

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

1/6/78

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Eastern Health held in the Board room.
St. Brendan's Hospital, Grangegorman, on Thursday 1st June, 1978 at 6 p.m.

PRESENT

air. Mrs. J. Barlow
Dr. J. D. Behan air.
D. Browne
Cllr. M. Carroll
Cllr. J. Connolly
Cllr. O. Cooney
Mr. H. Corrigan Cllr.
H. P. Dockrell
Prof. J. S. Doyle
air. E. Doyle
air. Mrs. A. Glenn
ain. A. Groome
Cllr. T. Hand
Mr. Kevin Harrington

Cllr. P. Hickey
Ms. Noreen Kearney
Dr. D.G. Kelly
Cllr. D. Kinsella
Deputy Mrs. E. Lemass
Deputy T. Leonard
Prof. J. McCormick
Sr. Columba McNamara
Mr. M. Matthews
Dr. A. Meade
Deputy C. Murphy
Dr. B. Powell
Cllr. J. Sweeney
Dr. J. Walker

APOLOGIES RECEIVED FROM

Olr. M. Brady
Aid. A. Fitzgerald
Dr. B. Sheehan

IN THE CHAIR

air. Patrick Hickey, Chairman.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. E. O Caoimh
Mr. J. J. Nolan
Mr. F. Donoghue
Mr. T. Keyes
Prof. B. O'Donnell
Mr. R. N. Lamb
Mr. F. Elliott
Mr. J. Sadlier
Mr. F. McCullough
Mr. P. J. Swords

Chief Executive Officer
D/Chief Executive Officer
Programme Manager
Programme Manager Dublin
Medical Officer Personnel
Officer Planning & Eval.
Officer Technical Services
Officer General
Administrator General
Administrator

Prof. Ivor Browne
Mr. J. Doyle
Mr. H. Dunne
Mr. T. McManus
Mr. M. Cummins
Mr. T. Barry
Mr. J. A. Duggan
Miss K. Dolan
Miss E. Larkin
Miss B. Kelly

50/78

RETIREMENT OF C.E.O.

The Chairman read out for the members the following letter from Mr. E. O Caoimh, Chief Executive Officer:

"1st June, 1978.

**Cllr. Patrick Hickey. P.C., 32
Balally Drive, Dundrum.
DUBLIN 14.**

Dear Chairman.

I wish to advise you and Board members that I will reach the retiring age fixed by the Minister for the office of Chief Executive Officer on the 4th September, next.

Section 15 (i) of the Health Act 1970 provides that the Local Authorities (Officers and Employees) Acts 1926 - 1940 shall apply to appointments of Chief Executive Officers of the eight Health Boards.

These latter Acts provide that a statutory request be sent to the Local Appointments Commissioners who arrange for an open competition and in due course convey a recommendation to the Health Board for the filling of the vacancy.

Section 13 (8) of the Health Act 1970 provides as follows:-

"The appointment of a Chief Executive Officer pursuant to a recommendation by the Local Appointments Commissioners..... shall be a function of the Board."

Yours sincerely.

Chief Executive Officer."

The members endorsed the Chairman's expression of regret that Mr. O Caoimh would reach the retiring age as set out above and agreed that in due course appropriate appreciation would be expressed of Mr. O Caoimh's service to the Board.

The following proposal was then made by the Chairman and seconded by Mr. K. Harrington and agreed unanimously:

"Having regard to Mr. O'Keeffe's letter of 1st June, 1978 to me indicating that he will reach retiring age on September, 4th, 1978 and in view of the Law Agent's advice of 31st May, 1978 that the Minister has discretion under Section 13(9) of the Health Act, 1970 to make a temporary appointment of a Chief Executive Officer, I propose that in the best interests of the Board, the Minister for Health be requested to approve the temporary appointment of Mr. J. J. Nolan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer to the post of Chief Executive Officer of the Eastern Health Board on Mr. O'Keeffe's retirement."

In niking me proposal the Chairman referred, as set out hereunder, to Mr. Nolan's qualifications and experience and to the factors taken into account in making the proposal:-

"MR. J.J. NOLAN - DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

QUALIFICATIONS: M. Econ. Sc. (1st Hons.)
B. Comm. (1st Hons.) A.C.C.A.
Diploma in Public Administration.

EXPERIENCE: In Housing Department, Dublin Corporation to 1946. Appointed Registrar to the Dublin Fever Hospital Board through the Local Appointments Commission with effect from 1/1/1947.

Appointed Secretary to the Dublin Board of Assistance through the Local Appointments Commission with effect from 1/4/1958.

Appointed Secretary to the Dublin Health Authority with effect from 1st July, 1960.

Appointed as Assistant Chief Executive Officer of the Dublin Health Authority in June 1966.

Selected by the Local Appointments Commission in July 1970 for appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the South Eastern Health Board but unable to accept because of family difficulties.

Appointed by the City & County Manager as Chief Executive Officer, Dublin Health Authority for the period September 1970 to April 1971..

Appointed as Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Eastern Health Board and Programme Manager General Hospitals with effect from 1st April, 1971.

In the 20 years since Mr. Nolan's appointment in 1958, as assistant and deputy to Mr. O'Keeffe, he has acted as Chief Executive Officer during the latter's absence on annual, sick and special leave for a total period of approximately 3 years. In addition to the usual annual leave or absences averaging 1½ months per annum there were several longer continuous periods of up to 6 months under delegation from the City and County Manager. In addition, from 1966 to 1970 the executive functions of the Dublin Health Authority were divided between Mr. O'Keeffe and Mr. Nolan. In the months preceding the formal establishment of the Eastern Health Board in 1971 the same division applied with Wicklow added to Mr. O'Keeffe's area and Kildare added to Mr. Nolan's. In the period from April 1971 to December 1972 Mr. Nolan in addition to

the General Hospital Programme was also assigned almost the entire Community Care Programme as the post of Manager for that Programme had not been filled.

FACTORS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT BY THE EASTERN HEALTH BOARD IN RECOMMENDING THE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OF MR. J. J. NOLAN AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE BOARD ON MR. O'KEEFFE'S RETIREMENT.

- A. The period is relatively short (2½ years) and is automatically terminated by the officer concerned reaching 65 on 7th May, 1981.**
- B. The period in question is a very important one in the development of the Eastern Health Board both in the special urban situation in Dublin and Dun Laoghaire and in counties Wicklow and Kildare e.g.**
- (i) The ten Directors of Community Care are about to commence their full programme of services in the community involving many disciplines and active liaison with hospitals and other groups in each of the ten areas.**
 - (ii) Professor Browne's recent comprehensive Report on the re-organisation and growth of the psychiatric services has, as adapted by the Board, been approved for implementation as soon as sanction is received.**
 - (hi) A major expansion of the services for the mentally handicapped has been initiated.**
 - (iv) The improvement and development of institutional and day-care facilities for the elderly people is a prime objective of the Board.**
 - (v) The construction of the new Beaumont Hospital has just begun while the planning of the new St. James's Hospital and Medical School and of the significant expansion of the Mater & James Connolly Hospitals is gathering increasing momentum. In the case of St. James's the Eastern Health Board is very deeply involved in discussions (a) in relation to membership of the Hospital Board of Management and (b) in making available on a phased basis almost all of the present site, as construction of the new Hospital & Medical School gets under way and as alternative accommodation is obtained elsewhere for the Eastern Health Board staff, stores, central pharmacy, computer department etc.**
 - (vi) The Report of the Dail Select Committee on the Review of the Health Services has not yet been issued and until its findings are known, it would be as well to retain a fluid position in relation to the most important Chief Executive Officer post in the health field.**
- C. The development of a well integrated and effective Management Team for an organisation as large and as complex as the Eastern Health Board has naturally taken some time and mutual effort. Continuity at Chief Executive Officer level for the next few years would, therefore, be most important to ensure stability of team work and maintain momentum."**

The Chairman then thanked the members for their support of his proposal concerning Mr. Nolan's appointment as Chief Executive Officer and stated that he had made the proposal because he felt there was a necessity to continue the momentum which had been-generated in the development of the Board's services and that Mr. Nolan, who had a brilliant academic and public service record would unfortunately only be available to occupy the position for the next two and a half years. The Chairman undertook to write as hereunder to the Minister for Health conveying the Board's request in this matter:

"2nd June, 1978.

Charles J. Haughey, Esq., T.J.X
Minister for Health & Social Welfare,
Office of the Minister, Dublin 2.

Dear Minister,

At last night's Meeting of the Eastern Health Board, Mr. O'Keeffe, Chief Executive Officer submitted to me, as Chairman, a letter dated 1st June, 1978 giving confirmatory notice that he would reach retiring age on 4th September, 1978. The members having considered the total position very carefully, unanimously decided that the interests of the Board would be best served in the short-term as well as in the long-term by the appointment of Mr. J. J. Nolan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer in a temporary capacity as Chief Executive Officer until he reaches the age limit in 1981.

The Board in coming to this conclusion had regard to Mr. Nolan's unstinted comprehensive service to the Board and to previous health authorities since 1947. They are quite satisfied and appreciate that he has made and is continuing to make an outstanding and special contribution to the general development of health services in the Board's area. In their consideration of the position they had regard to Mr. Nolan's general qualifications and management experience and to the current development situation in the Board's activities, as set out on the attached schedule. Also attached please find a copy of the Resolution unanimously adopted by the Board, requesting your agreement to the temporary appointment of Mr. Nolan as Chief Executive Officer under the provisions of Section 13(9) of the Health Act 1970.

The Board have asked me to emphasise that they consider the continuance of Mr. Nolan in the office of Chief Executive Officer, even for the relatively short period involved, as being essential to maintaining Board confidence, integrated management stability, and progressive policy momentum.

I will be available with some other members of the Board, if you so desire, to discuss with you our proposal in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

PATRICK HICKEY, M.C.C. P.C.
CHAIRMAN, EASTERN HEALTH BOARD.

51/78 NEW MEMBER

Cllr. Hickey, Chairman, welcomed Mr. Michael Matthews, a new member, to the Board. Mr. Matthews thanked the Chairman.

52/78 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the monthly meeting of the Eastern Health Board held on 4th May, 1978, having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr. J. Sweeney seconded by Mr. Corrigan.

53/78 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Cllr. Kinsella referred to the provision of an ambulance service in Arklow. Mr. Sadlier informed him that a meeting had been arranged with the National Emergency Services Committee for the 19th June to deal with this matter.

54/78 PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports of the following visiting committees having been circulated were dealt with as follows:-

- (a) No. 1 Visiting Committee meeting held at St. Columcille's Hospital, on 25th May, 1978.

Prof. J. Doyle raised the matter of the withdrawal of the cardiac ambulance service and stated that hospital consultants are anxious to have the problem concerning provision of the cardiac ambulance resolved as soon as possible. A discussion followed to which the following members contributed - Prof. McCormick, Dr. Behan, Cllr. Sweeney, Dr. Walker, Cllr. Dockrell, Deputy Murphy, Cllr. Groome, Cllr. Carroll, Cllr. Connolly, Cllr. Kinsella, Cllr. Hand, Cllr. Mrs. Glenn, Dr. Meade, Cllr. Cooney, Cllr. Mrs. Barlow, Mr. Corrigan and Ms. Kearney.

Prof. O'Donnell reported that it is not envisaged that special cardiac ambulances will be held on stand-by by the Eastern Health Board. However, at a meeting with officers of the Department of Health it had been agreed that a cardiac ambulance service should be provided by equipping 20 of the Board's ambulances with a defibrillator and a monitor at a cost of approximately £1,000 per unit. It was intended that training of ambulance staff in the operation of this equipment should be undertaken as soon as possible.

It was agreed that Prof. O'Donnell and Mr. Sadlier should prepare a report including costs, on the provision of a cardiac ambulance service for submission to the Board at its next meeting.

Dr. Kelly asked if the position concerning consultant services at St. Columcille's Hospital could be clarified. Mr. Nolan replied that the Board's proposals for consultant services at St. Columcille's Hospital are based on Comhairle na n-Ospideil's request that such services should be linked to St. Vincent's Hospital and would be subject to the approval of Comhairle. The Comhairle has been requested to approve the appointment of a consultant geriatrician at St. Columcille's, as without the approval of An Comhairle it will not be possible to provide an adequate geriatric service for the South Dublin and Wicklow areas. The provision of an acute assessment unit for geriatrics at St. Columcille's Hospital which would be serviced by the Geriatricians is also necessary. A discussion on the continuation of smaller hospital

units to which Cllr. Sweeney, Deputy Murphy, Olr. Carroll, Dr. Behan and CUr. Mrs. Glenn and Mr. Nolan contributed, followed. It was agreed that St. Columcille's, Cherry Orchard and Naas Hospitals must be preserved as active community hospitals. Dr. Behan complimented Mr. Nolan on his report on the Care of the Aged and the members endorsed Dr. Behan's comments.

- (b) No. 2 Visiting Committee meeting held at Usher's Island (Forsensic Service) on 19th April, 1978 - noted.
- (c) No. 3 Visiting Committee meeting held at St. John's Day Centre on 19th April, 1978 - noted.
- (d) No. 3 Visiting Committee meeting held at St. Ita's Hospital on 1 lthMay, 1978-noted.
- (e) No. 3 Visiting Committee meeting held at Co. Hospital, Naas, on 24th May. 1978 - noted.
- (f) No. 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at St. Mary's Hospital on 26th April. 1978 - noted.
- (g) No. 4 Visiting Committee meeting held at Legion of Mary Hostel, North Brunswick Street on 10th May, 1978 - noted.

Mr. Harrington complimented the staff of the Hostel on their dedication and commented on the necessity for upgrading conditions in the Hostel. Prof. McCormick supported Mr. Harrington with particular reference to the necessity for providing a play area for non-transient children.

- (h) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held at St. Francis Day Centre, Raheny on 11 th April, 1978 - noted.
- (i) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held at Cherry Orchard Hospital on 2nd May, 1978 — noted.

55/78 PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL HEALTH COMMITTEES

The Minutes of the meetings of the following local health committees were dealt with as follows:

- (a) Kildare Local Health Committee meeting held on 16/3/1978 - noted.

Cllr. Cooney commented on the problems associated with contacting a doctor in a rural area. Mr. Dunne in reply to Cllr. Cooney's comment stated that the only reference to a doctor's place of residence in the contract to provide a general medical service states that a doctor should live in a place of "reasonable access." This precluded the health board from insisting that doctors participating in the general medical services scheme should live in particular locations. In reply to a question from Cllr. Cooney on the provision of a general practitioner service for persons not having full eligibility Mr. Donohue stated that the provision of a general practitioner service is a function of private enterprise and that the board has no statutory function in relation to this category.

Mr. Donohue undertook to investigate any specific complaints which Cllr. Cooney might convey to him.

- (b) Dublin County Local Health Committee meeting held on 3rd April, 1978 - noted.**

Cllr. M. Carroll referred to the income limits in the national guidelines for medical card applicants and recommended that an upper limit of £45 per week should be set for a husband and wife as he considered the present upper limit of £37.50 was unrealistic in view of increased living costs.

Prof. McCormick also considered that anomalies which exist in the system should be rectified. Mr. Donohue informed the members that the medical card guidelines are revised at the beginning of the year.

56/78 DISPOSAL OF LAND AT ST. CLARE'S HOME

The following report No. 9/1978 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

"In December, 1973 the Board consented to the disposal of approximately 19.25 acres of land at St. Clare's Home to the Dublin Corporation (Report 51.19'5: Minutes ref. 128/1973). The land was required by the Corporation in connection with the extension of Griffith Avenue to the west of Ballymun Road, for housing, for the widening of Ballymun Road, and, in order, to enable the Institute of Industrial Research and Standards to extend its facilities. Associated with the transaction was the acquisition from the Corporation of sites aggregating 4.2 acres at St. Canice's Road for a Health Board Welfare Home and at Grange Road, Raheny, for a St. Michael's House school for mentally handicapped children.

In May, 1977, the Board was advised of further discussions with the Corporation whose requirements had altered in the meantime. The area sought was reduced to 16*4 acres approximately and the conclusion of a sale to the I.I.R.S. was to be left with the Board. It was agreed in principle that land transactions between the Corporation and the Board would be on an exchange basis.

The Corporation has since made available to the Board sites at Finglas (2) and Coolock aggregating 4.5 acres for Community Care premises.

Following consideration of Report 5/1978 (Minutes ref. 28/78) at the February meeting the Board approved in principle of another transaction viz. the allocation of a plot at St. Canice's Road for a school for mildly handicapped children. An area of some 4 acres is involved portion of which is Corporation property and is to be transferred to the Board which will then make a lease at a nominal rent to the St. Laurence Trust on whose behalf Very Rev. J. Collins, Grangemore negotiated.

The Capital Programme includes provision for the further development of residential care facilities for the mentally handicapped by St. Michael's House. It is to take place at Ballymun as an extension of the services already provided there by this organisation on a site provided by the Board and will require an allocation of a further 2/6 acres.

The formal consent of the Board is now requested for the disposal of land at St. Clare's as follows:

To the Corporation of Dublin (Map reference 7130/17A)	16.61 acres
To the Institute for Industrial Research and Standards	6.50 acres approximately
To the St. Laurence Trust	4.00 acres approximately
To St. Michael's Hous	2.5 acres
TOTAL	29.61 acres

The Dublin City Council has already consented to the disposal to the Health Board of the various plots referred to herein which total 11.40 acres and to the taking up by the Board of an appropriate additional amount of land of equivalent character as sites are required for its purpose. The balance due to the Board will be 4 acres on an exchange basis having made allowance for a joint contribution with the Corporation to the re-location of a former occupant of a portion of the St. Clare's lands.

The sale to the I.I.R.S. is proposed at £180,000 being the valuation put on the land in question by the Board's Valuer.

Having regard to the purposes for which the sites are required the leases to the St. Laurence Trust and St. Michael's House should incorporate a nominal rent."

On a proposal by CHr. Mrs. Glenn seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Barlow the consent of the board was given to the proposals contained in this report subject to sanction.

57/78 **GENERAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME - PARTNERSHIP**

The following report No. 10/1978 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"Application by Doctor Patrick G. Ryan, 29 Sandymount Road, Dublin 4,
to employ a Partner.

Doctor Patrick Ryan, 29 Sandymount Road, Dublin 4, is participating in the Board's General Practitioner Service. His centres of practice are at (1) 29 Sandymount Road, Dublin 4, and (2) Irishtown Health Centre. In his letter of the 1st March, 1978, he has expressed his wish to employ a partner, as his practice is situated in a rapidly expanding area and there are only three other doctors with practice premises in the area.

In accordance with paragraphs 21/22 of the circular letter 8/75 dated the 9th April, 1975 issued by the Department of Health, the Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union were asked for their observations on Doctor Ryan's request. In letters dated 1st and 9th May, 1978 the Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union respectively stated that they had no objection to Doctor Ryan's proposal.

I recommend, subject to the approval of the Board, that Doctor Ryan's request be approved and that a partner for Doctor Ryan be selected in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraphs 21/22 of the Department's circular letter 8/75 dated 9th April, 1975. The relevant extract from this letter is as follows: —

- '21. The creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership for the purpose of the general medical service will be subject to the approval of the Health Board. In considering any such proposal the Board shall have regard to the total practice of the applicant. Before giving approval the Board must be satisfied:—
- (a) that the creation of the position is preferable to the creation of an additional position which could be filled by open competition in the normal way; and
 - (b) that the creation of the position will not result in the admission of a particular person into the general medical service while other equally well or better qualified persons are not given a reasonable chance to compete. Where the Chief Executive Officer proposes to seek the approval of the Board to the creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership, he shall, before doing so, consult the medical organisations.
22. Where a Health Board agrees to the creation of a partnership or an addition to a group practice or to the recruitment of an assistant with a view to partnership the position will be advertised in the normal way but the doctor or doctors involved or a nominee of the doctor or doctors involved in the proposed taking in of a partner, or additional member or assistant will be entitled to sit on the selection board. The selection board shall pay due regard to any objection of this representative to the giving of the post to a particular individual or individuals. If the Board considers it desirable it may not recommend any candidate for appointment.' "

The proposals in the report were agreed to unanimously.

58/78 GENERAL PRACTITIONER SCHEME - PARTNERSHIP

The following report No. 11/1978 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted:

"Application by Doctor Cyril McNulty, Whitfield, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, to employ a Partner.

Doctor Cyril McNulty, Whitfield, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, is participating in the Board's General Practitioner Service. His centres of practice are at (1) 2 Duncairn Terrace, Bray, and (2) Whitfield, Church Road, Greystones. In his letter of the 1st May, 1978 he has expressed his wish to employ a partner. He has a large list of eligible persons.

In accordance with paragraphs 21/22 of the circular letter 8/75 dated the 9th April, 1975 issued by the Department of Health, the Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union were asked for their observations on Doctor McNulty's request. In letters dated 5th and 9th May, 1978 the Irish Medical Association and the Medical Union respectively stated that they had no objection to Doctor McNulty's proposal.

I recommend, subject to the approval of the Board, that Doctor McNulty's request be approved and that a partner for Doctor McNulty be selected in accordance with the procedure laid down in paragraphs 21/22 of the Department's circular letter 8/75 dated 9th April, 1975. The relevant extract from this letter is as follows:—

21. The creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership for the purpose of the general medical service, will be subject to the approval of the Health Board. In considering any such proposal the Board shall have regard to the total practice of the applicant. Before giving approval the Board must be satisfied:—
 - (a) that the creation of the position is preferable to the creation of an additional position which could be filled by open competition in the normal way; and
 - (b) that the creation of the position will not result in the admission of a particular person into the general medical service while other equally well or better qualified persons are not given a reasonable chance to compete. Where the Chief Executive Officer proposes to seek the approval of the Board to the creation of a position as partner, or as an additional member of a group practice, or as an assistant with a view to partnership, he shall, before doing so, consult the medical organisations.

22. Where a Health Board agrees to the creation of a partnership or an addition to a group practice or to the recruitment of an assistant with a view to partnership the position will be advertised in the normal way but the doctor or doctors involved or a nominee of the doctor or doctors involved in the proposed taking in of a partner, or additional member or assistant will be entitled to sit on the selection board. The selection board shall pay due regard to any objection of this representative to the giving of the post to a particular individual or individuals. If the Board considers it desirable it may not recommend any candidate for appointment.*'*

The proposals in the report were agreed to unanimously.

59/78 CARE OF THE AGED - ACCOMMODATION REQUIREMENTS ETC.

Report No. 12/1978 from the Deputy Chief Executive Officer was submitted. A discussion on this item was, by agreement, deferred to a future meeting.

60/78 SCHEDULE OF HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

The list circulated to members in connection with this item was noted.

**61/78 REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NON-ACCIDENTAL INJURY
TO CHILDREN**

On the recommendation of Dr. Walker it was agreed unanimously to defer discussion on this matter to a future date.

62/78 NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) The following motion had been proposed by Cllr. J. Connolly:

"That Sallypark Nursing Home be accepted as registered nursing home of the Eastern Health Board and that maintenance assistance grants be paid to the patients entitled to receive them."

Cllr. Connolly informed the Board that as he had received favourable information on this subject there was no further need to proceed with this motion.

- (b) Dr. Meade requested and it was agreed that the two motions submitted in his name be deferred for consideration to the next meeting.

63/78 CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) A letter from Professor J. S. Doyle dated 17th May, 1978, regarding membership of Comhairle na n-Ospideil was read. Dr. Behan proposed and it was unanimously agreed that the names of Prof. Doyle and Prof. McCormick should be added to the list already submitted to the Minister. Prof. McCormick requested that the Board should seek clarification of the Minister's intentions concerning a more vigorous and significant role for the Dublin Regional Hospital Board. It was unanimously agreed following discussion to which Dr. Behan, Prof. McCormick, Cllr. Sweeney and Cllr. Mrs. Glenn contributed, that a letter should be written to the Minister for Health concerning these matters.
- (b) A letter from Dr. Warde dated 24th May, regarding provision of spectacles in Wicklow was read in reply to a question raised.
- (c) Speech by Mr. Charles J. Haughey, Minister for Health, dated 17th May, 1978, at the opening of the Rutland Treatment Centre, Clondalkin, was noted. It was agreed on the recommendation of the Chairman, seconded by Cllr. Mrs. Barlow that copies of this speech be sent to all the members.

The meeting terminated at 8.35 p.m.

CORRECT

**E O CAOIMH
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.**

CHAIRMAN.