

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

April 25, 2016

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on April 25, 2016 at 5:30 PM in the Sabine County Hospital Board Room.

Present

Phil Yocom, President
Mark Pearson, VP/Financial Officer
Joe McNaughten, Secretary
Earl Willis, Board Member
Gary Williams, EMS Administrator
Diane Powell, District Administrator
Emily Taylor, Administrative Assistant

Others Present

Jerry Howell, Sabine County Hospital Administrator
Sabine County Citizens

- I. Mr. Yocom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Mr. McNaughten opened the meeting with prayer.
- III. Public comments.
Gayle Sanchez stated "In a letter from the Texas Medical Board dated April 4, 2016 one of Hemphill's top doctors learned of two complaints lodged against them by one of Sabine County Hospital District Board Members it is sad that one would resort to such vindictive tactics such as this, these are actions of a bully and eventually a bully will encounter people who will stand up and say enough is enough. A major concern of mine is that Sabine County Hospital Board is charged with using our tax payer dollars in an irresponsible manner, if the Sabine County Hospital Board is sanctioning the actions of this individual then the citizens of Sabine County need to reexamine who makes up the Hospital Board and make some changes. If the Sabine County Hospital Board does not sanction these actions then changes need to take place. The Sabine County Hospital Board needs to remove this individual who probably at one time was an asset but has now proven himself a liability. The Hospital Board needs team players, people who will work together to resolve healthcare issues, they do not need rogue individuals who take matters into their own hands. At the special meeting of the Hospital Board, April 5, 2016, a lot of the people expressed how happy they are with the healthcare in Sabine County. Being a three time cancer survivor, healthcare is very important to me and I am very pleased with the quality of healthcare I have received. Healthcare in Sabine County is as good as they

have ever been and if things aren't broke don't mess with them. I was inspired by Mary Hill at the April 5th Meeting when she asked the board "What the hell?" I would like to change that slightly and ask "What the hell are you going to do?" I pray that the Sabine County Hospital Board can resolve the internal issues and differences before them and start working on the bigger and more important issues at hand. Thank you."

- IV. Mr. Willis moved to accept the resignation of Dr. Lana Comeaux, Precinct Three Sabine County Hospital District Board Member. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Mr. Yocom stated he would like to thank Lana for her many years of dedicated service to this board and to this community. He stated Lana was a great asset to this board and will be missed. Motion passed.
- V. Mr. Willis stated that he had not received his packet in time to review the minutes and financials, he asked if it was the pleasure of the board to move this item to the May Meeting so that he would have time to review the Minutes and Financials. No Action Taken this item will be moved to the May 23, 2016 Board Meeting Agenda.
- VI. Mr. Howell stated that compared to 2015; Inpatient Days were up 9%, Swing Bed Days were up 113%, ER Visits were down 1%, Admits from ER were down 19%, Outpatient Visits were down 2%, and Clinic Visits were up 21%. He stated that they are able to keep the clinics open longer because they have added Dr. Backofen. He stated over the last several weeks they have seen a lot of cases of the flu. He stated they have begun training for their Chronic Health Nurse, which is a nurse that will work with a patients who have two or more chronic problems these will be Medicare patients. He stated that if you read about Population Health it's a way forward in Health Care it's a way to deal with population health as well as dealing with the sick patients. He stated this is a step into Population Health, there are two or three other things that will be integrated into this program. He stated that Preferred had a nurse and the two clinic managers that went to training in Houston, the nurse is now doing online education for this role. The nursing position with Population Health is a part time position at this time but will hopefully turn into a full time position as new programs are added. Mr. Yocom asked if this was just for clinic patients or did this also include hospital patients. Mr. Howell stated at this time it was just clinic patients, however there are some aspects that will include hospital patients. Mr. Howell stated that the Hospital will be having a Health Fair on the Square in Hemphill on May 13, 2016. Mr. Howell stated that the doctors have provided more than 100 athletic physicals so far this year to all the area schools. He stated that there are still more physicals yet to be done. He stated that the base coat for the halls will be completed in a two to three week time period. He stated that the MRI service that has been coming to the hospital every other Saturday will be changing to one half day per week. Mr. Howell stated that beginning May 1, 2016 there will be special pricing for outpatient labs. He stated that if a patient chooses to pay cash for their outpatient labs they will receive a discount and their insurance will not be billed. He stated that it is approximately a 25% discount. He stated that it would be a totally different pay structure if the patient pays cash in order to ensure the discounted rate. Mr. Yocom stated that it was his understanding that all the lab costs would decrease regardless of whether the patient had insurance or Medicare. Mr. Howell stated that Mr. Yocom misunderstood

him. Mr. Howell stated that the lab costs at Sabine County Hospital were comparable to other area hospitals as best he could tell. Mr. Chad Moody, Physician's Assistant at Sabine County Hospital, stated that the prices are very similar to San Augustine because there is a cash price at the other hospitals as well. Mr. Yocom stated that this was certainly a step in the right direction. Mr. Howell asked if a doorway could be added between two offices in the Business Office. Mr. Yocom stated that he didn't see that as a problem. He asked the other board members for objections and there were none. Brittney Henson has assumed the role of Trauma Nurse Coordinator. He stated that a local pharmacist will assume the duties of Pharmacy Coverage for the Hospital. Mr. Yocom asked what pharmacy they would be using. Mr. Howell stated KC Drug. Mr. Pearson commended Mr. Howell on the lab prices. Mr. Willis stated that now we can see that our lab prices are in line with other area hospitals. Mr. Howell stated yes to his knowledge they are, however he is not saying it's dollar for dollar however it is in range with other hospitals. Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the Hospital Administrator's Report. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion passed.

- VII. Mr. Willis stated that the board has been dueling with this 1115 Waiver Project and haven't been able to receive the information that one board member is requesting and that is Phil Yocom. Mr. Yocom stated yes. Mr. Willis stated that Preferred has sent information to Mr. Yocom and he has stated that isn't enough information because he wants more information. Mr. Willis stated that we haven't had any problems with the 1115 Waiver Project and now it's the top agenda item. Preferred does provide Sabine County Hospital Financials and this shows that Preferred uses this money for different things and a lot of it is payroll. Mr. Willis stated that for him to ask Preferred to open their books to see where every penny of this money is going would be wrong in his opinion. He stated that he would like to see this issue go away. He stated that Preferred would still be given the money and our group would stay the same. He stated that this has been talked about enough. Mr. Pearson asked Mr. Willis meant investing money back into the community or giving money back. Mr. Willis stated investing money back into the community. Mr. Pearson stated that is their obligation under their contract. Mr. Yocom asked how Mr. Willis knows that they are using the money for payroll. Mr. Willis stated I don't write the checks. Mr. McNaughten stated that the Board is talking about something that is ridiculous and this is not Phil Yocom's business. Mr. McNaughten stated the money goes into the general fund. Mr. McNaughten stated he felt this was a waste of time. Mr. Yocom stated that all he has been trying to do this entire time is to protect the taxpayer's interest. Mr. McNaughten this has nothing to do with taxpayer's interest. Mr. Yocom stated that if a taxpayer comes to him and asks what the money is being used for then could answer them honestly. Mr. McNaughten stated that Mr. Yocom is totally wrong and out of line. Mr. McNaughten stated that Mr. Yocom needed to resign and go home. Mr. Yocom stated that would not happen and in fact he would be signing up in 2018 when his term expires. Mr. Pearson asked if there was a call at this time. Mr. Howell stated no. Mr. Willis stated that there has not been a call in some time. Mr. Naughten moved to move forward and participate in the 1115 Waiver Project. Mr. Willis seconded. Mr. Yocom stated that this has already been approved in 2012. Mr. McNaughten stated he wanted to approve it again. Motion passed.

- VIII. Mr. Williams stated the numbers have increased. He stated that there were 128 calls in March, with an average response time of 9 minutes and 40 seconds. He stated that 43% of the calls had a response time of less than 5 minutes, 17% were 6-10 minutes and 40% were 11-31 minutes. He stated that 48% of the 911 calls were transferred to Sabine County Hospital, 10% to Lufkin CHI, 19% were refusals and the other 23% were transferred to other area hospitals. He stated that a Physical Agility Test was performed on March 22, 2016. He stated there was one employee would could not complete this due to blood pressure issues. He stated that employee is now being monitored by their PCP. Life Air Rescue held a PALS class with nine paramedics attending. Mr. Willis moved to accept the EMS Administrator's Report. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
- IX. Mr. Yocom stated that he had not had a chance to look at the bids closely. He stated that with the packets being late being delivered to the members he would like to refer this to the finance committee. He stated at the next meeting the finance committee would bring a recommendation to the board for approval. Mr. Willis asked if the finance committee would report back to the rest of the board. Mr. Yocom stated yes. Mr. Willis stated he would like to see the bids. Ms. Powell provided Mr. Willis with the bids received. No action taken.
- X. No Action.
- XI. No Action.
- XII. No Action.
- XIII. Mr. Yocom moved to allow the Administrator's to attend the Affordable Care Act Conference. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
- XIV. Mr. McNaughten moved to allow the District Administrator and the Board Members to attend the THT Conference. Mr. Yocom seconded. Motion Passed.
- XV. Executive session at 6:04 P.M.
- A. Concerning the Sabine County EMS Ambulance Station.
- XVI. Return to open meeting at 6:25 p.m.
- XVII. Mr. Yocom moved to enter into a Lease Agreement for the Administration Office located in the city limits of Hemphill, TX. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed.
- XVIII. Board member comments:
- Mr. Willis: No Comment.
- Mr. Pearson stated he liked the community attending the meetings and getting involved.

Mr. McNaughten stated he felt like this had been a productive meeting.

Mr. Yocom asked the Ms. Powell add Discussion and request for the resignation of Mr. Yocom to the May Regular Board Meeting Agenda.

XIX. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Phil Yocom, President
Sabine County Hospital District
Board of Directors

Joe McNaughten, Secretary
Sabine County Hospital District
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