

MINUTES OF THE 2016 BUDGET PUBLIC FORUM FOR THE WINNIE-STOWELL HOSPITAL DISTRICT

The Board of Directors of the Winnie Stowell Hospital District (“District”) convened at 9:00 a.m. on the 6th of January 2016 at the Winnie Community Room Winnie Community Building, Hospitality Room (located behind the Rice Festival Stage); 1410 Lilton Sonnier Ave.; Winnie, Texas 77665 to conduct a budget public forum. Notice of this meeting was posted ten (10) days in advance in the Hometown Press on December 23, 2015 pursuant to Sec. 286.125(b) of the Texas Health and Safety Code. Moreover, the meeting was noticed under the Open Meetings Act duly filed and posted a full 72 hours prior to the opening of the said meeting (a copy of said Notice being placed amongst the files of the District).

The roll was called of the members of the Board, to-wit:

- Elroy Henry, Chair
- Jeff Rollo, Vice-Chair
- Ed Murrell, Secretary
- Sharron Burgess, Director
- Raul Espinosa, Director

All said Board members were present. In addition, to the above named Board members, also present at the meeting was: Sherrie Norris, District Administrator; Hubert Oxford, IV of the law firm Benckenstein & Oxford, LLP; and Mary Ellen Robertson, CPA as well as a number of citizens of the District. *See Exhibit “A”*.

After determining that there was a quorum of the Board was present, Chairman Henry convened the committee meeting at 9:10 a.m. to discuss the District’s Budget for 2015 and called for public comment. Prior to the public comment, Attorney Oxford explained that the reason for the meeting was to comply with Sec. 286.125(b) of the Texas Health and Safety Code, which requires Hospital Districts to hold a public forum before adopting a budget and notice of the public forum must be ten days prior to the meeting as the Board. After this explanation,

Chairman Henry called on Hazel Meaux who made a statement expressing her concerns with the budget by complaining about various aspects of the District expenses and operations.

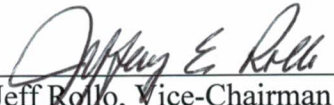
Following Mrs. Meaux's statement, Chairman Henry called on the District's CPA, Mary Ellen Robertson, to address some of the statements made by Mrs. Meaux and to discuss the 2016 budget. Mrs. Robertson attempted to provide Mrs. Meaux with accurate hourly rates for the employees and attempted to dispel some other incorrect statements by Mrs. Meaux.

Afterward, she recommended to the Board that they re-adopt the budget previously approved at the December 16th, 2015 Regular meeting. *See Exhibit "B"*. In so doing, she reminded the Board that the budget provides for \$29,154,700.00 in revenue and \$27,861,353.00 in expenses (which includes the \$1,750,000 still due the hospital for the District responsibilities pursuant to the Indigent Care Agreement entered between the District and the Hospital in March of 2015.), and would leave an estimated increase in the net position of \$1,293,347.00. On the revenue side, Mrs. Robertson included estimated loan proceeds needed for the Nursing Home UPL program for 2016 to be \$14,440,000 in income along with \$450,000.00 for the sale of property on Highway 124. As for the expenses, she recommended the administrator was to be paid a salary of \$41,600.00; an assistant, budgeted to cost \$13,000.00; and a part time indigent care director's position, budgeted for \$30,000.00. The District set aside \$160,000.00 for Indigent Care cost, of which \$130,000.00 is for Indigent care through participating in the 1115 Program and \$30,000.00 in indirect indigent expenses for prescriptions, x-rays, and other medical services not covered or provided for by the Hospital. Lastly, the Budget accounts for \$180,000.00 to spent on the East Chambers Independent School District programs previously adopted by the Board

Following the discussion on the 2016 budget, Chairman Henry asked for a motion to adjourn at 9:16 a.m. A motion to adjourn was made by Director Rollo that was seconded by Director Espinoza. The motion and second passed with the unanimous consent of all Board members.



Elroy Henry, Chairman



Jeff Rollo, Vice-Chairman