



## Board of Collier County Commissioners

Donna Fiala  
District 1

Andy Solis, Esq.  
District 2

Burt L. Saunders  
District 3

Penny Taylor  
District 4

William L. McDaniel, Jr.  
District 5

December 21, 2018

Ms. Mariann MacDonald, Chair  
Board of Directors  
NCH Healthcare System  
330 7<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Naples, FL 34102

Dear Chairwoman MacDonald,

As a follow-up to my meeting with Dr. Weiss and Sarah Frye on Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, I am forwarding you my discussion points.

- NCH Healthcare System must have an outside unbiased review of their NCH Patient-Centered Care Pilot Program by an agency that will be agreed upon, in advance, by those who are opposed to the Pilot Program and by those who support the program.
- I expressed that it is unconscionable that Dr. Weiss would attempt to close down the Neighborhood Health Clinic because, in Dr. Weiss' words... the "Neighborhood Health Clinic takes credit for taking care of patients and they are getting everything for free. Their overhead is \$22,500 a year." I responded that this seems more a reason based on ego than thought for the community.
- Dr. Weiss' credibility is gone, and right or wrong, this is a political fight.
- NCH is a community hospital created by a generous donor over sixty years ago and supported through the years by our community.

- This NCH Patient-Centered Care Program was unanimously rejected by all the attendees of the October Medical Staff meeting, consisting of physicians who have privileges or are employed by the hospital.
- Based on the number of unsolicited comments during my public engagements over the last 2 ½ weeks, it is my opinion that the community overwhelmingly opposes this Pilot Program.
- Over the last 28 years the County has facilitated, as required by State Law \$616,500,000 of revenue bonds for the hospital without any conditions or restrictions. I have not discussed this in a meeting with my colleagues, but please know that if this Pilot Program becomes permanent, I will be a strong advocate to ensure that any future considerations for revenue bonds come with conditions or restrictions.

Very cordially yours



Penny Taylor, District 4 Commissioner

Cc Dr. Allen Weiss, NCH President  
Collier County Medical Society Board