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## **Doshier selling Nursing Center license to Liberty**

SOUTHPORT—The Doshier Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees voted Monday to sell the state license for the Doshier Nursing Center to Liberty Healthcare & Rehabilitative Services for \$1.28 million.

Ten firms responded to Doshier's advertised request for proposals by a January 22, 2016 deadline, and three submitted formal bids to acquire the license. At its annual retreat, the Board of Trustees reviewed the offers and selected the one submitted by Liberty, as not only the highest, but the best bid.

"The proposal by Liberty fulfilled our requirements to build a replacement nursing center in or within five miles of Smithville Township, accept all current residents regardless of payment method, and offer first consideration for staffing to current Doshier Nursing Center employees," Board Chair Sherri Marshall says. "The bid by Liberty was the most comprehensive and complete. The trustees feel very comfortable with this decision."

"This is a tremendous result for the community. Area residents will get a new, state-of-the-art facility, close by, operated by a leading skilled nursing organization," Board Finance Committee Chair Rev. Jim White says. "This makes good business sense and allows Doshier to maintain focus on core hospital and clinic operations."

Last year, Doshier formed a study committee to obtain input from groups of families of Nursing Center residents, physicians, community leaders, and Doshier Board members. Each of the groups reached the same conclusion that selling the license was the best option for the future of the Nursing Center and its residents.

A formal agreement between Doshier and Liberty will follow and be presented to the Doshier Board in the coming weeks. Then, following approval by state regulators, Liberty will assume control of the 64-bed license as the owner operator. Liberty will announce plans for the replacement facility at a later date.

Read more about Doshier facilities and providers at [www.Doshier.org](http://www.Doshier.org).

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