

Cochran County Hospital District
Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2024

Cochran Memorial Hospital Lobby
201 E Grant Ave
Morton, Texas 79346

ATTENDANCE

Board of Directors

Betty Lyon
Richard Houston
John Schmidt
Ray O'Brien
William (Bill) Albus

Absent

Hospital Administration

Kody Kitchens

Minutes Taker

Mary McKnight

Guests

Maggie Ramon
Amanda Turney
Grant Turner

1. Opening

- a. Quorum present
 - i. Called to order 1701
- b. Invocation led by Ray O'Brien
- c. Public Comments/Open Forum
 - i. Nathaniel Covarrubias, PA-C, new provider, introduced.
- d. Review and Consider Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
 - i. Motion made to approve the December 20, 2023 regular session meeting minutes as presented. Motion seconded. Four (4) votes in favor of approving minutes, zero (0) votes against. Motion passed.

2. Matters for Discussion and/or Action

- a. Tax Deeds
 - i. Parcel 12717 presented for approval. Motion made to approve Parcel 12717. Motion seconded. Four (4) votes in favor of approving minutes, zero (0) votes against. Motion passed. Parcel was signed by board president and board secretary and notarized by minutes taker.

3. Reports

- a. Financials
 - i. December payroll included Christmas bonuses. Christmas bonuses did come in under budget.
 - ii. Vending machine sales down.
 - iii. Have CDs that will mature on January 24, 2024 and February 3, 2024.
 - iv. Cash value of CDs has increased by \$49,000.
 - v. Tax revenue is coming in, currently at \$937,000 so far for the year.
 - vi. Line items discussed
 1. No. 32 - South Plains Emergency Medical Services Incorporated
 - a. Yearly membership dues (annual)
 2. No. 4 - Warren Computers
 - a. Monthly fee
 3. No. 53 - Underwood, Wilson & Berry
 - a. Provider contract question

b. Administrator Report

- i. Nathaniel started seeing patients in the clinic on January 15, 2024.
- ii. A member of the board was approached by Rick Levitt who stated that he (Rick) owned the hospital domain name, cochranmemorial.com, and stated that he would sell it back to us. Not sure if he mentioned a dollar amount or not.
 1. On October 20, 2023 after Rick had been terminated, Kody spoke with David Turney, who stated that the hospital was not the registered owner on the domain name. In 2008 Larry Turney went to Rick, who at that time helped him with IT stuff as we did not have an IT department. Rick helped Larry on company time, while being paid by the hospital and registered the cochranmemorial.com domain. That was originally registered to Rick Levitt; however, the hospital is the one who makes the payments, keeps up the maintenance and have been for the last sixteen (16) years. On October 20, 2023. Kody instructed David to contact Rick and get all the login information so we could change the registration since the hospital pays for. David stated he already had all the login information. David went in and registered the domain under Cochran Memorial and changed the login and password to prevent anyone else from going in and changing it. On October 23, 2023, Kody purchased domain protection for the domain. David was later terminated and all logins were handed over to Ben Warren.
 2. After the board member had reported the encounter with Rick, Kody asked Ben to check on the account and make sure everything was working. It was discovered at that time that we lost access to the account. Someone had gained access and deactivated the domain protection and changed the registered name and password, this happened on December 5th. They then changed the login information for the domain protection and turned it back on. It is not known who did this.
 3. Kody contacted FBI Cybersecurity in Dallas, who told him that what we should do, is contact our lawyer and have her issue a letter threatening to sue and charge with blackmail and have it served from the Sheriff's Office to Rick Levitt, so that if he does go in and change anything. Initial contact with lawyer she stated we would probably need to pay Rick. Upon the discovery of the intentional changes to the domain protection and GoDaddy account, the lawyer stated we would need to contact the Texas Rangers and have Rick Levitt arrested on blackmail and cybersecurity fraud. There was a Texas Ranger already at the facility earlier the same day investigating money took by David Turney. Kody contacted the Texas Ranger who said he could not do it today, but that he would be back Thursday or Friday. It was explained that we have no proof it was Rick Levitt who did it. Texas Ranger stated that because Rick was the one who stated he owned it and would sell it us, makes him liable.

- iii. Betty Nichols retired after health issues that started in November 2023. She had been at the hospital for 50 years. Mary McKnight has taken on pharmacy; she has helped Betty in there since 2010 and she is working on taking the pharmacy technician certification exam. A retirement party and recognition is being planned for a future date.

c. CEO Contract & Compensation

- i. Motion made to grant a performance bonus in the amount of \$5,000.00, all associated taxes to be paid by the hospital, to Kody Kitchens. Motion was seconded. Four (4) votes in favor of approving minutes, zero (0) votes against. Motion passed.

4. Executive Session

- a. Entered Executive Session at 1759
- b. Exited Executive Session at 1812

5. Adjournment

- a. Motion made to adjourn. Motion seconded. Four (4) votes in favor; zero (0) oppose. Motion carried.
 - i. Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Cochran Memorial Hospital CEO

Date

Cochran Memorial Hospital President, Board of Directors

Date