

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES

August 22, 2016

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on August 22, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the Sabine County Hospital Board Room.

**Present**

**Phil Yocom, President**  
**Earl Willis, Board Member**  
**Joe McNaughten, Secretary**  
**Mark Pearson, Vice President**  
**Gary Williams, EMS Administrator**  
**Diane Powell, District Administrator**  
**Emily Taylor, Administrative Assistant**  
**Tyler Williams, Director of Operation EMS**

**Others Present**

**Jerry Howell, Sabine County Hospital Administrator**  
**Jared Chanski, Preferred Hospital Exc. VP**  
**Larry Stephens, Preferred CFO**  
**Martha Stone, Sabine County Tax Assessor**  
**Tom Ince, Sabine County Appraiser**  
**Penny Ferguson, Daily News and More**  
**Montez McNaughten, Sabine County Citizen**

- I. Mr. Yocom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Mr. Willis opened the meeting with prayer.
- III. Proposed Tax Rate
  1. Mr. Yocom stated that the certified appraisal roll for the Sabine County Hospital District total appraised value \$1,098,737,180 less exemptions \$438,935,020 leaving the taxable value at \$659,802,160 certified by Tom Ince Chief Appraisal for Sabine County Appraisal District. Mr. Willis moved to accept the certified appraisal roll. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
  2. Sabine County Tax Assessor Collector Martha Stone stated for the record, "I, Martha Stone Collector for Sabine County Hospital District do solemnly swear the anticipated collection rate for 2016 for the Sabine County Hospital District has been estimated to be 100%." Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the anticipated rate for 2016 Mr. Willis seconded. Motion passed
  3. Sabine County Tax Assessor Collector Martha Stone stated for the record, "I, Martha Stone Collector for Sabine County Hospital District do solemnly swear that the amount of excess debt service fund collected in 2016 for Sabine County Hospital District has been determined to be

\$0.” Mr. Willis moved to accept the Certification of the 2016 excess debt collection Sabine County Hospital District. Mr. McNaughten Seconded. Motion Passed

4. Ms. Stone stated that the Board would need to determine a proposed tax rate. She stated that she had figures on what the 2015 rate was at 100% and at 95% as well the effective rate, .01 cent above effective rate and the roll back rate. Ms. Stone stated she assumes that there had been talk about the roll back rate but this was for the board to discuss. Mr. Willis moved to adopt the effective rate at .1950911 per \$100 evaluation that would generate \$1,287,215 at 100% collection. Mr. Yocom stated that the budget that the finance committee has worked on was based off the roll back rate. Mr. Willis asked if it needed to be voted on tonight. Ms. Stone stated that this was just for discussion. Mr. Yocom stated that the tax rate wouldn't be finalized until the budget was finalized to determine how much money the district would need. He stated that you do not want to set a rate then figure out where the money would be spent you would want to figure out how much money you need then set a rate to fit the need. Mr. Willis stated he would like the board to look at the fact that going with the effective rate of .1950911 and then going to the roll back rate of .2106984 that is only \$100,000 difference. No action
5. Ms. Stone stated she would put the roll back rate on the forms for the paper. She stated the Board could decrease that amount after the budget is finalized if need be. Ms. Stone stated that the District could go to the roll back rate. Ms. Stone stated that she would prepare all the forms for the rate the District decided on. Ms. Stone stated that the dates for the public hearing are September 1 and September 8. Ms. Powell asked what time would the board like to have the meetings. Mr. Willis suggested 5:30 P.M. Mr. Yocom stated that was too late in the day. He stated that the last time anyone showed up for a public hearing meeting for the tax rate was when Eddie Farrell was alive. Ms. Stone stated that it didn't matter to her. Mr. Pearson stated that in regards to the special meeting that the time be noon. Mr. Yocom asked if that was a good time with the rest of the Board Mr. McNaughten stated yes. Mr. Willis stated no because if someone from the working class would like to come over it is easier for them to do it at 5 or 5:30 vs noon. He stated that he realized that no one has been showing up but he thinks it's the board's responsibility to make sure they could come if they would like. Ms. Powell asked what if one meeting was held at noon and the other at 5. Mr. Yocom stated that no longer than this kind of meeting was, people can swing by on their lunch hour at noon. Mr. Yocom moved to hold two public meeting one on September 1 and the other September 8 both at noon. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed. Ms. Stone stated that at the next regular meeting they needed to adopt the tax rate. Ms. Powell stated that the next scheduled meeting was September 26, 2016 but in earlier conversations Ms. Stone stated that was too late, that there needed to be a special meeting. Mr. Yocom asked if there was any way that you could do it following the last public hearing. Ms. Stone said probably so but she would have to check to make sure. Motion passed. Ms. Stone add that this year there is a new question on the forums they have come up with for the paper and the question is what is the purpose of the increase. She stated that something had to be put there and it could not be a generalized term. Mr. Yocom stated that he and Ms. Powell would get something to her. No Action

#### IV. Public comments:

Montez McNaughten stated she would like to remind everyone that she has attended more Hospital Board meeting than anyone else in the community. She stated she has been attending since Mr. McNaughten joined the hospital board several years ago as have the rest of the Board Members. She stated that the Board members have devoted a lot of time to the Hospital Board. Ms. McNaughten stated that she knows each of the Board member and they love and are concerned with the citizens of Sabine County. She stated that all the Board member want is for the best of Sabine county and the Community is best to have a diverse board that they don't just always go with each other. She stated that she is a little disappointed in some of the remarks that are rude to a mother board member. She stated that she



does not think it's very appropriate and that it needs to stop and stop acting like little boys and grow up and be professional in attitude. She stated that she would appreciate it if that comment was taken very seriously.

Laura McCroskey stated she was just wondering how the board was coming along with finding a replacement for Dr. Comeaux spot.

- V. Mr. Yocom asked if everyone had had a chance to review the minutes from the last meeting. He asked if anyone had any additions, corrections or deletions from the minutes. Mr. Yocom asked if everyone has had a chance to review the financials or have any questions. Mr. McNaughten moved to approve the minutes and financials. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.
- VI. Mr. Howell stated year to date; inpatient days are up 9%, Swing Bed Days are up 106%, ER visits are down 5%, Admits from the ER are down 6%, Outpatient Visits are the same, and Clinic visits are up 15%. Mr. Howell stated that the quarterly Staff meetings would be held this week. Mr. Howell stated that Preferred has recently entered into an agreement with the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston to complete rotation thru our clinic and hospital. He stated that Dr. Backofen will be the physician responsible to work with the students during this time. He stated that 3 to 4 medical students that are in the program will rotate through Hemphill. Mr. Howell stated that's it goes along with the program that Chris Melcher has been working with University of North Texas. He stated that the Chronic Care Nursing program is on target to begin in September. Mr. Howell stated that Dr. Natalia is back from her month long July vacation. Mr. Howell stated that there will be an employee appreciation day on September 16, 2016. He stated that Preferred appreciates all of their staff year around but do have a special day to show them the appreciation. Mr. Howell stated that Mr. Moody has attended a continuing education program that focuses on bed side ultra sound in the emergency room. Mr. Willis motioned to accept the Hospital administrators report. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
- VII. No action.
- VIII. Mr. Williams stated that Sabine County EMS was very busy in the month of July with a total of 161 calls with an average time of 8 minutes and 41 seconds. Mr. Williams stated that 26% of calls were under 5 minutes, 27% was between 6-10 minutes, and 40% was between 11-20 minutes. He stated that the 911 destination location breakdown has the majority of the patients went to Sabine County ER, 5% went to CHI St. Luke's Memorial ER, 11% went to Landing zones and 25% was refused. Mr. Yocom asked if that was average for refusals. Mr. Williams stated that 30% was about average but last month they were below average. He stated that he was hoping the refusal rate was going to stay down but it doesn't look like it is. Mr. Williams stated that he has 8 non emergent transfers, 8 emergent transfers and 18 medical transports. He stated that the call location break down has the majority of the call at patient's homes, 20% from hospital, 12% from nursing homes, and 14% from MVA. Mr. Williams stated that the zone break downs always has Hemphill with a lot 21%, the hospital at 19%, Pendleton with 9% and Pineland 9%. He stated that Sabine County EMS transported 102 with no light or sirens and 25 with lights and sirens. Mr. Williams stated that the mileage has went up the last month but call volume being up that is expected. Mr. Williams asked if the Board if they would mind if he did his yearend review at this time. The Board approved. Mr. Williams stated that the years started slow but picked up as the year went. He stated that that Dr. Andy was still the Sabine County Medical Director and he has signed off on a new set of protocols that allowed an emergency room doctor to be used as an online medical direction if needed. He stated this is to help farther advance with the telemedicine service. Mr. Yocom asked if they could transmit EKGs and what not to Hospitals. Mr. Williams stated to the ones that have the program to send them. Mr. Williams stated that the moto he goes by is a leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. He stated that Tyler Williams was the Director of Operations and James Duffey, Johnathan Bunton and Phillip Blair was all Paramedic Supervisors. Mr. Williams stated that the total responses for 2016 was 1705 compared to 2015 with 1721. He stated that the



responses went down a little but that's because they started EMS year off slow. Mr. Yocom stated that when Acadian ran the EMS service for Sabine County they stated that they only had about 1100 runs in Sabine County so we are up over 50% from what Acadian stated they was at. Mr. Williams stated that out of those 1705 calls 59 was in Bronson, 12 in Brookeland, 82 in Fairmont, 281 in Hemphill, 387 in Sabine County Hospital, 269 in Nursing Homes, 144 in Pendleton, 213 in Pineland, 29 in Rosevine, 11 in San Augustine, 81 in Shamrock and 80 in Six Mile. Mr. Williams stated that types of calls EMS responded on was 1199 was 911's, 160 emergency transports, 196 non-emergent transports and 136 medical transports. He stated that Dispositions was 2 assist, 2 calls cancelled, 16 DOS, 9 Disregarded, 4 False alarm, 6 No patient found, 293 Trans Code3, 3 Downgraded, 1117 Trans Code1, 4 upgraded, 1 TX Trans by Sabine County/ Police Department and 37 TX with no trans. Mr. Williams stated that the Location type was 45 at Doctors' offices, 728 residence, 56 at Hospitals. 362 Emergency room, 270 Nursing Homes, 31 place of Business, 12 sports facilities, 27 jail, 11 Public Building and 147 street/highway. He stated that the response time average was 10 minutes and 34 seconds. He stated that Bronson's had an average time of 11 minute 50 seconds, Brookeland's time was 18 minutes 17 seconds, Fairmont's time was 20 minutes 7 seconds, Hemphill's time was 6 minutes 22 seconds, Nursing home's 4 minutes and 22 seconds, Pendleton's time was 13 minutes 51 seconds, Pinelands time was 10 minutes 16 seconds, Rosevine's 15 minutes 16 seconds, San Augustine's time was 20 minutes 24 seconds, Shamrock's time was 18 minutes 55 seconds and Six's miles time was 14 minutes and 47 seconds. Mr. Williams stated that some of the achievements in 2016 is advanced protocols, video intubation equipment, advanced medication added, advanced training for additional procedures additional unit added to the fleet, telemedicine, advanced monitoring system, and additional help from the UPL Program. He stated that looking forward they are looking to more advancements in treatments, advance telemedicine system, help lower from door to cath lab time, advanced stroke patient education, and assist with community stroke care education. Mr. Willis moved to approve the EMS Administrator's report. Mr. Yocom seconded. Motion passed.

- IX. Mr. Howell stated that the statement of income and balance sheet was in the Board members packet for the first 6 months of the year. He stated the gross revenue was 7.5 million which was a little less than last year. He state that the total revenue after contractual allowances was 4.1 million. Mr. Howell stated that all the expenses have been kept under the unaudited budget of last year so 4.3 million was the total expenses from last year to date vs. the projection of 4.67 million. Mr. Howell stated year to date through the month of June the operation loss was \$224,000 vs. a loss of \$511,000 last year. He stated that following the transfer from the hospital in the amount of \$403,000 making the net income \$179,333 vs the negative \$106,000 through June of last year. Mr. Howell stated that noted at the bottom is the actually amount from 1115 waver and DSRIP less the part sent up from the District but the return portion is in the deductions from revenue that offset the deductions. He stated without that the deductions from revenue would have been a lot higher. Mr. Yocom asked that on the unaudited budget line he was under the impression that was this year's budget but that's just where you were same period last year. Mr. Howell stated that he used the wrong wording at the beginning but the page would be changed since Preferred now has the audited numbers and Larry will be making those adjustments. Mr. Yocom asked Larry if the unaudited numbers were based the same time last year. Mr. Larry stated negative that it is the budget for 2016. Mr. Howell stated that Preferred is ahead of budget \$179,000 vs. a loss of \$106,000 through June. Mr. Howell stated that on the Balance Sheet the cash and cash equivalents are up a bit. Mr. Willis moved to accept the 2016 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Financials for Sabine County Hospital. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Mr. Pearson, Mr. McNaughten and Mr. Willis voted yes. Mr. Yocom voted no. Motion passed.

- X. Mr. Yocom stated that Hospital District budgeted \$36,000 for the year for First Responder Organizations FRO's and half the money is distributed in February and the other half in August of each year and the amount each department gets is based of the number of runs they do. Mr. Willis ask if there is ever any problem getting the information needed. Mr. Powell stated no. Mr. Willis moved to distribute the funds. Mr. McNaughten Seconded. Motion passed.



- XI. Ms. Powell stated that the Ambulance contracts were not done in time to be sent out in the packets. She asked the Board members to look over them and let her know of any changes they would like to see in them and this item would be back on the agenda next month for a vote. Mr. Willis asked what the major changes are. Mr. Williams stated the way the original contract was drawn up the wording was saying that if a natural disaster occurred and Sabine County was ordered to evacuate Sabine County EMS does not have to resources to evacuate that many people. Mr. Yocom asked if this was a change for only the Nursing home or the hospital also. Mr. Williams stated both. He stated that the Ambulance service is going to be tied up with 911 calls, but we can help them get in a contract with a bigger service like Allegiance that can come in and get them evacuated. No Action
- XII. Mr. Yocom stated that Mr. Pearson, Ms. Powell, Larry Stephens, Jared Chanski and he had a meeting earlier in the day and they are at an impasse. No Action Taken.
- XIII. Mr. Howell stated that Preferred would provide the statistical data in time for Ms. Powell to include it in the next board meeting packet. No Action Taken.
- XIV. No action taken
- XV. Mr. Willis stated that the meeting needed to stay at 5:30. Mr. Yocom stated that the only people that have attended the meeting in the last year were Preferred employees or people related to them and that others could come by at noon-on their lunch break to sit in on the meeting. Mr. McNaughten stated he guessed they can. Mr. Pearson stated that there are pros and cons each way. Mr. Pearson stated that he is flexible at this time in his life but a year ago he would not have been. Mr. Yocom stated that he believe that everyone on the board was flexible at this time. Mr. Willis stated that if he could hear a good reason he would be with switching but at this time he has not heard a good reason. Mr. Yocom stated that with the positions being voluntary spots then you have to take into account everyone's time and the time the employees have to stay after normal work hours to attend the meeting. He stated that at this point in his life 5:30 is no longer convent. Mr. Yocom motioned to move the regular scheduled Board meeting to noon. Mr. McNaughten stated that noon was not a good time for him. Mr. Willis stated that it's not a good time for him either. Motion dies due to lack of a second.
- XVI. Executive session at 6:21 P.M.
- A. Concerning the Sabine County EMS Ambulance Station.
- XVII. Return to open meeting at 6:32 p.m.
- XVIII. Mr. Yocom moved that Sabine County Hospital District purchase the land that was described previously for the negotiate price and authorize the Hospital Board President and Secretary to close on the property on the amount of \$32, 275. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed. Mr. Yocom appointed a committee consisting of Mr. Pearson, Mr. Willis, Mr. Williams and Ms. Powell to evaluate the lot and the construction that will take place on it.
- XIX. Board member comments:
- Mr. Willis: No comment
- Mr. Pearson: No comment
- Mr. McNaughten: No comment

Mr. Yocom: No comment.

XX. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

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Phil Yocom, President  
Sabine County Hospital District  
Board of Directors

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Joe McNaughten, Secretary  
Sabine County Hospital District  
Board of Directors