

SABINE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING MINUTES

December 21, 2015

The Sabine County Hospital District Board of Directors met for a Regular Meeting on December 21, 2015 at 5:30 PM in the Sabine County Hospital Board Room.

**Present**

**Phil Yocom, President**

**Earl Willis, Board Member**

**Mark Pearson, Member at Large**

**Gary Williams, EMS Administrator**

**Diane Powell, District Administrator**

**Emily Taylor, Administrative Assistant**

**Tyler Williams, Director of Operations**

**Others Present**

**Jerry Howell, Sabine County Hospital Administrator**

**Penny Ferguson, Daily News and More**

**Bob Kusterman, Daily News and More**

**Cecil Tatum, Sabine County Reporter/Toledo Chronicle**

- 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 due to clerical error approving of the minutes for the December 15, 2015 Regular Board Meeting would have to be done at the January Meeting, the October 26, 2015 minutes have already been approved. Mr. Yocom stated that the financials and invoices are the only thing that could be approved. Mr. Willis stated the minutes that are in the packet couldn't be approved until January. Mr. Yocom stated yes. Mr. Willis stated that the financials and invoices would be the only thing that was being approved. Mr. Yocom stated yes. Mr. Willis moved to accept the financials and invoices. Mr. Yocom seconded. Motion Passed.
- V. Mr. Howell stated that the hospital had a stronger than expected November. He stated that they hit a new record for swing bed patients and look like they will be hitting around the same number as last year with most of the budget numbers. Mr. Howell stated that the hospital hosted their annual Christmas party on December 10, 2015 with Mr. Freeman

and Mr. Chanski from Preferred Hospital Leasing in attendance. He stated that they recognized several people for their years of service with Sabine County Hospital. He stated that Lovey Archie had been with the Sabine County Hospital for 37 years, Deborah Arndt 27 years, Contina Coleman 15 years, and several people had been there for 5 years. He stated that Ms. Hogue who has been with the Hospital for 27 years would be retiring. Mr. Howell stated that Margie Watson is no longer the CNO and Mareika Gay is serving as interim CNO until the Hospital is able to find someone else. He also stated that after the first of the year there are plans to remodel and paint at the Hospital and they would be asking for approval on that when he gets the plans together. Mr. Yocom stated that when Diana Taylor was the Hospital Administrator she gave the Board year to date numbers to compare with the previous year on the monthly inpatient/outpatient, swingbed, etc. Mr. Howell stated that he could get more numbers for the board. Mr. Yocom moved to accept the Hospital Administrators report. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.

- VI. Mr. Howell stated that each month the District pays the hospital \$65,002.20 in lease payments. He stated that at the start of the year there was a balance carried over in the amount of 16,257.31 also in June there was an IGT payment sent in the amount of \$428,325.44. Mr. Howell stated there would a DSRIP payment due before the end of the year and Preferred was requesting that the amount of \$367,958.27 which would be the payments until the end of the year contract be sent up. Mr. Yocom asked Ms. Powell what the call was for. Ms. Powell stated she was unaware what the call was for. She stated that the amount that Preferred had banked was \$172,931.87 thru the month of November. Ms. Powell stated that the amount that Mr. Howell was asking for was through the end of the contract year. Mr. Yocom stated that the policy that the board adopted was to only send up the amount Preferred had banked. Ms. Powell stated correct. Mr. Yocom stated that the max that could be sent up under the policy was \$172,931.87. Ms. Powell stated that was through the end of November that was correct. Mr. Yocom stated that in May the Board voted to advance over \$200,000.00. He stated that if the board had not advanced the extra money in July they could send up the amount Mr. Howell is requesting. Ms. Powell stated that financially the district could send up the amount being asked for. She stated she thought that was what Mr. Yocom had asked. Mr. Yocom stated no he wanted to make sure that the Board is staying within compliance of their policy. Mr. Howell asked if the Board would consider sending up the \$65,000 for December. Mr. Yocom stated that the District has to pay Preferred within the first 10 days of the month. Ms. Powell stated correct so the balance at the end of December would be around 237,000 – 240,000. Mr. Yocom that would still make us stay within our policy. Ms. Powell stated yes. Mr. Willis stated that the reason The District was not sending up the full amount was because they didn't have the money. Ms. Powell stated no she explained that she told Mr. Yocom the District did have the money to send up, however Mr. Yocom asked about the policy on IGT. Mr. Willis stated he must be missing something and asked why the Board is not sending up the full amount asked for. Mr. Yocom explained it was due to the policy adopted about a year ago, the policy only allows for the amount banked to be sent up. Mr. Yocom moved to send up the amount of \$172,931.87 plus the December payment of \$65,000.00. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion Passed.

VII. Mr. Williams stated that the total number of calls were down to 128 calls; with the average response time being 9 minutes and 28 seconds. Mr. Williams stated the 911 destinations are as follows: 17% to CHI St. Luke, 6% to Christus Jasper, 2% were flown out, 3% to Nacogdoches area Hospitals, 41% to Sabine County Hospital, 4% to Woodland Heights, 16% refusals and 11% to San Augustine ER with the total calls being 83. Mr. Williams stated that there was a total of 12 Non-emergent Transfers with 75% coming out of Hemphill Care Center and 25% from Sabine County Hospital. He stated that there was a total of 16 Emergent Transfers; 50% went to St. Luke's, 6% to Tyler, 13% to Nacogdoches Medical, 6% to Nacogdoches Memorial, 13% to Woodland Heights and 6% from Sabine County Hospital. He stated that he went back and looked at the call reports and some of the medics are claiming Emergent when it was really 911. Mr. Williams stated that there was a total 17 Medical Transports; 18% to Doctor's Offices, 41% Hemphill Care Center, 30% Sabine County Hospital, and 6% to San Augustine ER. He stated that there are several different types of calls with a total of 128 calls; 3% being at Doctor offices, 43% being at homes, 26% being at hospitals, 19% Being at Nursing Homes, 6% being on streets or highways and 3% being at other places, business or the jail. Mr. Williams stated that we go to several different places in the county 8% of the calls come from Bronson, 2% from Fairmount, 14% from Hemphill, 23% Hospitals, 2% Nacogdoches, 20% Nursing Homes, 10% Pendleton, 12% Pineland, 2% Rosevine, 1% Sabine County, 3% Shamrock and 2% Six mile. He stated that the disposition breakout is 1% DOS, 1% disregarded, 8% no treatment no transport, 16% transported lights and sirens, 74% transported no lights or sirens and 1% treated no transport. He stated if you look at the mileage chart it may look a little off old med 3 is now med 4 and the new unit is now med 3. He stated that everyone knows the unit in Pineland is already known as med 3 so instead of changing numbers on everyone and making it confusing they just changed the units' numbers. Mr. Williams stated that it would be after Christmas before the new unit would be able to go into service due to getting state to sign off on it. Mr. Howell asked that if having 4 trucks would help when the hospital has a long transfer. Mr. Williams said it wouldn't change that because they would still only have 2 trucks Monday through Wednesday and 3 trucks Thursday through Sunday. Mr. Yocom asked about the new law that was going to allow the ambulance service to bill for transfer calls. Mr. Williams stated that it was not a new law just a law that was being looked at more closely. He stated that if someone is requesting a transfer to a facility and there is a closer facility that would accept but they just wanted to go to the one farther for whatever reason then the ambulance service could bill the person requesting to go farther whether it be the hospital or the patient. Mr. Williams stated that means that when sent to Houston all closer hospitals would need to be called and documented of a refusal to justify being sent that far and the payment could be asked for upfront. Mr. Pearson stated did he notice that locking caps have been added to all the ambulances. Mr. Williams's stated yes locking gas caps have been added all ambulances. Mr. Williams stated that he and Ms. Powell had been looking into security companies to put up cameras but they believe it will be cheaper to buy the cameras and do it ourselves. Mr. Pearson stated that he would like to see some quotes from some security company's first. Mr. Pearson asked if Mr. Williams could list the previous month's number as well as the current months so that he wouldn't have to reflect back to the spread sheet the month before. Mr. Williams stated

that would not be a problem. Mr. Yocom moved to except the EMS Administrators report. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.

- VIII. Mr. Yocom moved to allow Mr. Williams and Ms. Powell to attend quarterly GETAC meetings when necessary. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.
- IX. Mr. Yocom moved to renew the Texas Hospital Insurance Exchange Worker's Compensation Insurance policy option number one. Mr. Pearson seconded. Motion passed
- X. Executive session at 6:04 P.M.

A Sabine County Hospital District personnel matters.

- XI. Return to open meeting at 6:17 p.m.
- XII. Mr. Yocom moved to authorize pay increases in the amount as discussed in Executive session. Mr. Pearson seconded it. Motion passes.
- XIII. Board member comment

Mr. Willis stated the effort that the district is going through, we need to keep a good eye on the district as much as we are the EMS service. He stated that he is putting this out there for the board's consideration. Mr. Willis stated that Sabine County EMS is the majority of the talk and it should be but the main part but he feels the Hospital still needs to be looked at.

Mr. Pearson stated that he focuses on everything involved 100% of the time when he is sitting at the meeting whether it be the Hospital or EMS. He stated that he understand that there has been turbulent times here lately. Mr. Pearson stated that he feels that Preferred is doing a good job running the hospital and he is extremely pleased that Sabine County EMS is working so smoothly and doing a great job. He stated that Sabine County EMS is saving lives. He stated that being in the fire service for 7-8 years and seeing pervious EMS service in the county responded and being on the scene. He stated that he knows what kind of service we have and it's because of the people in this Meeting tonight, the ones in the administrative building as well as the ones in the ambulances. Mr. Pearson stated that is a great deal for Sabine County.

Mr. Yocom stated that he agrees. He stated that he was discussing last week the thoughts of the EMS service at the beginning was 1 ambulance 24 hours 7 days a week with a second ambulance 16 hours a day 7 days a week and 3 on call ambulance. He stated now we have 2 ambulances 24 hours a day 7 days a week and 1 ambulance 24 hours a day 4 days a week with a call time of 9 mins and 52 second. Mr. Yocom stated that one thing that has been considered with a 4<sup>th</sup> unit sitting down at the administrative office if something pops the Mr. Williams and Tyler could get in that ambulances to help. He stated that these guys' save lives and he agrees with Mr. Pearson that you don't have to

be on scene to save lives the ones in the administrative side are just as important as the ones at the Paramedic on the unit.

XIV. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 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  
Board of Directors