

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
INDIGENT HOSPITAL & HEALTHCARE BOARD

January 25, 2011

Chair Virginia Vigil called this meeting of the Indigent Hospital & Healthcare Board to order on the above-cited date in the Legal Conference Room at the County Courthouse at approximately 9:00 a.m.

Roll was called and indicated the presence of a quorum with the following County Commissioners present:

Members Present:

Virginia Vigil, Chair
Liz Stefanics, Vice Chair
Robert Anaya
Kathy Holian
Danny Mayfield

Member(s) Excused:

None

Staff Present:

Katherine Miller, County Manager
Penny Ellis-Green, Deputy County Manager
Rachel Brown, Deputy County Attorney
Joseph Gutierrez, Community Services Director
Steve Shepherd, HHS Director
Greg Smith, Healthcare Assistance Program Manager
Priscilla Vigil, Indigent Claims Investigator

Others Present:

Alex Valdez, CEO for CHRISTUS St. Vincent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Smith noted that an amended agenda was distributed and the only changes were for clarification purposes.

Commissioner Holian moved to approve the amended agenda. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Anaya and passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 30, 2010

Commissioner Stefanics moved to approve the minutes. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Holian. The minutes were approved with Commissioners Vigil, Holian and Stefanics voting in the affirmative and Commissioners Anaya and Mayfield abstaining.

MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN – NON-ACTION ITEMS

None were offered.

FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FY 2011

- A. Comparison of FY 2010 to FY 2011 Claims**
- B. Sole Community Provider Hospital**
- C. Contracted Expenditures for FY 10 and FY 11**

Mr. Smith said these reports are informational and provided monthly. He described the three reports noting the comparisons were based on the fiscal year (July – June) not the calendar year.

Mr. Smith said UNM Hospital is reimbursed based on claims submitted by Santa Fe residents. Commissioner Stefanics said at an Association of Counties meeting she learned that there might be an effort with UNM to provide some of their tax dollars for sole community provider to the state for a match. She expressed concern that this action may complicate Santa Fe’s sole community provider situation and asked that staff watch out for this possible legislation.

Commissioner Anaya asked whether staff had concerns regarding any of the providers and associated billings. Mr. Smith said all of the contracted providers are drawing down their funds and he anticipated they would spend down their allocated amounts.

BUSINESS

A. CHRISTUS St. Vincent Regional Medical Center

Alex Valdez, CHRISTUS St. Vincent CEO, reported that the Jail Health Medical Director contract has been finalized and signed. The provider, HealthFront – the hospital’s ER contractor – has been paid through seven months of the fiscal year. He acknowledged the assistance and patience of County Manager Miller on the medical malpractice insurance issue. The County continues to pay the medical malpractice insurance.

As a point of information, Commissioner Stefanics said the state picked up the insurance for a few county jail medical groups. Commissioner Mayfield suggested staff contact the state’s Superintendent of Insurance and perhaps the County could tap into that pool.

- Mr. Valdez offered the following information:
- The CARE Connection and Sobering Center are doing well and the hospital is

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- reviewing protocol
- The hospital has identified the 25 most frequent users of the emergency room and is developing case management for those individuals
- The hospital provided additional funding to Las Cumbres' early childhood behavioral health program. That organization faces tremendous challenges due to state funding
- UNM provided supplemental match in October 2010. Currently, UNM is in negotiations with the state's Human Services Department to resolve issues.

Commissioner Stefanics requested an update in the future from legal regarding the CMS review of the County's funds in relation to the hospital.

In response to the Chair's question regarding possible proposed legislation from the Hospital Association, Mr. Valdez mentioned legislation under review from the Medical Society that will establish a cap of \$1.5 million for hospitals to participate under the Medical Malpractice Act. He noted that CHRISTUS St. Vincent was the only hospital in the state participating under the Act at the current amount of \$600,000. If the bill passes, the cap increase could have dire effects.

Chair Vigil requested that communication be kept open regarding legislation that may impact the hospital.

Mr. Valdez said Ms. Etre continues to work on the targeted areas which include training for identification and referral of domestic violence issues, the diabetes program, behavioral health and early childhood development.

Commissioner Holian mentioned a recent article regarding postpartum depression and asked whether any of the hospital's programs addressed that issue. Mr. Valdez said the hospital funds First Born Program which is a home visit program coordinated through the United Way capturing that issue.

B. Matters from the Board

Commissioner Anaya requested additional discussion regarding the sole community provider contract and other issues. Ms. Miller said the sole community, jail medical, RECC, EMS, fire funding and other health related programs including indigent all obtain allocations from a few funds; hence they are all competing for the same revenue and one decision affects other programs. She said it was critical the Commission understand how the programs affect each other. She recommended a special meeting before the February 9th BCC meeting when a sole community provider decision is needed.

Tuesday, February 1st at 8 a.m. was chosen for a special meeting date.

Chair Vigil said the Santa Fe Recovery Center is holding an open house to showcase the program expansion in which Santa Fe County has been involved. She encouraged the Commissioners to attend. Joseph Gutierrez, Community Services Director, said the event was scheduled for Thursday, January 27th from 2 to 5 p.m.

Regarding the Health Policy & Planning Commission, Chair Vigil said she attended an Association of Counties meeting where there was a review of the Health Care Act which

mandates a healthcare board and its composition to access the federal dollars. Commissioner Stefanics said with the properly constituted healthcare board the community can apply directly for Healthcare funds.

C. Approval of Indigent Hospital and County Healthcare Claims

Commissioner Stefanics moved to approve 833 claims totaling \$396,213.37 as recommended by staff, and Commissioner Holian seconded. The motion passed by unanimous [5-0] voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pursuant to HIPAA Privacy Rule

Commissioner Mayfield requested that the Board meet in Executive Session. Commissioner Stefanics so moved. Commissioner Stefanics seconded and upon roll call vote with Commissioners Vigil, Stefanics, Anaya, Holian and Mayfield all voting in the affirmative the Board met in closed session.

[The Board met in Executive session from 9:40 to 10:25.]

Commissioner Stefanics moved to return to open session. Commissioner Holian seconded and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

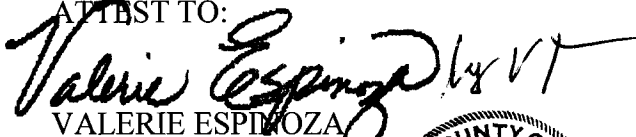
ADJOURNMENT

This meeting adjourned at approximately 10:25 a.m.

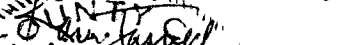
Approved by:


Virginia Vigil
Board of County Commissioners

ATTEST TO:


VALERIE ESPINOZA
COUNTY CLERK

Respectfully submitted by


Karen Farrell, Wordswork



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss INDIGENT MINUTES
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for Record On The 31ST Day Of March, 2011 at 12:34:20 PM And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1631127 Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Deputy  Valerie Espinoza
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

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