

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES

July 24, 2017

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on July 24, 2017 at 5:30 PM in the Sabine County Hospital Board Room.

**Present**

**Phil Yocom, President**  
**Mark Pearson, Vice-President**  
**Joe McNaughten, Secretary**  
**Earl Willis, Board Member**  
**Gary Williams, EMS Administrator**  
**Diane Powell, District Administrator**

**Others Present**

**Jacy Daugherty , Administrative Assistant**  
**Jerry Howell, Sabine County Hospital Administrator**  
**Chloe Schafer, Paramedic**  
**Montez McNaughten, Citizen**  
**Cecil Tatom, Sabine County Reporter**  
**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 in prayer.
- III. Public Comments: None
- IV. Mr. Willis asked if a line of credit had been set up with the bank, yet. Mr. Yocom replied no. Mr. Willis asked about the 1115 Waiver. Mr. Yocom replied it was taken care of at the last board meeting. Ms. Powell explained that they approved a payment through July. Mr. Willis asked how much the payment was. Ms. Howell replied it was just over \$400,000. Mr. McNaughten moved to accept the minutes and financials from June 26, 2017. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed by raise of hands.
- V. Mr. Howell presented the Hospital Administrator's Report. Emergency room visits and admits from the emergency room were up. Mr. Howell stated that the rest of the numbers were down in correspondence with being short a provider. Mr. Howell stated that Dr. Backofen just signed a contract that would keep him with Sabine County Hospital

through 2020. Mr. Howell also stated that he was working on a contract with a physician for next year and had ongoing recruitment efforts on a physician assistant and nurse practitioner. Mr. Howell said a Sabine County Hospital employee, Janelle Banks, retired. Mr. Howell then pointed out a list of employees he had that were continuing their education. Mr. Willis moved to accept the Hospital Administrator's report. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed by raise of hands.

- VI. Mr. Yocom opened the discussion regarding the Public Information Request to Preferred Hospital Leasing regarding the corporate and external facilities audits for 2016. Mr. Yocom explained that since Mr. Howell stated that the 1115 money could be used for anything, he would like copies of the external audits from all other hospitals that Preferred has relationships with to make sure that Sabine County's money is coming back to Sabine County. Mr. Yocom explained that he would also like copies of Preferred's corporate audit because he would like to know if they are solvent or not. Mr. Yocom stated that his motivation is simply to take care of the taxpayer's money. Mr. Pearson stated that he believes Preferred has proven themselves by investing in the community and that the audits Preferred already provided the financial data needed to prove they were spending the money the way that they should. Mr. Yocom brought up a discussion that Mr. Willis had with Andy Freeman of Preferred several years ago, that centered on the point that if Sabine County Hospital needed money, Preferred could use the revenue of other hospitals. Mr. Yocom pointed out that the same could be done with Sabine County Hospital's revenue to help other hospitals. Mr. Willis stated that he recalled having the conversation but could not remember the specific details. Mr. Pearson still disagreed with Mr. Yocom and said that the request was unnecessary. Mr. Pearson stated that Preferred has answered questions and presented data to his satisfaction repeatedly in the past. Mr. Willis agreed with Mr. Pearson. Mr. Yocom moved to request the Audits from Preferred Hospital Leasing Corporate as well as the external facilities. Motion died from lack of a second.
- VII. Mr. Williams presented the EMS Administrator's Report. Mr. Williams stated that, for the month of June, Sabine County EMS ran 116 total calls, which is 27 less than last June's total calls. Mr. Williams stated that response time was a little higher than normal at 10 minutes and 27 seconds due to where they responded to in the county and call volume increasing a little in the outer areas of the county. There were 19 total refusals. Mr. Williams stated that Sabine County EMS had not met the goal date for being in the new station but that they were finishing up and should be moving in by the next day, July 25, 2017. Mr. Pearson asked if Sabine County EMS could take calls out of the state. Mr. Williams explained that Sabine County EMS can transfer patients out of state but could not take emergency calls in another state. Ms. Powell asked if she and Mr. Williams could attend EMS World Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. Ms. Powell discussed the benefits of the trip including meeting with new vendors and buying inventory in bulk at a discount. Ms. Powell stated that the trip would only cost approximately \$900, and she and Mr. Williams would be in a booth representing Sabine County. No one opposed. Mr. Yocom moved to approve the EMS Administrator's Report. Mr. McNaughten seconded. Motion passed by raise of hands.

VIII. Mr. Yocom opened the discussion concerning the remounts of ambulances for Sabine County EMS. Mr. Williams presented the quote from Frazer to remount Med 3. The quote was \$104,000 and included updated emergency lights, suspension, and air conditioner. Ms. Powell explained that, because Med 3 is a bigger ambulance, it was more expensive and that the remounts for Med 1 and Med 2 wouldn't cost as much. Ms. Powell explained that this remount would be funded through the UPL money that would be received on September 30, 2017. Ms. Powell stated that the remount wouldn't take place for another 4 months, but Sabine County EMS needed to put their name on Frazer's waiting list now. Mr. Yocom moved to authorize the remount of Med 3. Mr. Willis seconded. Motion passed by raise of hands.

IX. Executive session at 5:47 p.m.

1. Discussion concerning EMS Personnel.

X. Return to open meeting at 5:51 p.m.

XI. Board Member Comments:

Mr. Pearson said he was recently a patient of Dr. Luther and he is glad to know that there are good provider's in the community.

Mr. Willis: No comment

Mr. McNaughten: No comment

Mr. Yocom: No comment

XII. Board meeting adjourned at 5:52 p.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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