

EASTERN HEALTH BOARD

**Minutes of proceedings of Monthly Meeting
of the Eastern Health Board held in
the Boardroom, St Brendan's Hospital on
Thursday 5 April 1984 at 6.00 pm.**

PRESENT

**Mr N Andrews TD
Dr J D Behan
Cllr Belton
Mrs B Bonar
Cllr D Browne
Dr M Butler
Cllr MCarroll
Mrs D Clune
Cllr B J Durkan
Mr P Finegan
Ald A FitzGerald
Cllr Mrs E Fitzgerald
Cllr M Freehill**

**Mr J Gahan
Cllr Mrs A Glenn TD
Cllr T Hand
Dr R Hawkins
Cllr P Hickey
Cllr F Hynes
Mr D Kane
Dr D I Keane
Dr P McCarthy
Cllr E Stagg
Cllr J Sweeney
Cllr G Timmins TD
Cllr W C Willoughby**

APOLOGIES:

Cllr E Doyle, Prof J S Doyle, Prof J McCormick

IN THE CHAIR

Cllr Mrs A Glenn TD

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

**Mr P B Segrave, Chief Executive Officer
Mr F J Donohue, Programme Manager, Community Care
Mr T P Keyes, Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care
Mr KJ Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care
Mr J F Reynolds, Finance Officer
Mr L P Kavanagh, Personnel Officer
Mr G Brennan, Technical Services Officer
Mr J N McNee, Management Services Officer
Prof B O'Donnell, Dublin Medical Officer of Health
Mr M J O'Connor, Senior Executive Officer, Secretariat**

34784 CONDOLENCIS

The Chairman informed the members of the recent deaths of:

- (i) The mother of Miss Pat Muldoon, Assistant Section Officer, Community Care Service, Crumlin;
- (ii) Dr P J Lord, former Medical Officer, Baltinglass Hospital;
- (iii) Mr P I Lyons, former Personnel Officer;
- (iv) Rev Sr Magdalen, St Patrick's Home, Navan Road.

The members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the deceased

35/84**CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

The Chairman, on behalf of the Board, congratulated Mr P B Segrave, Chief Executive Officer, on his appointment as a member of the National Health Council and Professor James McCormick on his appointment as a member and on his election as Chairman of the National Health Council. The Chairman also congratulated Cllr P Hickey on his election as Chairman of the James Connolly Memorial Hospital Board.

36/84**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD
ON 1 MARCH 1984**

The minutes having been circulated, were confirmed on a proposal by Cllr Hynes, seconded by Cllr Sweeney.

- (a) **Matters arising from the Minutes:**

Following a discussion to which Mr Finegan, Deputy Andrews and Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald contributed, the members requested a report on the operations of the Hospital Joint Services Board.

37/84**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

The Chief Executive Officer read the following report, which was noted by the Board:

- (i) **Board Meetings May and June 1984**

Last year our May Board meeting was held in St Vincent's Hospital, Athy, Co Kildare and the June meeting was held in St Colman's Hospital, Rathdrum, Co Wicklow. It may be the members' wish to continue with this arrangement. If so, perhaps the May meeting could be held in Athy and the June meeting in Rathdrum.

- (ii) **Naas General Hospital**

The detailed Development Brief for Naas General Hospital has been completed. The Draft Brief will be considered by the Visiting Committee at a meeting arranged for 11 April 1984. It will be necessary to submit the final Draft to the Department of Health prior to its approval and acceptance by the Minister.

Our Board might consider inviting the Minister for Health to formally accept the Brief as soon as he is in a position to announce his approval to it.

St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown

(a) The following permanent consultant appointments were advertised by the Local Appointments Commission on 28 March 1984

General Surgeon

General Physician

Radiologist

The closing date for applications is 10 May 1984.

(b) The Planning Brief for the extension to St Columcille's Hospital to provide operating theatres and out-patients' department has now been completed in consultation with officials of the Department of Health.

An invitation to the Minister for Health to formally accept the Brief at St Columcille's Hospital might now be considered by our Board.

On the proposal of Cllr Carroll, seconded by Cllr Hickey, it was agreed that the Minister for Health should be invited to St Columcille's Hospital to accept the Brief.

Proposed out-patient clinics at Tallaght

Detailed proposals and requirements relating to the establishment of out-patient clinics at Tallaght drawn up as a result of meetings between representatives of the Meath, Adelaide, National Childrens' Hospitals and our Board are now with the Department of Health for approval. The proposals were discussed at a meeting with representatives of the Department of Health on 28 March 1984 and a decision on the proposals is now awaited.

Cheeverstown House

Attached herewith is a copy of a letter from the Administrative Director of Cheeverstown House agreeing to our Board's proposal that a member of the Eastern Health Board be appointed to the Board of Cheeverstown House Ltd.

In accordance with the Articles of Association of Cheeverstown House Ltd., the methodology for doing this is co-option.

As the Board agreed that I should give notice at a prior meeting of such matters coming before it I propose, with the agreement of the Board, to place the matter of nominating a member for co-option on our agenda for the next meeting of our Board.

The members agreed that the nomination of a member for cooption to the Board of Cheeverstown House Ltd. should be pleaded on the agenda for the May meeting of our Board.

Organisation of General Hospital Services in South-east Dublin and East Wicklow

Attached herewith is a copy of a letter dated 15 March received from the Department of Health regarding the co-ordination of services provided by the three general hospitals in South-East Dublin and East Wickow.

I have consulted with the Chairman who agrees that this matter requires full consideration and perhaps this could best be done by referring it to the St Columcille's Hospital Visiting Committee for consideration and report back to the Board. A meeting of the Visiting Committee is due to take place on 26 April next at 4 p.m.

On the proposal of Cllr Hickey, seconded by Cllr Carroll, it was agreed that the Department of Health letter dated 15 March 1984 should be considered at a meeting of the Visiting Committee to be held in St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown on 26 April 1984

38/84

**REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED TO EXAMINE
THE SERVICE NEEDS AND PROBLEMS OF THE BALLYMUN AREA**

On the suggestion of the Chairman it was agreed to note the Report which had been circulated and to consider it in detail at a Special Meeting of the Board to be held on Wednesday, 18 April 1984 at 6.00 p.m.

39/84

REPORT ON FOUNDATION FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The following report number 7/84 from the Chief Executive Officer was submitted.

The following motion in the name of Councillor M Freehill was agreed at the February meeting of the Board:

That the Chief Executive Officer give this Board a report on the activities of the Foundation for Human Development; the amount of funding it receives from the Eastern Health Board and when and how often board meetings are held.

I append a report which has been submitted in response to this resolution, with a covering letter from the Chairman of the Foundation.'

Following a discussion to which Cllr Freehill, Mr Kane and Cllr Sweeney contributed and to which the Chief Executive Officer and Mr Keyes, Programme Manager, Special Hospital Care replied, it was agreed to repeat our Board's request to the Foundation for information as to when and how often their board meetings are held.

40/84

**REPORT FROM NUCLEAR ENERGY BOARD ON
MONITORING PROGRAMME OF THE IRISH SEA**

At the December 1983 Board meeting the following resolution was adopted:

That this Board expresses its grave concern at the possible implications of the Windscale Nuclear Plant and other nuclear plants in Britain for public health in this country; that the implications of the continuing dumping of nuclear waste in the Irish Sea be assessed; and that the Chief Executive Officer should present a full report on these issues to the next meeting of the Eastern Health Board'

The Nuclear Energy Board, as the appropriate statutory body in this instance, agreed to advise of the position in the matter.

Report No. 84/1 from the Nuclear Energy Board entitled 'The contribution of radioactivity in the Irish Sea to the radiation exposure of the Irish population during 1982/1983' had been circulated to the members.

Following a discussion to which Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald, Deputy Andrews, Mr Kane, Cllrs Durkan and Sweeney contributed, the following motions were proposed by Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald, seconded by Deputy Andrews, and agreed;

- (i) That this Board continues to monitor on an ongoing basis the health risks from radioactivity, in particular the risks from plutonium discharges.
- (ii) That the Eastern Health Board calls on British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. to desist from all discharges of nuclear waste from Windscale into the Irish Sea.

A proposal by Deputy Andrews, seconded by Cllr Hynes, that Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald be sent by the Board as a contributor to a conference on radiation to be held in Stockholm on 10 and 11 September 1984 was referred to the Chief Executive Officer for further examination. Mr Oahan requested that it be recorded that he was not in favour of the proposal.

41/84

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE BOARD OF THE MEATH HOSPITAL

The following Report No 6/84 from the Chief Executive Officer was

At the March meeting of our Board I informed members that the term of office of the eleven members of the Board of the Meath Hospital elected by our Board expires in April 1984.

Under the terms of the Meath Hospital Act 1951 and the Health Act 1970 (Adaptation) Regulations 1972 our Board is required to elect eleven members of the Meath Hospital Board for a period of three years.

For the information of members the following were elected by our Board to the Board of the Meath Hospital in 1981:

1. Mr P J Burke, 251 Swords Road, Santry, Dublin 9
2. Dr J D Behan, Garden Hill, 1 James's Street, Dublin 8
3. Cllr M Carroll, 122 Foxrock Grove, Foxrock, Dublin 18
4. Cllr F Hynes, Milltown, Ashford, Co Wicklow
5. Cllr D Browne, 70 Ramillies Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10
6. Ald A FitzGerald, 2 Richmond Place, Rathmines, Dublin 6
7. Cllr A Groome, Dreenane, Carbury, Co Kildare
8. Ms N Kearney, 17 Heytesbury Lane, BaUsbridge, Dublin 4
9. Mr T McManus, 12 WaHunatown Drive, Dublin 12
10. Mr J J Nolan, 79 Blackheath Drive, Ctontarf, Dublin 3
11. Mr P J Swords, General Hospital Care Programme, 1 James's Street, Dublin 8

Cllr J D Behan, Garden Hill, 1 James's Street, Dublin 8
 Cllr D Browne, 70 Ramillies Road, Ballyfermot, Dublin 10
 Cllr M Carroll, 122 Foxrock Grove, Foxrock, Dublin 18
 Cllr A FitzGerald. 2 Richmond Place, Rathmines, Dublin 6
 Cllr A Groome, Dreenane, Carbury, Co Kildare
 Cllr T Hand, The Haven, Farranboley Park, Dundrum, Dublin 14
 Mr K J Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, 1 James's Street. Dublin 8
 Cllr F Hynes, Milltown, Ashford, Co Wicklow
 Mr J J Nolan. 79 Blackheath Park, Clontarf, Dublin 3
 Mr J O'Brien, Hospital Administrator, Naas General Hospital, Naas, Co Kildare
 Mr P J Swords. General Hospital Care Programme, 1 James's Street, Dublin 8

42/84

PROCEEDINGS OF VISITING COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Visiting Committee meetings, having been circulated were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Community Care visiting Committee meeting held in Area 1 (Dun Laoghaire) on 19 January 1984

On a proposal by Cllr Hand, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

Cllr Hickey referred to the appointment of the Counsellor in drug abuse in Area 1 and enquired if a similar appointment could be

- GO No 1 Visiting Committee meeting held in Bartinglass Hospital on 14 February 1984

On a proposal by Cllr Timmins, seconded by Cllr Sweeney, the

- (iii) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 5 (Cherry Orchard Hospital) on 16 February 1984 On a proposal by Cllr Stagg, seconded by Cllr Hickey, the report

On the suggestion of Cllr Stagg it was agreed that the report of the Superintendent Community Welfare Officer, which had been discussed at the meeting of the Visiting Committee, should be circulated to each member of the Board.

With regard to accommodation for geriatric patients Cllr Hickey requested that it be recorded in the minutes that the staff of Community Care Area 6 receive the full co-operation of the staff in James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown

- (iv) Community Care Visiting Committee meeting held in Area 6 (Blanchardstown) on 15 March 1984.

On a proposal by Cllr Browne, seconded by Dr Hickey, the report was noted.

43/84

PROCEEDINGS OF LOCAL COMMITTEES

The reports of the following Local Committee meetings, having been circulated, were dealt with as follows:

- (i) Wicklow Local Committee meeting held on 20 January 1984

On a proposal by Cllr Sweeney, seconded by Cllr Hynes, the report was noted.

- (ii) Dublin County Local Committee meeting held on 8 March 1984

On a proposal by Cllr Hickey, seconded by Cllr Carroll, the report was noted.

- (iii) Dun Laoghaire Local Committee meeting held on 30 March 1984

On a proposal by Dr Hawkins, seconded by Mrs Bonar, the report was noted.

44/84

NOTICES OF MOTION

- (i) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Freehill and seconded by Cllr Mrs Fitzgerald:

'Due to the increased incidence of sexually transmitted disease shown by the fact that there is a 300% increase in attendances at clinics over the past five years, that this Board provide improved facilities, follow up procedures and education to deal with the increased level of sexually transmitted disease.'

Following a discussion to which Cllrs Freehill and Mrs Fitzgerald and Dr Hawkins contributed. Professor O'Donnell, Dublin Medical Officer of Health, stated that the 300% increase in attendances at clinics had occurred over the past ten years* that the existing clinics are located in the Mater, Sir Patrick Dun's and Dr Steeven's Hospitals, that it is proposed to transfer the clinics from Sir Patrick Dun's and Dr Steeven's Hospitals, to St James's Hospital where they will eventually be located in a purpose built clinic. Professor O'Donnell also stated that there was a full time STD officer in the Mater Hospital and that it is proposed to appoint a full-time STD officer at St James's Hospital

- (ii) The following motion was proposed by Cllr Stagg and seconded by Cllr Hynes:

'That the Board be informed of the number of bed vacancies in each geriatric hospital and institution in the Board area giving the name of the hospital/institution involved; and that the Board be further informed of the size of the waiting list in each case and how such lists are compiled.'

Councillor Carroll requested that information be also made available in relation to geriatric long-stay beds in general hospitals.

It was agreed that Mr Hickey, Programme Manager, General Hospital Care, would have further discussions with Cllr Stagg regarding the format in which the information requested should be presented.

(iii) The following motion was proposed by Mrs Bower and by Cllr Browne:

'In view of recent evidence relating to residues of growth hormones and antibiotics in meat and milk and the serious consequences resulting therefrom to the health of the community, that this Board takes immediate steps to stop the indiscriminate sale of veterinary

(iv) The following motion was proposed by Mrs Bonar and seconded by Cllr Browne:

That the Eastern Health Board urges the Minister for Health to restore to the General Medical Services a limited range of inexpensive I. cough mixtures and antacids.'

Following a discussion to which Mrs Bonar, Cllr Browne and Dr Hawkins contributed, it was agreed to end the terms of the motion to the Minister for Health for his observations and to request information on the cost factors which had emerged following deletion of a large number of items from the General Medical Services prescribing list.

46/84

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter dated 3 February 1984 from the Secretary of the Association of Health Boards in Ireland recommending to health boards that, where all else is equal regarding quality etc., Irish manufactured drugs/medicines be purchased instead of imported equivalent products, copies of which have been circulated, was noted.

The meeting concluded at 8.30 p.m.

CORRECT: P B Segrave
Chief Executive Officer