

**HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF ALABAMA-DOUGHERTY COUNTY
MEETING MINUTES
November 5, 2009**

Attendees: Authority board Members: Ralph Rosenberg, Lamar Reese, Wilhelmina Hall, Charles Lingle, Jyotir Mehta, M.D., John Inman, Jr. M.D., Rev. H.B. Johnson, Fred Ghiglieri and Rev. Eugene Sherman. Also present were Joel Wernick, Kerry Loudermilk, Joe Austin, Tommy Chambless, Annette Allen and Authority Attorney, James Reynolds.

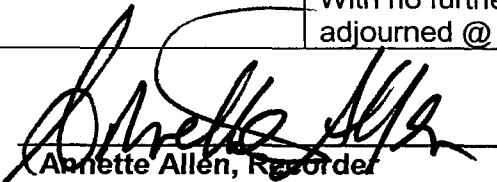
Absent:

Called To Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Rosenberg at 7:30 a.m. in the Willson Board Room of PPMH.

Topic/Discussion	Conclusion	Recommendations/Actions
Open Meeting and Establish a Quorum Mr. Rosenberg welcomed the Authority and established a quorum.		
Welcome: Mr. Rosenberg welcomed new Authority Member Fred Ghiglieri recently appointed by the county commission to fill position left vacant by the demise of Dr. Ernest Benson.		
Approval of the Agenda The agenda was reviewed.		A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
Approval of the Minutes		The minutes of the August 13, 2009 meeting were approved.
Hospital Report: Phoebe Sumter Update: Mr. Wernick updated the Authority on the groundbreaking ceremony and the Men's Health Fair which was a successful community event, as well as the recommendation by the Phoebe Sumter Board that Keith Petersen be named Administrator of the hospital.		
Willson Hospice Update: Mr. Wernick presented a slide presentation (attached) with the construction timelines and progress of the project.		

Topic/Discussion	Conclusion	Recommendations/Actions
<p>CON UPDATE: In response to a question from an Authority Member regarding publicly available obstetrics care in Dougherty County, Mr. Wernick reported on Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital, Inc.'s appeal of the State of Georgia's initial decision to grant HCA Palmyra Medical Center a CON for Level One (normal delivery) Obstetrics care. Mr. Wernick stated that the primary reason for Phoebe Putney's opposition to HCA Palmyra's request to offer obstetrics care is the adverse impact HCA Palmyra's planned obstetrics care service will have upon obstetrics care in Dougherty County. Central to the problem, Mr. Wernick stated, is that there has been no increase in the number of newborns, nor will there be an increase. Mr. Wernick also stated that area population growth remains stagnant. Mr. Wernick stated that against the demographic realities of the area, adding additional obstetric care services at HCA Palmyra will result in overall harm to publicly available obstetrics care by decreasing available resources for obstetric care, harming the financial viability of all obstetrics care and reducing the overall quality of care now available for obstetrics patients and newborns. In view of these adverse consequences to publicly available obstetrics care, Mr. Wernick stated that Phoebe Putney is carefully considering a further appeal of the determination in HCA Palmyra's favor by a Department of Community Health administrative judge.</p>	<p>Authority discussion then occurred. Authority Member, Dr. Inman, a retired obstetrician, commented on his experience with normal obstetrical deliveries becoming suddenly high risk deliveries with a successful outcome dependent upon having immediately available Phoebe Putney's neonatal care service. Dr. Inman stated that he accepts the validity of Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital's objections to HCA Palmyra Medical Center's request for a CON.</p>	<p>Action: Mr. Reese made a motion that while it is solely Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital's decision to further appeal or not the determination to grant HCA Palmyra Level One Obstetrics, based upon Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital's stated concerns that publicly available obstetrics care will be adversely impacted by HCA Palmyra obtaining a CON for Level One Obstetric deliveries, should Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital further determine to appeal the State of Georgia's decision to grant HCA Palmyra Medical Center an obstetrics CON, the Authority would, based upon Mr. Wernick's statements, support such decision as promoting the public health needs of the community. Mrs. Hall seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.</p>
<p>Old Business:</p>		
<p>New Business: Mr. Wernick stated the Authority Audit is being completed and will be on the next meeting agenda.</p>		

Topic/Discussion	Conclusion	Recommendations/Actions
Mr. Wernick informed the Authority the Investment Committee met with the rating agencies in New York recently. AA rating is considered the best in the industry. Phoebe continues to maintain it's AA rating.		
Election of Officers: Mr. Rosenberg stated the Authority should elect it's officers for 2010.		Mr. Reese made a motion to elect Ralph Rosenberg as Chairman, Chuck Lingle as Vice Chairman, Eugene Sherman as Secretary/Treasurer and John Inman as Assistant Secretary. Ms. Hall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
Next Meeting Mr. Rosenberg asked the members to review the 2010 calendar provided and respond to Annette Allen with the preferred dates for the 2010 quarterly meetings.		
Adjournment		A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. With no further business to report, meeting adjourned @ 8:18a.m.


Annette Allen, Recorder