

Chairs of Local Boards of Trustees

*In Support of Change of Ownership of
Four Southern Illinois Hospitals*

#E-067-22

Tony Wielt

Chair, Local Board of
Trustees
Crossroads Community
Hospital

Glenn Clarida

Chair, Local Board of
Trustees
Heartland Community Medical
Center

Stuart Langrehr

Chair, Local Board of
Trustees
Red Bud Regional Hospital

Charlotte Clover

Chair, Local Board of
Trustees
Union County Hospital

October 5, 2020

Via Hand Delivery

Ms. Debra Savage, Chairwoman
c/o John P. Kniery, Administrator
Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
525 W. Jefferson St., Second Floor
Springfield, IL 62761

Re: Requested Approval of Change of Ownership Applications related to
Crossroads Community Hospital, Heartland Regional Medical Center,
Red Bud Regional Hospital, and Union County Hospital

Dear Chairwoman Savage:

As chairs of the local boards of trustees of each of the hospitals referenced above, and as engaged members of our respective Southern Illinois communities, we wish to share our enthusiastic support for these four change-of-ownership applications. From our up-close vantage points, we believe these changes of ownership will be very positive for our communities and the involved patients.

The co-applicants – non-profits Deaconess Health System (“Deaconess”) and Deaconess Regional Healthcare Services Illinois, Inc., (Deaconess Illinois) – have a well-deserved reputation for:

- being committed to rural health care and investment in each local facility;
- providing high-quality and relatively low-cost health care services; and
- being good places to work.

We understand that Deaconess Illinois will operate Heartland Regional Medical Center, and that separate wholly owned subsidiaries of Deaconess Illinois will operate the other three hospitals.

We are all personally familiar with Deaconess Midtown Hospital in Evansville, Indiana, which has long provided exceptional care to Southern Illinois residents requiring Trauma II or specialized health care services. We are also personally


aware of the excellent job that Deaconess Regional Healthcare Services Illinois, Inc. ("Deaconess Illinois") has done in managing and operating Lawrence County Memorial Hospital in Lawrenceville, Illinois, and Ferrell Hospital in Eldorado, Illinois.

Under the new ownership, our four hospitals will be in good hands. We are pleased to share that the new owners:


- will operate pursuant to a local, Illinois-based governing structure;
- intend to expand services and make new investments in all four facilities; and
- plan to retain substantially all existing staff while providing equal or better compensation and benefits.

Please approve these change of ownership applications.


Very truly yours,



Tony Wielt
Chair, Local Board of Trustees
Crossroads Community Hospital



Glenn Clarida
Chair, Local Board of Trustees
Heartland Community Medical Center



Stuart Langrehr
Chair, Local Board of Trustees
Red Bud Regional Hospital



Charlotte Clover
Chair, Local Board of Trustees
Union County Hospital