



**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
NORTH EASTERN HEALTH BOARD
HELD IN THE BOARDROOM, HEAD OFFICE, KELLS
ON MONDAY 26TH APRIL, 2004**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Declan Breathnach, Chairman	Mr. James Mangan, Vice Chairman
Ms. Nancy Allen	Dr. Declan Bedford
Mr. Danny Brady	Mr. Patrick Conaty
Mr. Paudge Connolly, T.D.	Mr. Jim Cousins
Mr. John Farrelly	Mr. Eddie Feeley
Mr. Brian Fitzgerald	Mr. Brendan Hughes
Mr. Michael Lynch	Mr. James Mulroy
Mr. Gerry Murray	Dr. Paul McCarthy
Mr. Finnan McCoy	Mr. Hugh McElvaney
Mr. Brian McKenna	Mr. William McKenna
Mr. Brian O'Neill	Dr. Patrick O'Neill
Mr. Patrick O'Reilly	Mr. Peter Savage
Ms. Grainne Tipping	Mr. Patsy Treanor

NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Alf Nicholson, Mr. Thomas Reilly, and Mr. Maurice Stokes

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mr. Paul Robinson, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Ambrose Mc Loughlin, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Geoff Day, Assistant CEO, Regional and Community Services
Mr. David Gaskin, Acting ACEO Acute Hospital Services
Mr. Fran Thompson, Director of Information Systems
Mr. Seoirse O hAodha, Head of Finance
Dr. Fenton Howell, Director of Public Health and Planning
Mr. Jim Curran, Technical Services Officer
Mr. Eamon O'Brien, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Jim Reilly, General Manager, CEO's Office
Ms. Rosaleen Harlin, Communications Director
Ms. Mary Flanagan, Board Secretary
Ms. Katherine Kellett, CEO's Office

1. VOTES OF SYMPATHY

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the following:-

The family and partner of the late Ms. Marie-Louise Duffy, Management Services Department, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital

Ms. Mary Fitzsimons, (Rowntree), former staff member at Head Office, Kells, on the death of her father

Ms. Anne Mc Bride (Morris), former staff member at Head Office, Kells, on the death of her mother

Ms. Anne Matthews, Louth Community Welfare Services, on the death of her mother

Ms. Una Ryan, Louth Community Services, on the death of her mother

Ms. Doreen Mc Court, Louth Community Services, on the death of her mother

Husband and family of the late Ms. Mary Sloane, former Public Health Nurse in Louth Community Services

Ms. Mary Tolan, Public Health Department, Navan, on the death of her mother

Ms. Paula Campbell, Cavan Services for the Elderly, on the death of her mother

Ms. Deirdre McPhillips, Mental Health Services for the Elderly, St. Davnet's Hospital, on the death of her husband

On behalf of the Board's staff, and that of his own, the Chief Executive Officer associated himself with the votes of sympathy which were passed, all present standing.

2. CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

- The Chairman updated members on the Health Amendment Bill, 2004 and informed members that the Board was still awaiting the Ministerial Order regarding the implementation date of the Bill.
- The Chairman extended an invitation to the members and senior staff to attend a function on the evening of the final meeting of the Board. He also informed members that there would be a function held in the Autumn to celebrate the history of the Board.
- It was proposed by the Chairman that the discussion on the Chief Executive Officer's Report be limited to one hour. This was agreed by the members.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On the proposal of Mr. William McKenna, seconded by Mr. Michael Lynch, the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd March, were unanimously adopted by the Board.

4. ACQUISITION/DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY

There was no business under this Item.

5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The Chief Executive Officer presented a report (copy appended to the official minute) which had been circulated and which dealt with:

- Additional Allocations
- Capital Funding
- Health (Amendment) Bill, 2004
- Outline Development Control Plan/Site Feasibility Study
- Capital Developments - Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda
- Directive in relation to Cavan/Monaghan Hospital
- Health Inequalities Fund
- Health Boards Executive (HeBE) Annual Report 2003
- Motions submitted by Mr. John Farrelly, February Board Meeting
- Donations

Members welcomed the report. A lengthy discussion took place to which many members contributed. The additional allocations and capital funding from the Department of Health and Children were welcomed. Members sought clarification in relation to a number of allocations and capital funding. A number of queries were raised in relation to the outline development control plans/site feasibility studies in the acute hospital sites and members requested that they be kept informed of developments. The recent completion of the symptomatic breast and palliative care units at Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda was broadly welcomed by the members.

The Chief Executive Officer replied to the many comments from members and clarified a number of issues.

The report was noted by the Board.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

There was no business under this Item.

7. 2002 ANNUAL REPORT OF NATIONAL PARASUICIDE REGISTRY IRELAND

The Assistant CEO Regional and Community Services presented a report (copy appended to the official minute) in relation to the above.

The report was welcomed by the members. Concerns were expressed in relation to the contributory factors associated with parasuicide. Members felt these included the use of alcohol, peer pressure, availability of over-the-counter drugs, and the lack of recreational facilities for young people.

The report was noted by the Board.

8. REPORT ON DEFICIENCIES AND NEEDS IN THE CURRENT SERVICES WITHIN THE NEHB AREA.

The Chief Executive Officer presented a report (copy appended to the official minute) in relation to the above.

Members welcomed the report and thanked the Executive for its preparation and Mr. Brian Fitzgerald for his original motion. It was agreed by most members that the report should be circulated to the Department of Health and Children, the HSE and local Oireachtas members. A lengthy discussion took place to which many members contributed.

On the proposal of Mr. Brian Fitzgerald, seconded by Mr. Danny Brady it was agreed to submit the report to the Department of Health and Children and the HSE.

The Chief Executive Officer replied to the comments of the members and clarified a number of issues. He also thanked the Management Team for their help with the report.

9. REPORT IN RELATION TO NAMING OF BUILDINGS

The Chief Executive Officer presented a report (copy appended to the official minute) in relation to the naming of the following facilities which were adopted as set out below:

Psychiatry for the Older Person, Kennedy Road, Navan

It was agreed that this facility would be named An Ré Órga on the proposal of Mr. Peter Savage, seconded by Mr. Paddy Conaty.

Symptomatic Breast/Palliative Care Unit, Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda

It was agreed that this facility would be named Dóchas Centre on the proposal of Mr. Peter Savage, seconded by Mr. Paddy Conaty.

10. QUESTIONS TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

“Southern Health Boards subvent patients in Nursing Homes north of the border but a corresponding arrangement does not exist in regard to Northern Ireland patients seeking subvention by their authorities in Southern Irish nursing homes – Why?”

- *submitted by Mr. Peter Savage*

The response as circulated by the Chief Executive Officer (copy appended to the official minute) was noted by the Board.

“To ask the Chief Executive Officer in relation to renal dialysis

- (a) whether it is the NEHB's intention to increase capacity for patients receiving renal dialysis at Cavan General Hospital*
- (b) the number of patients on the waiting list at Cavan General Hospital*
- (c) the cost to the NEHB for receiving treatment at hospitals outside the region*
- (d) the number of patients from the NEHB undergoing renal dialysis outside of the area.*

- *submitted by Deputy Paudge Connolly*

The response as circulated by the Chief Executive Officer (copy appended to the official minute) was noted by the Board.

11. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Board would take place on **Monday, 24th May, 2004 at 2.30 p.m. in the Boardroom, Head Office, Kells.**

SIGNED: _____
CHAIRMAN

DATE: _____