

**Minutes of Monthly Board Meeting held in the Board Room, HQ,
Civic Centre, Bray, Co. Wicklow on Thursday 11th March
2004 at 6.00p.m.**

In the Chair

Cllr. Tony Fox

Present

Dr. Ray Hawkins	Ald. Joe Doyle
Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell	Cllr. Pat Doran
Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne	Cllr. Andrew Doyle
Cllr. Laurence Butler	Dr. Bernard Murphy
Cllr. Pat Hand	

Apologies

Dr. Mick Molloy
Dr. John Fennell
Cllr. Louise Cosgrave
Ms. Maria Hoban
Mr. John Dolan
Mr. Michael Murphy
Mr. Gerry McGuire
Ms. Noeleen Harvey

Officers in attendance

Mr. Martin Gallagher, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Brian Redahan, Deputy Chief Executive.
Mr. Bob Templeton, Assistant Chief Executive Officer, Services for the Elderly, Regional Ambulance & Transport Service and Emergency Planning Office
Ms. Mary O'Connell, Assistant Chief Executive, Primary Care, Community Services & Acute Care
Mr. Brendan Baker, Assistant Chief Executive, Human Resources and Organisational Development
Ms. Valerie Plant, Asst. Chief Executive, Finance and Strategy.
Mr. Aoife O'Sullivan, Communications Officer
Mr. John Davis, Board Secretary
Ms. Naomi Boland, PA to Chief Executive Officer
Mr. John O'Donovan, Service Manager

Opening Prayer

17/2004

Chairman's Business

The Chairman joined with members in extending a vote of sympathy with the relatives of the list of deceased as circulated.

As a mark of respect a minute's silence was observed.

At the request of members a letter of condolence will be sent to the Spanish Ambassador and relatives of the deceased in regard to the recent tragic event at Wellington Quay and Madrid.

Members were also unanimous in their praise for the speedy response of the Emergency Services particularly the Boards Ambulance Service to the tragedy on Wellington Quay.

The Chairman proceeded to advise members of the following newsworthy events:

- Official Launch of Speech and Language Booklet on 19th February 2004.
- Revised schedule of visits/meetings (circulated)

Report was noted.

18/2004

Minutes

(a) Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of Monthly Board meeting held on 19th February 2004 having been circulated were adopted on proposal of Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne and seconded by Dr. Ray Hawkins.

(b) Matters Arising

Members again expressed the need for significant additional funding to be made available to meet the needs of separated children seeking asylum in our region. The CEO indicated that he was actively pursuing this issue with the Eastern Regional Health Authority and will come back to the Board when more detailed information was available.

19/2004

Questions to Chief Executive Officer

No questions tabled

20/2004

Chief Executive Officers Report

The Chief Executive Officer's Report (copy appended to Official Minutes) was circulated. The Report dealt with the following issues:

- Health Reform Programme
- Hanly Report
- Tobacco Control
- Provider Plan for 2004
- Dublin Bus Accident.

There followed a debate on the Chief Executive Officers Report to which the following members contributed, Dr. Ray Hawkins, Cllr. Laurence Butler, Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne, Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell, Cllr. Pat Doran, Cllr. Andrew Doyle, Cllr. Tony Fox and Ald. Joe Doyle and to which the Chief Executive Officer responded.

The following key points were noted:

- Members congratulated Ms. Cate Hartigan, Assistant Chief Executive Officer on her assignment to the Project Office of the Health Service Executive and wished her every success.
- Members were unanimous in their appreciation of the effective and efficient response of the Ambulance Service to the tragic events on Wellington Quay on 21st February 2004.
- Members unanimously agreed that the Medical Card Guidelines (as circulated) should be reviewed to reflect cost of living increases and inflation.
- Members welcomed the appointment of the Implementation Team for the Report of the National Task Force on Medical Staffing (Hanly Report) and noted the commitment that medical cover will continue to be provided overnight in St. Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown.

The Implementation Group will meet in the coming weeks to begin putting together an Action Plan to process the recommendations of the report.

Members requested that the Implementation Group review the accident and emergency service to ensure that appropriate medical service are available to person who need to attend the hospital A&E department 24hours a day, 7 days a week. This was agreed.

The report was noted and agreed.

21/2004

Report of Standing Committees

On the proposal of Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell and seconded by Ald. Joe Doyle progress reports from the following committees were adopted.

- Development Review Committee, St. Columcilles, Loughlinstown 3rd February 2004
- Child Care Advisory Committee 5th February 2004
- Acute Services & Primary Care Committee 19th February 2004
- Continuing Care Committee 26th February 2004
- Finance & Property Committee 2nd March 2004

22/2004

(a) Annual Financial Statements 2003

There followed a report by the Director of Finance on the Boards Annual Financial Statements 2003, which were endorsed for approval by the Finance and Property Committee held on 11th March.

The following points were noted:

- A cumulative breakeven position was achieved at year end. The breakeven result was achieved through a combination of once off funding secured from the Eastern Regional Health Authority and Savings achieved through the implementation of a Programme of Cost Containment measures in 2003.
- The Chairman on behalf of the Board complemented the Director of Finance and staff on achievements in 2003.
- The Annual Financial Statements for 2003 were subsequently adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Cllr. Andrew Doyle.

(b) Short Term Capital Development Programme Proposals 2004/2005. (non acute)

Mr. John O'Donovan, Service Manager, briefed the members in relation to the recently approved two year Capital Development Programme within our Board. The briefing included analysis of planned disposals (copies appended to the official minutes).

The proposals recommended for adoption by the Finance and Property Committee meeting held on 11th March were subsequently approved on the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Ald. Joe Doyle.

23/2004

Notice of Motions

No motions tabled

24/2004

Correspondence

Circulated:

- Medical Card Guidelines, 1st January 2004
- Capital development Proposals 2004/2005
- Letter dated 9th march 2004 – Department of Health and Children regarding National Task Force on Medical Staffing.

Meeting concluded at 8.30p.m.

Correct:

MARTIN GALLAGHER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DATE

Signed:

Cllr. TONY FOX
CHAIRMAN

DATE