

392.6 Hospital or health care facility trustees.

If a hospital or health care facility is established by a city, the city shall by ordinance provide for the election, at a general, city, or special election, of three trustees, whose terms of office shall be four years. However, at the first election, three shall be elected and hold their office, one for four years and two for two years, and they shall by lot determine their respective terms. A candidate for hospital or health care facility trustee must be a resident of the hospital or health care facility service area within the boundaries of the state at the time of the election at which the person's name appears on the ballot. A board of trustees elected pursuant to this section shall serve as the sole and only board of trustees for any and all institutions established by a city as provided for in this section.

Cities maintaining an institution as provided for in this section which have a board of trustees consisting of three or five members may by ordinance increase the number of members to five or seven. The ordinance shall provide for the immediate appointment of the additional members necessary to establish a five-member or seven-member board and shall provide that, of the additional members added to the board by appointment, one-half of the additional members added shall serve until the next succeeding general or city election, and the remaining additional members shall serve until the second succeeding general or city election. The ordinance shall also provide that the determination of which election an appointed additional member shall be required to seek election be determined by lot. Thereafter, the terms of office of such additional members shall be four years. However, if a city has adopted an ordinance which increases the number of members of the board of trustees to five or seven members and the terms of office of four of the five members or six of the seven members end in the same year, the date of expiration of the term of one of the four members or two of the six members, to be determined by lot, shall be extended by an additional two years.

Terms of office of trustees elected pursuant to general or city elections shall begin at noon on the first day in January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday. Terms of office of trustees appointed to fill a vacancy or elected pursuant to special elections shall begin at noon on the tenth day after appointment or the special election which is not a Sunday or legal holiday. The trustees shall begin their terms of office by taking the oath of office, and organize as a board by the election of one of their number as chairperson and one as secretary, but no bond shall be required of them. Terms of office of trustees shall extend to noon on the first day in January which is not a Sunday or legal holiday or until their successors are elected and qualified. Vacancies on the board of trustees may, until the next general or regular city election, be filled by appointment by the remaining members of the board of trustees, unless within fourteen days after the appointment is made, there is filed with the city clerk a petition which requests a special election to fill the vacancy. Trustees who are appointed to fill a vacancy or who are elected at special elections shall serve the unexpired terms of office or until their successors are elected and qualified.

The treasurer of the board of trustees shall receive and disburse all funds under the control of the board as ordered by it. The treasurer shall give bond in a form and amount as determined by the board in its discretion.

No trustee shall receive any compensation for services performed, but a trustee may receive reimbursement for any cash expenses actually made for personal expenses incurred as trustee, but an itemized statement of all expenses and moneys paid out shall be made under oath by each of the trustees and filed with the secretary and allowed only by the affirmative vote of the full board.

The board of trustees shall be vested with authority to provide for the management, control, and government of the city hospital or health care facility established as permitted by this section, and shall provide all needed rules for the economic conduct thereof and shall annually prepare a condensed statement of the total receipts and expenditures for the hospital or health care facility and cause the same to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the city in which the hospital or health care facility is located. In the management of the hospital or health care facility no discrimination shall be made against practitioners of any school of medicine recognized by the laws of the state.

As a part of the board's authority it may accept property by gift, devise, bequest or otherwise; and, if the board deems it advisable, may, at public sale, sell or exchange any property so accepted upon a concurring vote of a majority of all members of the board of trustees, and apply the proceeds thereof, or property received in exchange therefor, to any legitimate hospital or health care facility purpose.

The trustees may in their discretion establish a fund for depreciation as a separate fund. Said funds may be invested in United States government bonds and when so invested the accumulation of interest on the bonds so purchased shall be used for the purposes of the depreciation fund; an investment when so made shall remain in United States government bonds until such time as in the judgment of the board of trustees it is deemed advisable to use the funds for hospital or health care facility purposes.

Boards of trustees of institutions provided for in this section are granted all of the powers and duties necessary for the management, control and government of the institutions, specifically including but not limited to any applicable powers and duties granted boards of trustees under other provisions of the Code relating to hospitals, nursing homes, and custodial homes irrespective of the chapter of the Code under which such institutions are established, organized, operated or maintained.

[S13, § 741-o, -p; C24, § 58675871; C27, 31, 35, § 5867, 5867-a1, 58685871; C39, § **5867, 5867.1, 58685871**; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, § 380.1380.6; C71, 73, § 380.1380.6, 380.16; C75, 77, 79, 81, § 392.6]

94 Acts, ch 1034, §1; 96 Acts, ch 1080, § 1, 2; 99 Acts, ch 36, §11; 2000 Acts, ch 1015, §1; 2003 Acts, ch 9, §1, 2