



On March 1, 2020, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-51 establishing Covid-19 response protocol and establishing a Public Health Emergency. The Executive Order specifically noted that the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) recommends mitigation measures including staying at home when sick and keeping away from others who are sick. Specifically, the Order directed the State Health Officer to take any action necessary to protect the Public Health. Pursuant to that authority on March 9, 2020 the Department of Health issued communications on Social Distancing, and on March 14, 2020 issued communications on cancellations of gatherings. On March 9, 2020 Florida Governor Ron DeSantis issued executive Order 20-52 permitting each political subdivision to waive procedures and formalities otherwise required by law. On March 13, 2020, the Florida Supreme Court issued Administrative Order 20-13 suspending all Grand Jury proceedings, jury selection proceedings and criminal and civil jury trials from March 16 through March 27, 2020 or as provided by subsequent order. Also, on March 13, 2020 President Trump declared a National Emergency concerning Covid - 19. On March 16, 2020 the Fifth Judicial Circuit issued Administrative Order A-2020-12 closing all courts of the Fifth Judicial Circuit from March 17, 2020 to March 27,2020. On April 29, 2020 the Governor issued Executive Order 20-112 extending Executive Order 20-69 until further notice.

In 2001 the Florida Attorney General issued an Advisory Legal Opinion, AGO 2001-66 providing that an Airport Authority members may conduct informal discussions and workshops over the internet, provided proper notice is given and interactive access by members of the public is provided, including establishing a designated place within the boundary of the authority where the public may observe the proceedings. Because of the current State of Emergency, I am opining to the District that it is not necessary to provide a designated location within the boundary of the District where the public will gather to observe the proceedings.

Therefore, the September 28, 2020 Board Meetings of the Marion County Hospital District scheduled for 5 PM shall be held through electronic means. Members of the public who are interested in listening to the meeting can call in using the following phone number and code:

**(888) 740-4219 Then Enter Participant Code 139155**

Any person with a disability requiring reasonable accommodations in order to participate at the meeting should contact Joseph Hanratty, Esquire, Counsel at 352-732-3915.

Dated this day, Monday September 21, 2020, at Ocala, Florida.

Marion County Hospital District Board of Trustees and Munroe Regional Health System, Inc.  
Joseph M. Hanratty, Counsel  
Forman, Hanratty, Thomas & Montgomery  
723 E. Ft. King St.bri  
Ocala, FL 34471352-732-3915