

SETH C. SLAGLE, LAWYER

111 S. Main St.
Henrietta, Texas 76365



Telephone: 940.538.0533

TELECOPIER 940.538.0555
claycountylaw@gmail.com

August 18, 2022

Honorable Mike Campbell
214 North Main Street
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Retta Collins
214 North Main Street
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Johnny Gee
214 North Main Street
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Richard Lowery
214 North Main Street
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Chase Broussard
214 North Main Street
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Honorable Sheriff Jeffrey C. Lyde
Chairman Board of Manager CCMH
215 West Gilbert Street
Henrietta, Texas 76365

Re: Resignation

To Court and Board

Please accept this letter as my resignation from the Clay County Board of Managers, effective immediately. I do not make this decision lightly and would like to take this opportunity to say a few words about my time spent on this board.

It was my pleasure to serve on this board. I did not volunteer my name to be put up for consideration, however, when I was asked, I chose to volunteer my time to the residents of Clay County and the persons the hospital serve. I hope that my time and efforts were valuable to the residents of Clay County. I did not make any decision in haste. I made decisions that I felt were in everyone's best interest. I use this hospital. I take my children to this hospital. I hope it is

around for my grandchildren. I would never intentionally make a decision that would jeopardize this hospital.

I personally thank the other board members with whom I served. Along with me, they volunteer their time. They all live in this County and use this hospital. All of them take every decision personally and do what they feel is best for the residents and the hospital. All of them are honorable people, and despite what some may feel about their decisions, their integrity should never be questioned.

The fact of the matter is, without intervention, Clay County Memorial is marching towards its death. Every outside auditor that has looked at the books tells the board the same thing: the hospital will be out of money in 3-5 years. Doing what has always been done is not an option; that will ensure the death of an institution that has been instrumental, in some way, in the life of every resident of this county. I personally left my appendix there in 1996.

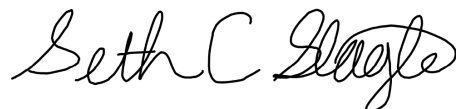
I offer my resignation because I feel that the board and the county are marching towards mutually assured destruction. As a lawyer, I am governed by the Texas Rules of Professional Responsibility, one of which covers conflicts between clients. While this situation does not technically pose a conflict, I prefer to allow a canon of the judicial code of conduct to govern in order to avoid impropriety and the appearance of impropriety in all activities. The current climate between the board and the county has become one such situation. Although I am the County's Criminal Prosecutor, many people think I am the "County's Attorney." However, I do have a statutory duty to give advice to the Commissioners' Court. While I can and have always given an impartial opinion to the court, I feel that the commissioners no longer believe that I can. I will, of my own accord, rectify that situation.

There has been a lot of fault and blame thrown around this situation. I will say that there is enough fault on all sides to go around. Everyone needs to remember that we serve the residents of Clay County. It is not about personal feelings or egos.

I echo my sentiments about the Board of Managers regarding the Commissioners. I know they make the decisions they feel are best for the residents of the county.

I hope this current situation can be resolved amicably and in a way that allows for the future financial health of the hospital. In the words of Albert Einstein, "What is right is not always popular, and what is popular is not always right." I know everyone involved will continue to represent themselves and the county with integrity, dignity, and respect.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Seth C. Slagle". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Seth C. Slagle