

**Minutes of Monthly Board Meeting held in Lynhams
Hotel, Laragh, Glendalough Co. Wicklow,
Thursday 13th March, 2003 at 6.00p.m.**

In the Chair

Cllr. Andrew Doyle

Present

Dr. Ray Hawkins
Ald. Joe Doyle
Cllr. Pat Doran
Cllr. Olivia Mithcell, TD
Cllr. Laurence Butler
Cllr. Pat Hand

Dr. John Fennell
Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell
Cllr. Tony Fox
Mr. Gerry McGuire.
Dr. Bernard Murphy

Apologies

Dr. Mick Molloy
Ms. Maria Hoban
Ms. Noeleen Harvey
Mr. John Dolan
Mr. Michael Murphy
Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne

Officers in attendance

Mr. Gavin Maguire, A/Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Martin Gallagher, Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Brian Redahan, Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Cate Hartigan, Assistant Chief Executive Officer
Mr. Pearse Costello, Director of Human Resources
Ms. Kathleen Hamill, A/Director of Finance
Mr. Alex Connolly, Director of Communications
Mr. John Davis, Board Secretary
Ms. Naomi Boland, P.A. to Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Margaret Kyne Doyle, Child Health Development Officer

Opening Prayer

16/2003

Chairman's Business

The Chairman advised members of the following newsworthy events.

- Michael Martin T.D. Minister for Health and Children's historic visit to the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum on 19th February 2003.
- The Vice Chairman's presentation of awards to students of the Queen of Angels Primary School, Sandyford for National No Smoking Day, 3rd March 2003.
- Official opening of the 'Snoezelen' Room, Cois Ceim, Tivoli Road, Dun Laoghaire on 4th March 2003.
- Advised members of proposed visit of President Mary McAleese to the Central Mental Hospital, Dundrum on 8th April 2003.
- Paid tribute to Ms. Nora Fitzpatrick, Director of Nursing, Wicklow District Hospital who retired on 10th February 2003.

Report was noted.

At the request of Ald. Joe Doyle it was agreed that Progress Reports on a six monthly basis be brought to the Board, on the work of the Project Team for the Central Mental Hospital.

Noted and Agreed

17/2003

Minutes

(a) Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of monthly meeting of Board held on 13th February 2003 having been circulated were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell and seconded by Dr. Ray Hawkins.

(b) Matters Arising

No matters arising.

18/2003

Questions to Chief Executive Officer

No questions tabled.

19/2003

Chief Executive Officers Report

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

- Financial Position 2003
- Provider Plan 2003
- Drug Treatment Services in Arklow
- Update on Community Nursing Units
- Commission on Financial Management
- St. Columcille's A&E Refurbishment
- Retirement of Ms. Nora Fitzpatrick.

There followed a debate on the Chief Executive Officers Report to which the following members contributed, Mr. Gerry McGuire, Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell, Cllr. Laurence Butler, Cllr. Pat Doran, Dr. Ray Hawkins, Cllr. Olivia Mitchell T.D. Dr. John Fennell and to which the Chief Executive Officer responded.

The following key points were noted:

- Members were unanimous in their support for the further development of Drug Treatment services in Arklow.

Members supported the Board in the establishment of a Working Group to develop a range of initiatives, on a pilot basis, to address the drug problem and related issues of local concern.

The Chief Executive Officer thanked the Chairman and members for their support and indicated that an innovative approach will be taken to tackling the problem in partnership with the local community.

The Chief Executive Officer agreed to keep the Board advised of developments on an ongoing basis.

- Members expressed concern at the financial position as stated by the Chief Executive Officer in his report and particularly on how it impacts on the formation of the Board's Provider Plan for 2003.

Particular concerns were expressed in relation to underfunding at St. Columcille's Hospital and its impact on developments at the hospital.

Employment level ceilings to be set up by the Eastern Regional Health Authority and their effects on the delivery of service in our area.

The Chief Executive Officer indicated that management continues to make a strong case for funding of our set up costs and rectification of our base underfunding, with the ERHA, in the context of our Provider Plan discussions.

The Chief Executive Officer agreed to bring a progress report on financial position and provider plan and to the special board meeting arranged for 28th March 2003.

- Members welcomed progress in relation to community nursing units and noted timeframe for completion.

Report was noted and agreed.

20/2003

Report of Standing Committees

On the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Cllr. Pat Hand progress reports from the following committees were adopted:

- Development Review Committee, St. Columcille's Hospital 4th February 2003
- Child Care Advisory Committee 17th February 2003
- Acute Services and Primary Care Committee 20th February 2003
- Continuing Care Committee 27th February 2003
- Finance and Property Committee 11th March 2003

Arising from the Finance and Property Committee report the following items endorsed by the committee were adopted:

- **Annual Financial Statements**
Amendments to the Annual Financial Statements for 2000 and 2001 were adopted. Proposed by Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Cllr. Pat Hand.
- **Update of Bank Mandate**
Approval to a change of officer on the bank mandate was adopted. Proposed by Cllr. Pat Doran and seconded by Ald. Joe Doyle.
- **Property**
Approval to the sale of properties, at:
 - Abigail House, Commons Road, Loughlinstown
 - Quinnsboro Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

under section 14(2) of Health (Eastern Regional Health Authority) Act 1999 Part III were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Ald. Joe Doyle.

- Land at Loughlinstown, surplus to requirements, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Tony Fox and seconded by Ald. Joe Doyle.

To be referred to the Eastern Regional Health Authority, under Section 89 of Health Act 1947 as amended by Section 18 of Health (No. 93) Act 1996, for their approval, subject to proceeds being reinvested in the East Coast Area Health Board.

21/2003

Best Health for Children Review Report

There followed a presentation on Best Health for Children Review Report by Ms. Margaret Kyne Doyle, Child Health Development Officer. The report dealt with the following issues:

- Background to Best Health for Children.
- Problems identified with present service
- Aims and objectives of Best Health for Children
- Investing in Parenthood
- Developments in the East Coast Area Health Board.

Members compliments Ms. Kyne Doyle on her comprehensive report, welcomed developments in the East Coast Area Health Board, including:

- Appointment of Child Health Development Officer
- Area Steering Committee
- School Health Sub-Group
- Adolescent Health Sub-Group
- Demonstration project
- Gap analysis
- Parenting

and identified issues that needed to be improved including, introduction of community ophthalmology services, waiting time for speech and language therapy services, accessing assessment for children with hearing difficulties.

Report was noted.

22/2003

Notice of Motions

No motions tabled.

23/2003

Correspondence

Best Health for Children Annual Report 2002

The meeting concluded with a presentation to Ms. Nora Fitzpatrick, Director of Nursing, Wicklow Hospital, on her retirement from the Board's service after 36 years.

The Chairman, member, Chief Executive Officer and Management Team paid tribute to Nora on her dedication to care of patients at Wicklow Hospital and her involvement with the Wicklow Hospital Patients Benefit Fund, which raised substantial amounts of money over the years for the benefit of patients of the hospital.

Meeting concluded at 8.30p.m.

Correct:

GAVIN MAGUIRE
A/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DATE

Signed:

CLLR ANDREW DOYLE
CHAIRMAN

DATE