

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES

January 23, 2017

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on January 23, 2017 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

Jerry Howell, Sabine County Hospital Administrator
Montez McNaughten, Sabine County Citizen
Pennie Ferguson, Daily News and More

- I. Mr. Yocom called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- II. Mr. Pearson opened the meeting with prayer.
- III. No Public Comments.
- IV. Mr. Yocom stated that he and Mr. McNaughten met with two of the interested candidates for the Precinct Three Board of Director position. Mr. Yocom stated that there is one more candidate that is interested and as soon as he is contacted he will be interviewed. Mr. Willis asked if all three candidates would be attending a meeting in order for the whole board to interview them as well. Mr. Yocom stated that the appointment committee would make a unanimous recommendation to the board, however that does not stop any current board member from contacting the three individuals on their own. No Action.
- V. Mr. McNaughten moved to approve the minutes and financials. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.
- VI. Mr. Howell stated that for 2016; Inpatient Days are up 20%, Swing Bed Days are up 57%, ER Visits are up 1%, Admits from ER are up 11%, Outpatient are down 3%, and Clinic Visits are up 11%. He stated that one of the hospitals objectives this year is to have a community outreach event in each district this quarter. If anyone knows of a need

or opportunity, please let him know. He believes it is important to not focus only on Hemphill, but the surrounding communities as well. He stated that the hospital has a new piece of equipment in the emergency department. A carbon monoxide monitor which will be used when a patient may have been exposed to natural gas. Mr. Howell stated that he will be attending the Texas Hospital Association Conference this week. He stated each year the hospital is required to have a physicist test the radiology equipment. The test has been completed and they found no problems with the techniques or the equipment. Joshua Florez, a student Physician Assistant at the University of North Texas is doing field rotation with Chris Melcher. Dr. Backofen has become the Medical Director of the Trauma Program. Mr. Howell stated that they will begin re-stripping the parking lot as soon as the weather allows. The Rural Health Facilities Capital Improvement Grant is available again. The hospital is proposing to remodel two restrooms at the ER Entrance into one handicap accessible and to one patient bathroom into a wheelchair accessible shower. The total projected cost is \$39,000 with a grant of \$31,200 and a district match of \$7,800. Mr. Howell stated that according to Ms. Powell, in the past the District would pay for the items and then would be reimbursed for the costs from Preferred. Mr. Howell stated that the regulations have changed and now the money has to come from the District not the hospital. He stated he is asking the board for the match of \$7,800. Mr. Yocom stated that with the current year's budget the district would not have the funds for the grant. Mr. Willis asked if Mr. Howell would be receiving any information about the future of healthcare at the THA Conference concerning the new president. Mr. Howell stated that no one knows at this point. Mr. Howell asked again if that was a no on the grant. Mr. Yocom stated that was a no as far as he was concerned. Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the Hospital Administrator's Report. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.

- VII. Mr. Williams reported totals for 2016 were as follows: Total Calls: 1801, Response Time: 9 Minutes 54 Seconds, 911 Calls: 1289, Total Calls per Med Unit: Med One: 770, Med Two: 698, Med Three: 311, and Med Four: 24. Total Standbys: 21, Transported Lights and Sirens: 1269, No Treatment No Transport: 219, Total Per Shift: Philip Blair: 615, James Duffey: 550, Johnathan Bunton: 515, Steve English: 61, Top Traumatic Call: Falls, Top Medical Call: Hypertension, Supervisor of the Year: Johnathan Bunton, Employee of the Year: Jake Wagner. Total Calls per Zone: Bronson: 67, Brookeland: 13, Fairmount: 98, Hemphill: 311, Hospital: 370, Lufkin: 18, Nacogdoches: 20, Nursing Home: 282, Pendleton: 169, Pineland: 227, Rosevine: 41, San Augustine: 22, Shamrock: 83, Six Mile: 80. Mr. Williams reported that for 2017 the goals of Sabine County EMS are to implement lab testing in the back of the med unit. He stated that funding for that is the issue at this point. Mr. Willis asked about the lab testing. Mr. Williams explained that it would test for cardiac enzymes. Mr. Willis asked about the number of calls in Bronson being high. Mr. Williams stated that it was relatively normal. Mr. Willis asked about remounting the ambulances. Mr. Williams stated that we were adding inline fuel filters to the med units to see if that could prolong the remounts. Ms. Powell stated that the Local Projects Grant is now part of the RAC and she stated she is hoping that the District could receive funding through the grant to help cover the cost of some of the remount. Mr. McNaughten asked about the issue with the City of Hemphill and the new station not meeting fire code. Mr. Yocom explained that the NFPA Fire Code that was cited by the

City Fire Marshall was lodging and boarding house. Mr. Yocom stated that by definition both of those required payment for lodging like a hotel. Mr. Pearson asked that Mr. Williams report to the board any and all mutual aid that is required by Sabine County EMS. Mr. Pearson stated he would also like to know when Care Plus is called as well.

VIII. Mr. Yocom stated that Fairmount has a dead zone for radio communications with all emergency responders. He stated that Fairmount VFD has taken on the task of installing a radio communications tower. Ms. Powell stated that the Fire Department is asking for \$2,000 from the Sabine County Hospital District as a donation towards the purchase and installation of the radio tower. Mr. Yocom stated he recommends the board authorize a donation to the Fairmount VFD. Mr. McNaughten moved to authorize. Mr. Pearson stated he would like to ask more questions prior to sending a donation. Mr. Pearson stated his understanding is that Fairmount VFD was gifted another tower from another department here in Sabine County. He stated the tower they received need a dish system to be a complete tower. He stated that a local resident from that area donated \$20,000 to the fire department, and with that donation they bought a brand new tower. Mr. Pearson stated that if the board does this for one then they would have to do it for all. Mr. Pearson stated that Pendleton Harbor VFD is having trouble getting fuel in their trucks. Mr. Pearson stated he would like to ask questions to Fairmount VFD to dispel the rumor and gossip he is hearing. Mr. Yocom stated that a communications tower is different than being able to run the day to day operations of a fire department. Ms. Powell stated that she is a board member for Fairmount VFD. She stated that the fire department did receive a donation, in fact they received a few donations. Ms. Powell stated that they did purchase another tower. Mr. Pearson asked were they not gifted a tower from the community. Ms. Powell stated yes they were gifted a tower. Mr. Pearson stated they then went and bought a brand new tower instead of using the one that was gifted to them. Mr. Yocom asked what the status of the donated tower is. Ms. Powell stated she is unclear at this time. She stated that she believes it went to another place in the community. Ms. Powell asked Mr. Pearson for clarification on where it went. Mr. Pearson stated he didn't know and they may have hauled it for scrap. Ms. Powell stated no. She stated the tower is somewhere whether it is in Fairmount she doesn't know. Mr. Yocom asked that Art Thibodeaux the President of Fairmount VFD attend the next meeting for clarification. No Action.

IX. Mr. Yocom stated that three different entities have inquired about partnering with the hospital district on the QIPP program. Mr. Yocom stated that one of the entities is based in California with three nursing facilities in North Texas. Mr. Yocom stated the second entity has nursing facilities in Jacksonville, Longview and Marshall and the third entity has a nursing home in Tyler. Mr. Yocom stated that the rules for the QIPP Program have been finalized and the board has until March 3, 2017. Mr. Yocom stated that there isn't much time so he suggests special meetings when necessary to finalize the program. Ms. Powell stated that she has printed the rules and regulations for the QIPP Program and she urged the Board to read them and understand them. She stated that it was her opinion that the board then needed to talk to Trent Kreinke, the attorney for the QIPP Program. She stated he would be able to give the board a better understanding of what is involved

as well as answer their questions. Ms. Powell stated that the entities whom have contacted the District have all been sent by Mr. Kreinke. Ms. Powell stated that one of the entities is already in the QIPP Program and she would like to call one of the Hospital Districts involved and get a better understanding of what is needed from the District. Mr. Yocom asked for clarification on where the funds would come from. Ms. Powell stated that the funds must be public funds. Mr. Yocom stated he would like to have a conference call with Mr. Kreinke during a called special meeting. Mr. Yocom then asked how the board would like to proceed with contacting the entities that are interested in partnering with the District. Mr. Pearson stated he wanted more information about the program before proceeding with the interested entities. Mr. Willis stated that he agrees, he too would like more information before proceeding. Mr. Yocom stated that the rules have been printed and given to each board member. Mr. Yocom stated he would like a special meeting called in order to speak with Mr. Kreinke for more clarity on this matter. Ms. Powell stated that she would contact Mr. Kreinke the following day and schedule a meeting accordingly. Mr. Pearson asked what Mr. Kreinke has charged the District for doing this work. Ms. Powell stated Mr. Kreinke has charged the District nothing. Mr. Pearson asked how much he would charge to get the District in the QIPP Program. Ms. Powell stated approximately \$30,000. Mr. Yocom stated that he wanted everyone to understand the District would make approximately \$2,000 a day if all four matrices are met on a 100 Bed Nursing Facility. Ms. Powell stated she would make the call to the attorney and let the board know when the special meeting would be held. No Action.

X. Mr. Williams stated the station was delivered today. He stated he is just waiting on it to be trimmed out and the ends installed. Mr. Williams stated the next step is to get the power and water connected. Mr. Williams stated the City was at the location when the trailer was delivered and he was told the electric will not have to go as far as originally planned. Mr. Williams stated that he has contacted Larry Beasley whom is a licensed electrician to install the electricals connections as required by the City. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Beasley told him the price would be dependent upon how far he would have to go with the electric. Mr. Williams then stated that he is in the process of getting bids for the water and sewer hookups. Mr. Pearson asked that a wireless camera system be installed. Mr. Willis asked if anything had ever been stolen from the property. Mr. Williams stated that an employee had a pistol stolen out of their vehicle and that pistol was later recovered. Mr. Pearson asked if we had a policy that prevented employees from carrying weapons in their vehicles. Ms. Powell stated our policy covers the buildings not personal vehicles. Mr. Pearson asked that we look into changing that policy due to the liability. No Action.

XI. Board Member Comments:
Earl Willis: No Comment
Mark Pearson: No Comment
Joe McNaughten: No Comment
Phil Yocom: No Comment

XII. Adjourned at 6:08 P.M.

Phil Yocom, President
Sabine County Hospital District
Board of Directors

Joe McNaughten, Secretary
Sabine County Hospital District
Board of Directors