



EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

**Minutes of proceedings of Board Meeting
held in
the Boardroom, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8
on Thursday 6th April, 2000 at 6.00 p.m.**

Present

Mr. P. Aspell	Dr. S. Barry
Cllr. C. Burke	Cllr. L. Butler
Cllr. Catherine Byrne	Cllr. E. Byrne
Ald. I. Callely T.D.	Cllr. M. Corrigan
Mr. M. Cowley	Cllr. T. Cullen
Cllr. Anne Devitt	Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne
Mr. J. Dolan	Cllr. P. Doran
Cllr. A. Doyle	Ald. Sen. J. Doyle
Mr. J. Fallon	Dr. J. Fennell
Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick	Cllr. T. Fox
Dr. M. Gueret	Dr. K. Harkin
Ms. A. Harris	Ms. N. Harvey
Cllr. D. Heney	Ms M. Hoban
Dr. M. Laffoy	Mr. P. Ledwidge
Mr. G. McGuire	Cllr. M. Miley
Cllr. O. Mitchell, T.D.	Dr. M. Molloy
Ald. Mary Mooney	Dr. B. Murphy
Mr. M. Murphy	Cllr. D. Murray
Cllr. E. O'Brien	Dr. P. O'Connell
Cllr C. O'Connor	Cllr. M. O'Donovan
Cllr. S. O'Fearghail	Mrs. C. Quinn
Cllr. J. Reilly	Dr. J. Reilly
Sen. T. Ridge	Cllr. R. Shortall, T.D.
Mr. L. Tuomey	

In the Chair

Ald. I. Callely T.D.

Apologies

Mrs. Joyce Andrews	Cllr. Jack Wall
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Absent

Mr. Gerard Brady	Cllr. Liam Creaven
Dr. Ray Hawkins	Cllr. Colm McGrath
Cllr. Don Tipping	Cllr. Patrick Vance

In Attendance

Mr. Donal O Shea, Chief Executive

Mr. Pat McLoughlin

Ms. Angela Fitzgerald

Mr. Martin Devine

Dr. Brian O'Herlihy

Mr. Liam Woods

Ms. Maureen Browne

00/04/01

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

Agenda Item No 1

Sympathy

The Chairman welcomed the members and officials to the meeting and extended condolences on behalf of the Board to Dr. S. Barry on the death of her father and to Dr. K. Harkin on the death of his stepfather.

Condolences were also extended to the Chairman on the death of his uncle, Mr. Des Brennan.

The meeting was adjourned for a short period as a mark of respect.

Protocol Committee

The Chairman informed the members that the Protocol Committee was making considerable progress with regard to Standing Orders for the Board. It is hoped that a progress report and draft of Standing Orders will be presented at the May Meeting.

A number of members brought it to the attention of the Chairman that some of the new members to the Board were unfamiliar with the process of Standing Orders and placing items on the agenda. The Chairman proposed that an informal meeting should take place with the Members to outline details of the protocol to table questions/motions. The Chief Executive is to make arrangements and to notify the members. The Chief Executive stated that he would arrange this following agreement on draft standing orders by the Protocol Committee.

Frequency of Meetings

The Chairman informed members that in the course of discussions he had held with the Chief Executive they had decided that because of the particularly heavy work programme which arose in the start up period of the Authority, it would be necessary to hold monthly meetings of the Board for the remainder of the year (*August excepted*).

00/04/02
Agenda Item No. 2

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 1ST MARCH 2000

Amendment

An amendment was made to the draft minutes of the meeting held on the 1st March 2000. On the proposal by Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne, and seconded by Cllr. A. Doyle, paragraph 2/2000 Report No. 2 was amended to record that at the meeting Cllr. J. Reilly was proposed as Vice Chairman by Ald. Senator Joe Doyle and seconded by Cllr. A. Doyle.

The Minutes of the Meeting of 1st March 2000 (as amended) were proposed by Cllr. Paddy Aspell, seconded by Cllr. Charles O'Connor and unanimously agreed

00/04/03
Agenda Item No. 3

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

The Chief Executive's report was circulated (*copy appended to the official minutes*). The report dealt with the following items:

- National Awareness Campaign on Vaccination
- Report of Forum on Youth Homelessness
- Bed Capacity Study
- World Health Day
- Cardiovascular Health Strategy Allocations 2000
- Measles Outbreak

In the course of the discussion on the report members expressed their concern with the current levels of uptake of immunisation in the region and asked for measures to be taken to improve uptake. The Chief Executive outlined the discussion he had with the Chief Executives of the Area Health Boards whose responsibility it is to implement the vaccination programme and of the measures they were taking to deal with the outbreak and the level of immunisation.

00/04/04 PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME FOR SUBSTANTIAL ITEMS OF WORK FOR THE AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR 2000

Agenda Item No. 4

✓ The report setting out the Work Programme for the year was considered by members (*copy appended to the official minute*).

Dr. B. Murphy raised the question of having the current difficulties in the Orthodontic service included in the Work Programme. The Chief Executive clarified that the responsibility for delivery of orthodontic services was the responsibility for each Area Board. The Chief Executive undertook to examine the possibility of preparing a draft policy on orthodontic services later in the year.

He stated that in the context of additional meetings it may be possible to add other additional items to the Work Programme.

The work programme as circulated was proposed by Cllr. Charles O'Connor, seconded by Cllr. Jim Reilly and unanimously agreed.

00/04/05
Agenda Item No. 5

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

✓ The Chief Executive circulated a report on the National Development Plan (*copy appended to the official minute*).

The report outlined the indicative funding available under the various programmes from the Years 2000 to 2006 inclusive under the following headings:

- General Hospitals
- Mental Health
- Disability Services
- Community Health
- Services for Older People
- Childcare
- ICT (Information & Communication Technology)

The Chief Executive stated that urgent decisions had to be taken on projects for the Year 2000 and discussions are taking place with the Providers on the matter. Decisions on the programme for the years 2001 – 2006 could be dealt with later and the Board will be kept fully informed of developments.

In the course of a discussion which followed, the Chief Executive clarified that the Authority was already bound by commitments which were entered into by the Department of Health & Children with the agencies prior to the 1st March 2000. The Department of Health & Children will exercise a certain amount of flexibility in implementing the National Development Plan.

The report on the National Development Plan was proposed by Cllr Burke, seconded by Ald. Sen. Joe Doyle and unanimously agreed.

00/04/06 **PROGRESS REPORT ON WAITING LISTS**
Agenda Item No. 6

✓ The Chief Executive report on Waiting Lists of Agenda was considered by members. (*copy appended to the official minute*).

The Chief Executive reported that the number of persons on the public hospital waiting lists on the 31st December 1999 in the eastern region was 19,361, representing 53% of the national figure. The specialities with the longest waiting lists are

- ENT
- Orthopaedics
- Ophthalmology
- Plastic Surgery
- Vascular Surgery

He outlined principles under the headings of equity, quality of service and accountability which were recommended to the Board in dealing with waiting lists.

He informed the members that the Authority is currently undertaking a review which comprises an examination of the following

- (i) organisational structure at management and clinical level;
- (ii) the validation process;
- (iii) trends by speciality by hospital
- (iv)
 - physical and human resource capacity
 - information systems and
 - best practice.

The report also contained details of a seven-point action plan.

A discussion took place to which Ald. I. Callely, Cllr. R. Shortall, Dr. M. LeFoy; and Cllr. E. Byrne; Dr. M. Molloy; Dr. S. Barry; Ald. Sen. Joe Doyle; Cllr. Dr. D. Fitzpatrick; Mr. M. Cowley; Cllr. A. Devitt; Cllr. C. Burke; Cllr. L. Butler; Dr. M. Gueret contributed. The report was favourably received by all members and the proposals as outlined were welcomed.

The Chief Executive in reply to the debate clarified that;

- (i) The report dealt only with waiting lists for in-patient care in Acute Hospitals. Out-patient and waiting lists for other non-acute services would be dealt with separately.
- (ii) Issues in relation to bed capacity had being dealt with in the course of report considered under Agenda Item 3.
- (iii) Human resources – medical, nursing, paramedical is a factor which had also to be taken into account.

The adoption of the Report on Waiting Lists as circulated was proposed by Cllr. C. O'Connor, seconded by Ald. Sen. Joe Doyle and unanimously agreed.

00/04/07
Agenda Item No. 7

SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2000

✓ A schedule of meetings of the Board of the Authority for the year 2000 was presented (*copy appended to the official minute*).

The Chairman referred to his announcement under 00/04/01 above that the Board would meet monthly for remainder of this year (except August).

Subject to this amendment the Schedule of Board Meetings for the year 2000 was agreed.

00/04/08
Agenda Item No. 8

NOTICE OF MOTION

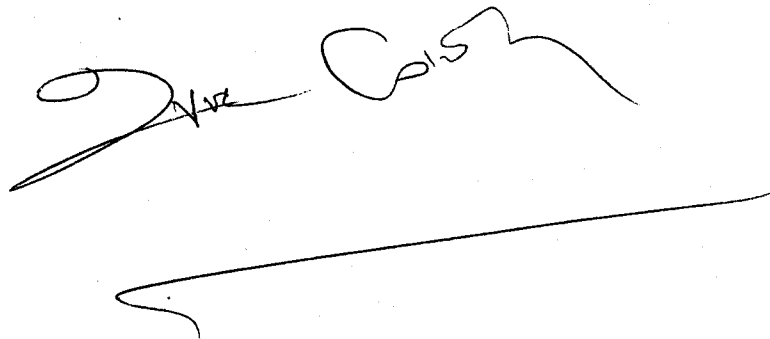
A notice of motion had been put forward by Cllr. Don Tipping as follows:

"This Eastern Regional Health Authority hereby calls on the Minister for Health & Children to immediately set up a full statutory enquiry which is being sought by the parents for justice to examine the practice heretofore of post mortem examinations, organ retention and the handing over of these organs to pharmaceutical companies"

As Cllr. Tipping was absent from the Meeting, the motion fell.

00/04/09 NEXT MEETING
Agenda Item No. 9

It was agreed that the next meeting should take place on Thursday 4th May 2000 at 6.00 p.m. in the Board Room, Dr. Steevens' Hospital.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Don Tipping', is written above a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line that spans across the width of the page.