

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

November 28, 2016

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on November 28, 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

Others Present

Emily Taylor, Administrative Assistant
Tyler Williams, Director of Operations EMS
Jerry Howell, Sabine County Hospital Administrator
Penny Ferguson, Daily News and More
Cecil Tatum, Sabine County Reporter

- I. Mr. Yocom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Mr. Mark Pearson opened the meeting with prayer.
- III. Public comments.
Mr. Pearson stated that he feels like first he owes his community an apology for walking out on the meeting last month. He stated secondly he owes his fellow board members an apology for walking out of the meeting. He stated if he was going to sit at that chair and preach to get along and make good decisions that needed to be made for the community. He felt he does not need to be walking out of the meeting and vacating his seat. He stated that he does feel that the meetings need to stay respectful and cordial at all times.
- IV. Mr. Willis moved to accept the October 24, 2016 Regular Meeting and approval of financials and invoices. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
- V. Mr. Howell stated in the month of October some stated was up and some was down. He stated that Inpatient Days are down 17%, Swing Bed Days are up 26%, ER Visits are up 6%, Admits from ER are down 8%, Outpatient Days are down 6%, and Clinic Visits stayed the same. Mr. Howell stated that for the year Inpatient Days are up 20%, Swing Bed Days are up 88%, ER Visits are down 1%, Admits from ER are up 7%, Outpatient

Days stayed the same, and Clinic Visits are up 12%. He stated the Sabine County Hospital Employee Christmas Party would be on December 10 from 3:00p.m. To 5:00p.m. And each of the Board members are invited to stop by. Mr. Howell stated that there are several people that would be receiving there 5 year pins, 2 would receive 10 year pins and one that will be receiving their 20 year pin. Mr. Howell stated that they had a good Board retreat this year. He stated that in Friday of the board retreat Brittney Henson did a presentation that he was very proud of. Mr. Pearson stated that he could not have been more proud of the presentation himself. Mr. Howell stated that Mareika Gay was doing a great job as the CNO. He stated that Mareika and Laura McCroskey will heading to Austin the following week to attend a meeting on Quality Care in Critical Access Hospitals. He stated that that both ladies have also completed their ACLS Instructors courses and this would allow them to do ACLS training for the Hospital as well as EMS staff. Mr. Howell stated that Hillary Fiscus recently completed her Chronic Care Management, has successfully passed the certification Exam. He stated that Quincy Anders and Sandra Woodard have completed training and testing for certified coders. Mr. Howell stated that they had a student from UMTB Steven Seria. He stated that this is a new program that had just started this year that give third year medical students a chance to do a rotation at a rural area Hospital. He stated that Dr. Backofen is heading up that program. Mr. Yocom asked Mr. Howell to change his numbers on his paper to read in whole number and not decimals for his percentages in the chart. Mr. Willis moved to accept the Hospital Administrator report. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.

- VI. Mr. Howell stated that the next request for 1115 Waiver funds isn't until January but with the holidays he wanted to go ahead and ask for what would be sent up. He stated that the last payment was made in July so he is asking for the money owed for August – January and the refund if the money has been received by the District by then. Mr. Howell stated that if the refund was in place it would be \$498,813.07 but if the refund isn't in place then it would be \$406,945.13. Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Howell if he was asking for the 2015 balance plus the 2016 funds. Mr. Howell stated that there was a payment in July so we are only asking for August 2016 through January 2017 and the refund if it is received. Ms. Powell stated that she talked to Mr. Howell earlier in the day and the refund was sent to the wrong Hospital District so the state is waiting on that Hospital District to refund the money so they can send it to us. Mr. Willis moved to send up \$498,813.07 if we received back in the amount of \$91,867.94 from the state. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
- VII. Mr. Williams stated that in the month of October the total numbers of calls went back down to 153 total calls with an average response time of 9 minutes and 43 seconds. Mr. Williams stated that in the 911 Destination Location breakdown are as follows; 4% to CHI Lufkin Memorial ER, 6% to Christus Jasper Memorial, 2% to Landing zones, 4% to Nacogdoches Medical Center ER, 4% to Nacogdoches Memorial ER, 39% to Sabine County ER, 2% to Woodland Heights ER, 6% to San Augustine ER, and 34% was refusals for a total of 113 911 calls. Mr. Yocom asked where the Medical Center of SE Texas was. Mr. Williams stated that he thinks it is in Orange. Mr. James Duffy stated that he believes it was in Tyler. Mr. Yocom stated that there was only 4 non emergent calls; were those from the Hospital, home or where? Mr. Williams stated that it could have

come out of the nursing home coming to the hospital for testing. Mr. Yocom stated that the Emergent transfers 36% to Nacogdoches Medical Center, 27% CHI St. Luke's Memorial ER, 18% Sabine County Hospital, and 9% each to Nacogdoches Memorial and Woodland Heights. Mr. Yocom asked for the Zone Breakdown could be a year to date number so if we ever do expand or need to stage we will know where that needs to be done. Mr. Williams said he could provide that information. Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the EMS Administrators report. Mr. Willis Seconded. Motion Passed.

VIII. Mr. Yocom stated that asking for the resignation of Board Member Mr. Earl Willis was a direct result from last month's meeting. Mr. Yocom moved to ask for Mr. Earl Willis resignation. Mr. McNaughten Seconded. Mr. Pearson asked where the Hospital Board stands with the AGs office if we drop below 4 Board members. Mr. Yocom stated that it is strictly a symbolic vote there is no actionable item. Mr. Yocom stated that assuming that Mr. Willis is not going to vote for this item it will be moot but we are going to take the motion anyways. Mr. Yocom, Mr. McNaughten, and Mr. Pearson Vote yes by a raised hand. Mr. Willis voted no by a raised hand. Mr. Yocom stated vote is 3 to 1 so motion fails.

IX. Mr. Howell stated that in 2015 that the indigent out patient was 70 outpatient and 89 to rural health clinics for a total of 159. Mr. Yocom asked if a patient came in and had both an x-ray and lab work was that counted as one or two indigent. Mr. Howell stated that would be counted as one. Mr. Yocom stated that it is counted by individual not by service. Mr. Howell stated correct. Mr. Willis asked how many people are eligible for indigent care. Mr. Howell stated that there was a total of 136 application, 76 were complete, 28 were incomplete, 58 were approved, and 37 were ineligible. Mr. Howell stated that they follow the guide lines based on the state of Texas which is a sliding scale based on the total amount of family members. Mr. Willis asked if once they are approved they are approved from there on. Mr. Howell stated that are eligible for a quarter then they have to reapply. Mr. Howell stated that the Needy/Medically underserved falls under more of the Medicare designation for uninsured and income based stuff. Mr. Yocom asked if this includes if someone comes in and Preferred discounts the services. Mr. Howell stated it could be but it is not routinely the reason for the discount. Mr. Willis asked Mr. Howell if he had heard anything about what's going to happen to Medicaid. Mr. Howell stated that no one knows. He stated that the problem is that they have been really aggressive trying to get in some of the things they wanted to get in. Mr. Howell stated that the problem with Medicaid is it falls with the 1115 Waiver comes in based on if Texas expands Medicaid. He stated that CMS will start not approving more and more if the state does not expanded. Mr. Willis stated that last year there were people in the community that bought insurance cheap and they were having problems with getting services at the Hospital. Mr. Howell stated that Preferred is not in every contract. Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the Indigent Care Report. Mr. Pearson Seconded. Motion passed

X. Mr. Howell stated that for a total revenue they are a little under budget with \$6,118,345 vs. \$6,246,540 however for expenses we are below right at \$500,000 with an actual being \$-394,974 and the budget being \$-769,050. Mr. Howell stated that year to date the net

income is \$213,768 with a budget of \$-159,030. He stated that he would remind everyone that this report is through September and in October Preferred had to return to the state a little over \$200,000. He stated that that mishap will have a negative effect on their financial for this year. Mr. Pearson gave Mr. Howell a financial report that the Board received in 2014. Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Howell if that was what the financial report looked like in 2014. Mr. Howell stated he was not here in 2014 so he was unsure but he was told that CFO Larry Stevens never furnished that report. Mr. Howell stated perhaps Diane printed it off like that but he does not know. Mr. Yocom stated that Preferred did furnish it. Mr. Howell stated that he was not saying that Preferred didn't just that Larry did not. Mr. Pearson asked if the reports can go back to more detailed itemized statement like the Board used to receive. Mr. Howell stated that he will run it up the ladder again but he has been told that this is what Preferred feels comfortable providing but he will express Mr. Pearson's concerns. Mr. Pearson stated that he thinks getting a more detailed financial would help resolve some of the issues. Mr. Howell asked what particular issues? Mr. Pearson stated that there was a contractual impasse at the moment but if there could be some work towards making the finances more like they used to be maybe that would help fix the problem. Mr. Pearson stated that he was just trying to open the line of communication. Mr. Yocom stated the impasse was not knowing what kind of financial health the hospital was in. Mr. Howell stated that he did not understand that comment because he has provided the balance sheet. Mr. Yocom stated but it's not detailed and stated that every accounting class he has ever taken you don't use depreciation as an expense Mr. Howell stated that the way the balance sheet is laid out is by the national accounting standards to lay out the financials. Mr., Howell stated that one of the benefits from this is that this is what the audit finances looking. Mr. Yocom stated but that it is a general over view. Mr. Howell stated he appreciated that but to say that they don't know what the financial health of the hospital is when the balance sheet shows good financial health. Mr. Yocom stated that he does not know how Preferred gets to the numbers currently and that before he knew. Mr. Willis moved to accept the 3rd quarter financial report. Mr. Pearson seconded. Mr. Pearson voted yes. Mr. Yocom voted no. Mr. Yocom stated "Vote tied motion failed. The audio is unclear how Mr. Willis or Mr. McNaughten voted.

- XI. Mr. Willis stated that he had nothing to discuss tonight. Mr. McNaughten asked about the financial health of the Hospital District since we lost \$100,000. Ms. Powell explained that we are currently still on the 2016 Budget. She stated that the Budget that was adopted in September would not go into effect until January and Mr. Williams and herself are working on cutting expenses in areas that can be cut back. Ms. Powell stated that at the last meeting Mr. Willis was going to help and that he had some ideas that he was going to present. She stated that she was just waiting on guidance from the board on what to do. Mr. Pearson asked if he was supposed to present that tonight. Ms. Powell stated that was what was said at the last meeting. Mr. Willis stated yes he had some information but he prefers to wait to give the information next month. Mr. Pearson stated that the Board can only wait so much. Ms. Powell stated that she is just going off of what was adopted. Mr. Yocom stated that the board could not adopt a new budget that it could only be revised. Ms. Powell stated that the trouble is the big expenses that are not in the budget like an ambulance remount or an ambulance station. She stated it was put into the original

budget but not the adopted budget. Mr. Pearson stated that the District would have to borrow the money or something. Mr. Yocom asked if the remounts are \$120,000 to \$140,000. Ms. Powell stated for two, yes. Mr. McNaughten asked if the Board will have to take out a loan. Mr. Yocom stated that yes and it would cost taxpayers interest. Mr. Willis asked where the \$100,000 difference came from. He stated from the roll back rate it \$70,000 not \$100,000. Mr. Yocom stated that is incorrect. Item tabled

XII. Ms. Powell stated that she has e-mailed the attorney twice and still waiting on a response. She stated that Mr. Nicholson has e-mailed several times wanting to know if we are going to join the program. Ms. Powell stated that as soon as she gets an e-mail back from Mr. Kreinke then she would let everyone know. Mr. Yocom stated Mr. Nicholson was being a fairly aggressive and wanting the board to sign a letter of intent. Mr. Yocom did not want to obligate the District without knowing the full ramifications of the program. Mr. Yocom stated that until the attorney is spoken with he didn't feel comfortable signing a letter of intent. Mr. Yocom stated that the time line is becoming very short and it may be that a special meeting may need to be called about the QIPP program.

XIII. Withdrawn.

XIV. Mr. Yocom moved to allow any Board Member that would like to attend the THA Conference in Austin with the stipulation, if the District pays for your registration fees and you do not attend you are required to pay the District back the registration fees unless there is a valid reason you couldn't attend. He stated that the reason had to come before the board in closed session for discussion to determine if it's a valid reason. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed

XV. No Executive Session.

XVI. No Executive Session.

XVII. Mr. Yocom asked where we stood on the station. Ms. Powell stated that she is waiting on direction on from the board. She asked if the board would like for Mr. Williams and herself to work on quotes. Mr. Yocom stated yes we have to get EMS some decent housing. Ms. Powell stated she agrees but that her only concern was how the district would be paying for the expense. Mr. Yocom stated to get the quotes then the Board would figure out how to pay for it. He stated that the Board needed to know how much they will have to pay before they could figure out where the funds would come from. Ms. Powell stated that she does not want to do a lot of leg work for something that the district can't afford to purchase right now. Mr. Yocom stated that the district cannot afford not to purchase a trailer now.

XVIII. Board member comments

Mr. Willis no comment

Mr. Pearson stated he really enjoys serving in the position the community entrusted to him. He stated he definitely wants to seek the help of the public to fill the vacant seat on the Board. He also asked for the help in filling any upcoming seats that may come open. He asked the public to please come forward to help.

Mr. McNaughten stated that he asked the lady from Pineland to come to the meeting. He stated that her husband does not want her to getting involved in all the mess going on the Board. Mr. McNaughten stated that it must have got out in the community that the Board is fighting during the meeting.

Mr. Yocom No comment.

XIX. Adjourned at 6:09 P.M.

Phil Yocom, President
Sabine County Hospital District
Board of Directors

Joe McNaughten, Secretary
Sabine County Hospital District
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