

## **EASTERN HEALTH BOARD**

**Minutes of proceedings of Special Board Meeting  
held in  
the Boardroom, Dr. Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8  
on Monday 18th October 1999 at 10.30am.**

### ***Present***

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Mr. P. Aspell        | Dr. Siobhan Barry      |
| Mrs. B. Bonar        | Cllr. E. Byrne         |
| Cllr. L. Butler      | Ald. I. Callely TD.    |
| Cllr. T. Cullen      | Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne  |
| Cllr. A. Devitt      | Cllr. A. Doyle         |
| Ald. Sen. J. Doyle   | Dr J. Fennell          |
| Cllr. T. Fox         | Cllr. D. Heney         |
| Dr. K. Harkin        | Dr. M. Laffoy          |
| Dr. D. Keane         | Cllr. D. Tipping       |
| Mr. G. McGuire       | Cllr. R. Shortall TJD. |
| Cllr. J. Reffy       | Dr. J. Reilly          |
| Cllr. S. O'Fearghail | Cllr. J. Wall, T.D.    |

### ***Apology***

Cllr. Christy Burke,  
Cllr Dr Bill O'Cormell  
Dr Philip O'Connell  
Cllr. Catherine Quinn  
Cllr. Pat Vance  
Cllr Charlie O'Connor

### ***In the Chair***

Cllr J Reilly (i)  
Cllr Ivor Callely (ii)

### ***Officers in Attendance***

Mr. P. McLoughlin, Chief Executive Officer  
Mr. M. Walsh, Programme Manager  
Mr. S. O'Brien, Programme Manager  
Ms. B. Clarke, Programme Manager  
Mr. M. Gallagher, Programme Manager  
Ms. M. Windle, Programme Manager  
Mr. J. Curran, Technical Services Officer  
Mr. E. Hatpin, A/Management Services Officer  
Mr. P. Doyle, Estate Management Officer  
Ms. M Browne, Communications Director  
Ms O. Treacy, Board Secretary

128/1999

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

The Chairman advised members that the purpose of the meeting was to consider the following motion submitted by Deputy R. Shorthall, Deputy J. Wall, Mr G. Maguire, Cllr T. Cullen, Ms M. Hoban and Mrs B. Bormar.

*"This meeting to discuss the growing crisis in the health service in our Board's area with regard to the possibility of the nursing v government industrial dispute."*

Deputy R. Shorthall spoke to this motion and proposed the following amended motion .thereafter;

*" Conscious of the severe nurse shortages which already restrict many health services, this Board expresses it's grave concern for the serious short and long-term implications for patient care if a nurses strike takes place, and calls on the Minister for Health to engage in immediate and constructive negotiations with the Nursing Alliance in order to avert industrial action."*

This motion was agreed unanimously.

There was further detailed discussion on this matter to which Ald Sea J. Doyle, Cllr L. Butler, Cllr J. Wall, Cllr E. Byrne, Cllr T. Cullen, Dr D. Keane, Mr G. Maguire, Cllr J. Reilly, Dr J. Reilly, Dr S. Barry, Mrs B. Bonner, Cllr ID. Byrne, Dr M Laffoy, Dr J. Fennell, Mr P. Aspell, Cllr A. Doyle and the Chairman contributed which was replied to by the Chief Executive Officer.

In addition the following motion proposed by Dr J. Reilly, seconded by Cllr A. Doyle was also agreed;

*" That this Board, in the event of a nursing strike, would ask those who know of elderly and disabled neighbours, especially those living alone, to be doubly vigilant during the course of this action."*

The members had discussions on the strategy for communicating the outcome of the meeting to the media. Dr. J. Fennell requested that it be noted that it was inappropriate for his Chairman to issue a statement to the Press that does not reflect the views of the Board members at the meeting.

Mr Maguire requested that the Chief Executive Officer acknowledge that the Offices of the Board have received co-operation from the strike committee in dealing with the arrangements for the Nursing strike.

The meeting concluded at 12.50pm.

**CORRECT:**

**P. McLOUGHLIN  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

**CHAIRMAN**