

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

February 25, 2013

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on February 25, 2013 at 5:30 PM in the Sabine County Hospital Board Room 167.

Present

Phil Yocom, President
Earl Willis, VP & Treasurer
Joe McNaughten, Secretary
Diane Powell, Office Manager

Absent

Mark Pearson, Member at Large
Dr. Lana Comeaux, Member

Others Present

Diana Taylor, Hospital Administrator
Penny Ferguson, Sabine County Reporter
Montez McNaughten, Sabine County Citizen

- I. President Yocom called the meeting to order at 5.30 p.m.
- II. Mr. McNaughten opened the meeting with prayer.
- III. With no members of the public desiring to comment, Mr. Yocom continued the meeting. No action taken.
- IV. Mr. Willis stated that the Sabine County Hospital District currently owed approximately \$177,000.00 on the loan for the CAT SCAN; he felt it necessary, since the funds are available, to pay-off the loan at Sabine State Bank in order to save approximately \$3,600 in interest. Mr. Yocom moved to accept all consent items and payoff the existing loan with Sabine State Bank. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion carried.
- V. Mrs. Taylor reported January 2013 year to date statistics compared 2012 as follows: inpatient census days were up 8%, swing bed days increased by 126%, average length of stay was 3.2 days, emergency room visits were down 3%, outpatient visits remained the same, transfers increased by 7%, and Clinic Visits increased by 42%.

Mrs. Taylor stated that 70% of the Inpatient Census Days she has on her report would change, due to the Medicare Advantage Program now considered under commercial

insurance due to the new Medicare guidelines. She explained the more Medicare Advantage plans Sabine County Hospital has the less Medicare utilization is used. She stated that Preferred Management would be attending the next board meeting to explain the In-Network Medicare Advantage Plan. She feels that it is in the best interest of Sabine County Hospital to become an In-Network Medicare Advantage Plan provider due to patients going elsewhere for In-Network Care.

She reported that Sabine County Hospital had received notification from Novitas, the Third Party Administrator for Medicare, that they can now start billing for services at the Toledo Bend Family Clinic. Notification was received from Medicaid in January and those claims are currently being submitted.

The second submittal of the revised 1115 Waiver projects were submitted by the Region 2 Anchor and 10 projects were rejected for further revisions in the region, however Sabine County Hospital's project was not one of those rejected. Mrs. Taylor anticipates the first date of payments for DY 1 is mid-May 2013. Date of the IGT transmittal is uncertain at this time.

The new Avaya phone system was installed during the week of February 18 despite problems encountered through the Windstream connection by Agility Communications Group. Sabine County Hospital as well as both clinics is now on the same system.

The new plan enrollment year for healthcare benefits for Sabine County Hospital employees will start in a couple of months, right now it appears Sabine County Hospital will see a 2% increase in the Blue Cross Blue Shield Premiums, which is less than was expected and much less than prior years. Vision premiums will increase and Dental premiums will remain the same.

Sabine County Hospital purchased a refurbished snack vending machine due to the lack of finding someone who could service the old snack vending machine. Mrs. Taylor reported that the prices for products were kept as low as possible and all efforts were made to stock it with products everyone wanted.

The pay freeze is still in effect due to no action taken by Congress concerning the Medicare/Medicaid funding. Mrs. Taylor urges the Sabine County Hospital Board of Directors to contact their Representatives and Senators in support of eliminating the proposal for the 2% cuts that will affect the rural hospitals.

Plans are currently underway for the Hospital Health Fair in May. Recently the PR Committee discussed this year's theme during National Hospital Week being "Peace, Love and Good Health" featuring a 70's theme. Plans have not yet been finalized for the Pineland Health Fair pending available dates from West Sabine ISD.

The remodeling of patient rooms 203 & 204 is scheduled to begin March 18, 2013. Chance Construction will be doing the remodel with a schedule of 45 days for

completion. The new nurse call system will also be installed in the next few weeks; this will involve the entire hospital.

The first annual Employee Resource Fair will be held February 27, 2013. All employees are required to receive annual education in-services on various subjects including fire safety, back safety, infection control, compliance, HIPAA, etc. The resource fair will encompass all requirements for the entire year and all Sabine County Hospital employees are required to participate.

Mr. Willis moved to accept the Hospital Administrator's report. Mr. McNaughten seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- VI. Mr. Yocom stated he felt the current Board Room Chairs are in need of replacing. He asked Ms. Powell to gather information on obtaining new chairs for the Board Room. She received pricing from Ashley Furniture in Hemphill, TX and National Business Furniture Catalog, Ms. Powell recommended purchasing a smaller chair at \$569.00 each from Ashley Furniture in order to seat up to ten people at the table as well as save the cost of purchasing a new table. Mr. Yocom moved to purchase ten chairs at \$569.00 each. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion Carried.
- VII. Mr. Willis stated that two years ago when Sabine County Hospital District sent out bids for the Depository only one bank was interested due to the backing up of public funds. That bank was Sabine State Bank, which currently holds the contract. Mr. McNaughten moved to keep Sabine State Bank as Sabine County Hospital District's Depository. Mr. Yocom seconded. Motion carried.
- VIII. Ms. Powell stated that Sabine County Hospital District had received all the necessary paperwork from the Volunteer Fire Departments First Responder Organizations. She stated that Shamrock Shores VFD would like the Hospital District to hold their funds until they can get their Tax Exemption Status corrected. Mr. Yocom stated he felt the Sabine County Hospital District should hold their funds until they receive their corrected Tax Exemption Status due to the work they have already completed. Mr. Yocom made a motion to distribute the First Responder funds as well as hold Shamrock Shores VFD funds until their Tax Exemption Status is corrected. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion carried.
- IX. Mr. Yocom explained Alex Fuller, Esq. was once an attorney for the Sabine County Hospital District. Alex Fuller, Esq. specializes in hospital and medical law. Mr. Yocom stated he felt like Sabine County Hospital should keep Duane Keating, Esq. as the Sabine County Hospital District Board Attorney; however, he felt the board should hire Alex Fuller, Esq. for the more specialized hospital law. Mr. Willis stated he would like to have a rate sheet from both Duane Keating, Esq. and Alex Fuller, Esq. Mr. Yocom moved to pay Alex Fuller, Esq. a \$3,000 retainer. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion carried.
- X. Items X. and XI. Mr. Yocom moved that anyone wanting to attend the Torch Annual Conference or the THT Annual Conference should be able to do so. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion carried

XI. Combined with X.

XII. Mr. Yocom explained the old Nortel Phone system would need to be disposed of. He stated that in the past Diana Taylor, hospital administrator has been able to put old hospital equipment up for online auction. Mr. McNaughten moved to have Diana Taylor dispose of the old Nortel Phone System. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion carried.

XIII. Mr. Yocom moved to have Diana Taylor dispose of the old Blood Bank Refrigerator. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion carried.

XIV. Board Member Comments:

Mr. Willis: No Comment.

Mr. McNaughten: No Comment.

Mr. Yocom: No Comment.

XV. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Phil Yocom, President
Sabine County Hospital District
Board of Directors

Joe McNaughten, Secretary
Sabine County Hospital District
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