Hospital for 2022.
- Some questions still remain about the \$12,000,000 that the seller originally stated would be invested in Weiss Memorial hospital improvements.
 - In the exemption application, the seller states that the amount would appear as a credit on the total purchase price of the two hospitals. Consequently, it is not clear where this money will come from for hospital improvements.
 - Although during their community outreach meetings specifically stated that the entire amount would be invested in Weiss (see Pipeline Chief Executive Officer, Irene Dumanis’ July 15, 2021 public statements to this effect,

<https://youtu.be/OKIncT7eoO4?t=21093>), in the exemption application the seller states that only \$8,000,000 would be invested in Weiss.

We greatly appreciate all of yours and the Board's work on this application. Our hope is that you will be able to continue those efforts to ensure that any sale of the Weiss Memorial and West Suburban hospitals be a complete and transparent process.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Sincerely,

Campaign to Stop Luxury Development at Weiss

Northside Action for Justice

Chicago Union of the Homeless

Asian Americans Advancing Justice-Chicago

Axis Lab

Lakeside Area Neighbors Association (LANA)

SEIU-HCII