



**MINUTES OF THE NORTHERN NYE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

101 Radar Road, Tonopah, NV 89049

May 21, 2018

6:00 p.m.

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Chairman Eason opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Chairman Ken Eason Comptroller Savannah Rucker
Secretary/Treasurer Justin Zimmerman
Trustee Karmin Greber

Not Present: Vice-Chairman Cathie Clifford
Trustee Roni Link

1. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was recited.

2. Approval of the Agenda for May 21, 2018 (Non-action Item)

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman said items 5 and 12 could be removed from the agenda.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (Three-minute time limit per person.) Action will not be taken on the matters considered during this period until specifically included on an agenda as an action item (first).

There was none.

4. Announcements (first)

Chairman Eason advised he received a letter from the chairman of the Nevada Tax Commission stating that the District had been removed from the financial watch along with Nye County.

5. For Possible Action – Emergency Items

This item was removed from the agenda.

6. Trustees'/Liaison Comments (This item limited topics/issues proposed for future workshops/agendas)

Chairman Eason said he understood the County and County Manager Tim Sutton were working on trying to initiate a bill to establish a fire district/EMS district in the County. He would like it put on the next meeting's agenda to offer whatever support the Board could.

TIMED ITEMS

7. 6:00 – For Possible Action – Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 tentative budget for the Northern Nye County Hospital District; and discussion and deliberation to adopt, or amend and adopt the Final Budget for the Northern Nye County Hospital District for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.

Savannah Rucker said in the back-up was the legal budget for the District. She reviewed the document page by page for the Board. Property tax revenues totaled \$980,290.00 and the governmental estimated expenditures or budget was \$2.75 million. A section on page 4 showed the population for Nye County as well as the assessed valuation from previous fiscal year, current fiscal year and budgeted fiscal year.

Chairman Eason felt the population figure should be just the District.

Mrs. Rucker explained she asked the Department of Taxation (DTAX) about that and they said to list the County's population. A new budget analyst was coming in and she would talk to them about that as she also thought the population should be for the District only. Mrs. Rucker then discussed Schedule A, essentially a budget reconciliation showing the beginning fund balance, revenues, tax rate and other revenues, for total available revenues of \$3.244 million. Schedule A-1 was the estimated expenditures reconciliation. She then explained the tentative approved budget and the final approved budget were different because she did not take into account on the tentative budget the need to have an ending fund balance of 4% or more and she corrected that on the final. The final budget request for Board approval was \$2.75 million which lived primarily in services and supplies.

Trustee Greber asked how Mrs. Rucker arrived at the \$2.75 million.

Mrs. Rucker said it was kind of an estimate because she wanted to make sure there was enough to satisfy the 4% ending fund balance required by NRS and enough of a buffer if net proceeds changed from what DTAX projected. That number could be changed if the Board would like and she could submit the changes to DTAX.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman made a motion to adopt the tentative budget as final for FY2018-FY2019; seconded by Trustee Greber.

Trustee Greber asked if it was customary to add another \$2 million on top of the REMSA and Renown contracts for unexpected expenses.

7. 6:00 – For Possible Action – Public Hearing on the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 tentative budget for the Northern Nye County Hospital District; and discussion and deliberation to adopt, or amend and adopt the Final Budget for the Northern Nye County Hospital District for Fiscal Year 2018-2019-Cont’d.

Mrs. Rucker explained that typically with funds with variables she tried to give the District as much flexibility with the budget as possible. That could be restricted back, but not knowing the costs of the REMSA/Renown contracts or how much revenue they would generate made her uneasy to restrict it too far back. Mrs. Rucker pointed out if the funding was not budgeted and the budget was exceeded nothing could be done to correct that and the Board would be back in the hot seat with DTAX.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman added that having it did not obligate the Board to spend it. It was just available if something came up throughout the year. He knew the Board was looking at services and expanding the facility so there was the potential for unexpected expenditures to arise.

The motion to adopt the tentative budget as final for FY2018-FY2019 passed with 3 yeas.

GENERAL BUSINESS

8. No Action – 1) Presentation by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority of their March 2018 reconciliation packages; and 2) update on the progress made by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority regarding the implementation of services pursuant to the professional services agreements entered into on December 20th, 2017.

Kim Pearson, Area Practice Manager for the rural areas for Renown, advised the open house on April 27, 2018, was pretty successful with 125 attendees and 15 new patients scheduled for appointments. The Healthy Nevada Project had 85 people complete the testing, which was more than anticipated. Turning to the clinic, Ms. Pearson advised in April the regular visits were 135 and up to today they had seen 92. Urgent care in April saw 18 patients and up to today there had been 38. For occ health/workers' compensation they saw eight in April and as of month to date they had seen ten. As far as marketing materials, Ms. Pearson said Jessica received a lot of material and had delivered it to Scolari's, the convention center, the senior center, the post office, the health nurse, and she tried the library but that was closed at the time. Recruitment had also been done and they thought they had a nurse that would accept the offer, but she declined. They offered the position to an MA, who should have her orientation and training in the next three weeks. Lastly, Ms. Pearson stated they had a confidential candidate, a PA out of Las Vegas, and they were in the last stages of interviews with her. She was very interested and they should know in the next few weeks if there was a signed contract with an in-house provider.

Trustee Greber wondered what the immediate impact to the operations would be if that PA came on board and if it would have any effect on the urgent care hours.

8. No Action – 1) Presentation by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority of their March 2018 reconciliation packages; and 2) update on the progress made by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority regarding the implementation of services pursuant to the professional services agreements entered into on December 20th, 2017-Cont'd.

Ms. Pearson said the PA would be able to take walks-ins and would be able to do everything a provider could do. As far as urgent care, she said that was not something that was talked about, but she would take that back.

Louis Mendiola, representing REMSA, said they were also involved in community engagement. Mailers and initial marketing for the nurse health line had wrapped, but that was a continual dialogue so there would be social media posts and literature would be put out from time to time. He said they needed the community and all of the stakeholders to help to continually get that word out. As to forward looking updates, Mr. Mendiola advised the team had been coordinating with the local public safety folks to be sure things were safe for Jim Butler Days. There would also be a Stop the Bleed educational program offered by Flying ICU at 2:00 p.m. on Friday. REMSA was also one of the sponsors for the arm wrestling event, would attend and participate in the parade, and then provide the general standbys. He said the utilization report was in the back-up, which showed an increase for the nurse health line and the belief was that number would continue to climb. Community paramedics continued to support the local EMS and have had a number of cases they deemed as life saving or successful. REMSA also continued to work with Nye County to help them address some of their challenges. They were working with Renown's telehealth program as well and had a grant out to buy some expensive mobile telehealth equipment.

Chairman Eason said he did not see any revenues.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman said that was still not really clear at this point and he kept getting that there were a lot of moving parts. EMS did its own billing and the paramedic being involved did not translate directly to additional revenue. It was whether they performed a service during the transport above what could be performed by an EMT, that determined the additional revenue. Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman did not have a definitive answer yet, but he would work on it.

Chairman Eason said he would like to see that on the next agenda. He had an issue with charging paramedic rates and running an EMS.

Mr. Mendiola explained that under the agreement the transporting entity, which was Nye County, generated the bill. REMSA provided a patient care report and then their billing company processed the bill. He said REMSA was not generating any additional revenue from this contract.

Trustee Greber asked if the patient was being billed through the County for REMSA and REMSA was receiving revenues from the County.

8. No Action – 1) Presentation by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority of their March 2018 reconciliation packages; and 2) update on the progress made by Renown Health and Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority regarding the implementation of services pursuant to the professional services agreements entered into on December 20th, 2017-Cont'd.

Mr. Mendiola stated they were only receiving revenue from the District and those answers needed to come from the County.

Chairman Eason asked if the air transport was strictly a contract or if REMSA had its own flights. He also wondered who made the decision to transport by ground or air.

Mr. Mendiola stated REMSA was the owner of their program called Careflight and the transport decision would be made by the REMSA paramedic on scene.

Chairman Eason asked who would take care of another call if there was already a ground transport to Bishop.

Mr. Mendiola explained the County used a mutual aid system with the first call to Goldfield and the second call to Smoky Valley. There were instances when the community paramedic was the only available EMS responder on scene, but Mr. Mendiola said they had clearly explained to the County that while they understood the challenges in their mind that was unacceptable. They needed to be backed up by the volunteers as well as the mutual aid network.

Trustee Greber mentioned physicals and getting ready for school and how Renown was not able to pull that together. Knowing that would be a major in-road to all of the families with children, she asked if there was a plan to accomplish the prior to school physicals, sports physicals, etc.

Ms. Pearson did not know, but she thought something could be worked out and would discuss it with Dr. Ballard.

9. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation relating to the logo contest and possibly setting a special meeting to name a winner, thus allowing time for the procurement of the plaque and prize money to be awarded at a future meeting.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman said he discussed this with Vice-Chairman Clifford. His thought was to set a meeting in the first week of June to just name a winner and then invite that person back to the regular June meeting to receive the prize.

Trustee Greber agreed with the special meeting.

Chairman Eason wanted to talk to the absent members and then decide if he would call a special meeting.

There was no action taken on this item.

10. For Possible Action – Approval of invoices for payment.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman said just Renown and REMSA were on the list this month.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman made a motion to approve; seconded by Trustee Greber; 3 yeas.

11. No Action – Update on the current status of the fiscal year 2017-2018 budget.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman said the spreadsheets were updated with the expenditures and there were new revenue reports also. He asked Savannah Rucker if the County received the net proceeds yet.

Mrs. Rucker said not yet, but it was anticipated any day now as it usually came in May.

Regarding the \$1 million for capital improvements, Chairman Eason asked if that was standard.

Mrs. Rucker explained that last year it was unknown if the Hospital District was going to move forward with any type of renovation to the building so that potential was anticipated with capital improvement funds available to use. No capital was anticipated in FY19, but if the Board decided move forward with a capital project she could adjust the budget.

12. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation of the minutes from the April 19, 2018 meeting.

This item was removed from the agenda.

13. No Action – Open meeting law review.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman explained this item was just a standing item.

Chairman Eason believed all members were current.

14. No Action – Update on the status of the United States Trustee contract to secure and distribute the medical records currently housed on the medical campus.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman said there was a lot of misinformation going around on this contract that it was the County's contract to award and it was not. It was a contract from the United States Trustee who had a subcontractor which led to another subcontractor. It was ultimately awarded to Jerry Selig and there was some talk he would work out of the campus, but apparently not. Assistant County Manager Lorina Dellinger would meet with him tomorrow and show him the space available at the old courthouse annex building to see if he was interested in occupying that.

Trustee Greber asked to keep this item on the agenda as it was of great interest to the community.

15. For Possible Action – Discussion and deliberation to set the next meeting location, time and date.

Secretary/Treasurer Zimmerman made a motion to set the next meeting location, date and time as June 21, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in chambers; seconded by Trustee Greber; 3 yeas.

16. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT (second)

Horace Carlyle said at the County Commission meeting on May 15, 2018, there was an agenda item dealing with the County's one Bill Draft Request (BDR). At that time there was a public recommendation that the County support a Nye County Fire District to support the County's Emergency Services. Emergency Services Director Vance Payne suggested revising NRS 450, but the urban areas opposed any type of change. Mr. Carlyle said he worked with Commissioner Wichman and the town administrator looking for a legal means to fund Nye County Emergency Services and there were none except a fire district. He advised REMSA was supported in Storey County because they had a fire district. Just a word or two needed to be changed in the NRS so a bill needed to be sent to the State Legislature in 2020. Mr. Carlyle asked the Board to lobby or consider lobbying Round Mountain, Amargosa Valley, Beatty, and anyone with a governing board to support the BDR.

Louis Mendiola clarified REMSA provided services through an exclusive franchise agreement with the Washoe County District Board of Health. They did have mutual aid agreements with the adjacent counties, but they did not provide services outside of a mutual aid agreement with Storey County. He stated REMSA supported any efforts to stabilize the local emergency services.

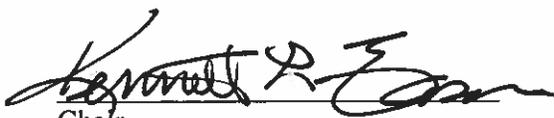
17. ANNOUNCEMENTS (second)

There were none.

18. ADJOURN

Chairman Eason adjourned the meeting.

Approved this 19th day of July 2018.


Chair