

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2013

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on July 22, 2013 at 5:30 PM in the Sabine County Hospital Board Room 167.

**Present**

**Phil Yocom, President**  
**Earl Willis, VP & Treasurer**  
**Joe McNaughten, Secretary**  
**Dr. Lana Comeaux, Member**  
**Mark Pearson, Member at Large**  
**Diane Powell, Office Manager**

**Others Present**

**Diana Taylor, Hospital Administrator**  
**Penny Ferguson, Sabine County Reporter**

- I. President Yocom called the meeting to order at 5.30 p.m.
- II. Mr. Willis opened the meeting with prayer.  
  
Mr. McNaughten arrived at 5:34 p.m.
- III. With no members of the public desiring to comment, Mr. Yocom continued the meeting.  
No action taken.
- IV. Mr. Willis stated that he would advise the Board not to spend any more than \$40,000 per month for the next three months. He stated there are items the Sabine County Hospital District has already agreed upon and those items should be paid in a timely manner, however he would strongly discourage taking on any new debt. He stated part of the concern is the IGT payments that would need to be made between now and the end of the year. Mr. Yocom stated he felt that the amount of money that is sent through IGT should not exceed one year of payments due Preferred Management. Mr. Willis agreed. Diane Powell, Office Administrator, explained the next IGT payment is due on Friday July 26, 2013 for \$133,000. Mr. Willis stated he knew that was coming up as well as the next IGT payment in October. Mrs. Powell explained that the IGT payments are at the Maximum Amount allowed, she stated the District could pay less however, that would mean less funding for the Sabine County Hospital, but the District could not pay more than the Maximum Amount allowed.

Mr. Willis then stated that the Sabine County Hospital District would need to pay the \$15,000 due to Acadian Ambulance service. That amount is the 6% increase that was agreed to in the Ambulance Contract. Mrs. Taylor stated that Woodland Heights has been paying the \$25,000 per month to Acadian however the new contract with the 6% increase would put that monthly total at \$26,500. Acadian is asking for their payment of \$15,000 for the ten months of increase in the contract. Mr. Willis stated the District owes this money to Acadian and should be paid. Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the minutes and financials. Dr. Comeaux seconded. Motion carried.

- V. Mrs. Taylor reported the statistics as of June 2013 and YTD 2013 are as follows: inpatient census days were down 29%, swing bed days were down 20%, average length of stay was 3.2 days, E.R. visits were down 2%. Outpatient visits were up 12%, transfers were up 3% and clinic visits were up 19%. She stated the 526 Medicare Advantage enrollees currently with United, Humana and Health Springs being top carriers currently. The Sabine County Hospital is looking for opportunities to speak to groups prior to and during the open enrollment period for Medicare that begins in October. Laura Simpson who was the Administrative Assistant has filled the open HR position that was vacated by Hanse Ellison. Laura will now be doing both jobs. The construction on rooms 203 and 204 has been completed and the State Department of Health inspection survey was conducted. Chance Construction corrected the deficiencies found during the last Department of Health survey. Patients began occupying the rooms on July 16, 2013. The nurse call system installation is completed with some adjustments yet to be made. Final payment for the nurse call system has not been approved as of this time. The Health Fair for Temple Inland employees, retirees and family members will be held on July 25, 2013. Temple Inland is paying for some of the health screenings for employees at this Health Fair. MRI services changed due to the provider and now will be at the Sabine County Hospital on Sundays until they can reroute to come on a weekday. Billy Dickerson, Maintenance Director Sabine County Hospital, renegotiated and agreement with one of the Hospital's vendors that has saved the hospital \$4,000 annually. A new ER notification system has been implemented in July. In the past, when ER patients presented after hours or on weekends, a button located outside the ER was pushed and a buzzer in the Nurses' station would alert the staff to respond to the ER. However, when no nursing staff were present in the Nurses Station Area, the buzzer went undetected and patient care was delayed. A new buzzer has now been installed that ties into four pagers that are worn by the Nursing Staff. The pagers repeatedly go off until someone deactivates it at the ER. A Chargemaster review at a cost of \$15,000 was conducted during July. The Chargemaster in the hospital system details all of the codes and pricing that are then billed when services are rendered. Current hospital billing costs are compared against the Medicare fee schedules as well as area charges by other hospitals. The last review was conducted in 2009. The majority of the cost for the review will be paid for by a grant from the Texas Department of Rural Affairs. Mr. Pearson moved to accept the hospital administrator's report. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion carried.

- VI. Mr. Willis stated the Sabine County Hospital District's car is need of replacing. He stated at this time he felt it would be best to wait until October or November to publish bids. Mr. Yocom asked Diane Powell to add this agenda item to the October Agenda. No action taken.
- VII. Mrs. Powell stated the CD's at Sabine State Bank had a decrease in the interest rate. Mr. Willis stated this is across the board with the way the economy is this is just the current trend at this point. He said he would revisit this item in December when the CD's renewed. No action taken.
- VIII. Mr. Yocom moved that any Sabine County Hospital District Board Member and the Office Administrator be authorized to attend the THA Rural and Community Hospital Symposium September 16-18, 2013 at the Hilton Dallas/Rockwall Hotel. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion Carried
- IX. Mr. Willis presented a draft preliminary budget for 2014. Mr. Willis stated that the only major changes were in the Capital Expense and Preferred Management. No Action Taken.
- X. Mrs. Taylor explained that the payments to Acadian Ambulance are paid through IGT that is paid to Woodland Heights. She stated she received a letter from Acadian Ambulance that they would be pulling one of the ambulances in thirty days if the revised contract had not been signed as well as the additional 6% paid. Mr. Willis agreed the 6% should be paid to Acadian and Mrs. Taylor stated she would be driving to Woodland Heights pick up the signed contract. Mr. Pearson moved to pay the \$15,000 to Acadian Ambulance. Dr. Comeaux seconded. Motion Carried.
- XI. Board Member Comments:
- Mr. Willis: No Comment.  
Mr. McNaughten: No Comment.  
Mr. Pearson: No Comment.  
Mr. Yocom: No Comment.  
Dr. Comeaux: No Comment.
- XII. Meeting adjourned at 6:15p.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  
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