

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
SWEENEY HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

December 28, 2021

Time 18:00

Members Present: Mason Nichols, President; Scott Swift, Vice President; Patti Foster, Secretary
Violet Weeks, Lisa Leal, Charlie Genella, Leeda Wood

Members Absent:

Others Present: Enrique Leal, III, M.D.
Tom Ronayne
Brian Brooks

Employees Present: Kelly Park, Cindy Burge, Travis Alford, Doug Smith, April Nichols,
Jimmy Mashaw

1. **Call to Order** Mr. Nichols called the meeting to order at 1800.

2. The invocation was given by Patti Foster.

3. **Record Members Present and Establish A Quorum**
There being 7 members present, a quorum was established.

4. **Public Comments**

A. Tom Ronayne commented he enjoyed Ms. Whitley's presentation last month. He said he feels the board members are having a hard time understanding the concept of depreciation, and he said she gave a good example of it. The hospital is going to take on a 20 year note but the building will be depreciated over 40 years. The first 20 years it makes the unused round numbers two million dollar note only have a one million dollar effect on the hospital bottom line because of the Medicare reimbursement will improve by one million dollars. After twenty years it continues to help because the note is paid off and you are continuing to enjoy Medicare reimbursement a million dollars more per year than it would have been without that depreciation.

Back in August he wanted to ask, but was not allowed, but a board member should have asked when Noralene presented a budget of a 3.4 million dollar surplus that included a 1.7 million dollars of depreciation as an expense, his question was who does the hospital write the check to for that depreciation. He said the answer is nobody. Depreciation refers to money and is an expense. He proceeded to explain how depreciation works.

He had suggested a 3 million dollar decrease in the tax rate. He said that did not go anywhere. He said if he were a board member, he would want to explain to the tax payors why we want to collect double the amount of taxes next year it takes to balance the budget.

The last thing he brought up regarding Ms. Whitley's presentation is she is very fond of the tax rate and the amount being added to the bank account each year. Three years ago, the district was ready to start a new hospital and ready to borrow more money than now. He said the district has enough money in the bank to do that. Even after the down payment the district will still have more money in the bank than any small hospital in Texas. He commented no other hospital does that. He said he wanted to encourage the board members to ask the hard questions.

Mr. Nichols thanked Mr. Ronayne for his comment.

B. Brian Brooks said good evening, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. He said the District oversees The Fountains, don't they. Response was yes.

Six years ago his father in law passed away and his mother in law stayed in Conroe. She is now 93-years old. She is able to drive, and they got worried about her being by herself. They talked to her about The Fountains and finally she agreed to give it a try. They moved her in the beginning of November 2021. He said he appreciates what the district does for the community. He wanted to give a shout out to the faculty at The Fountains. He said he met some wonderful people there. He said he loves going there to visit with the residents and plays games there too. He told his wife when he gets that age, just put him in there. He said the staff is remarkable, they are doing a great job. He wants to throw some positives out there, that is a fantastic place, well-kept and they take care of the residents.

Ms. Park and Mr. Nichols thanked him for his comment.

5. **Review/Approve Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes:**

A. November 30, 2021 General Meeting

Ms. Weeks made a motion to approve the minutes from November 30, 2021.

Mr. Swift seconded the motion. Ms. Foster abstained, motion carried.

B. December 9, 2021 Special Called Meeting

Mr. Swift made a motion to approve the minutes from December 9, 2021. Correction to attendance of board members was noted. Ms. Wood seconded the amended motion.

Unanimous decision, motion carried.

6. **Finance Committee Report**

Travis Alford gave overview of November 2021 financials.

After discussion, Charlie Genella motioned to approve the November 2021 financials.

Patti Foster seconded the motion. Unanimous decision, motion carried.

7. **Old Business**

A. Replacement hospital update:

8. **New Business**

A. Execute signature cards for First State Bank of Louise

The signature cards for First State Bank of Louise for all accounts were signed.

B. Miscellaneous Capital Requests

(1) Consider and take action, if needed to approve capital requests presented

None requested.

9. **Board Committee Reports:**

A. Sweeny Community Hospital Foundation Board Update:

Ms. Park said Dini Spheris will start back up in January 2022 for the capital campaign.

Mr. Swift inquired about updating information on the hospital's website regarding the donors for the new hospital. Ms. Park said they will have their own website with the information provided regarding the donors.

Ms. Wood inquired about the naming rights for the new hospital. Ms. Park said that is already in the works.

10. **Administrative Information Report – Kelly Park**

A. CEO Report

Updates were given on the following:

- Covid numbers on the rise again
- Monoclonals antibodies – none available in Texas and we no longer have doses
- Covid 19 Mandates CMS/OSHA will resume for debate in January
- Starting department director meetings with budgets and productivity
- Quality Report
- Nursing report given by Stephanie Crowder

B. Human Resources Report: no report given

C. Emergency Medical Services Report: no report given

10. **CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mr. Nichols announced the Board would go into closed, Executive Session at 1911 to review the following:

A. Medical Staff Credentials

B. Discuss Deliberations Concerning Real Property

End of Executive Session


Went out of Executive Session at 1955.

11. **Action regarding Executive Session:**

Mr. Genella made a motion to approve credentials as presented except 2 names struck through, that were presented in Executive Session. Mr. Swift seconded the motion, Ms. Weeks abstained, motion passed.

12. **Adjournment**

Mr. Swift moved for adjournment, seconded by Ms. Wood. Meeting adjourned at 1957.


Mason Nichols, President
Recorder: Cindy Burge