



EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

**Minutes of proceedings of Board Meeting
held in
the Boardroom, Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8
on Thursday 4th May, 2000 at 6.00 p.m.**

Present

Mr. P. Aspell	Dr. S. Barry
Cllr. L. Butler	Cllr. C. Byrne
Cllr. E. Byrne	Ald. I. Callely T.D.
Cllr. M. Corrigan	Mr. M. Cowley
Cllr. T. Cullen	Cllr. A. Devitt
Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne	Mr. J. Dolan
Cllr. P. Doran	Cllr. A. 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	Dr. M. Laffoy
Mr. P. Ledwidge	Mr. G. McGuire
Cllr. M. Miley	Dr. M. Molloy
Ald. M. Mooney	Dr. B. Murphy
Mr. M. Murphy	Cllr. D. Murray
Cllr. E. O'Brien	Cllr. C. O'Connor
Cllr. M. O'Donovan	Cllr. S. O'Fearghail
Mrs. C. Quinn	Cllr. J. Reilly
Sen. T. Ridge	Cllr. R. Shortall, T.D.
Mr. L. Tuomey	Cllr. Jack Wall

In the Chair

Ald. I. Callely T.D.

Apologies

Mrs. Joyce Andrews	Cllr. Christy Burke
Ald. Sen. Joe Doyle	Ms. Maria Hoban

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

00/05/10

CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS

Agenda Item No 1

1. Sympathy

On his own behalf and on behalf of the members and staff of the Authority the Chairman extended his condolences to Ms. Maureen Browne on the recent death of her husband Michael O'Toole.

The meeting recorded a note of sympathy to the family of the late Cllr. Cyril Gallagher. Cllr. Gallagher worked as a Councillor for 20 years, as Cathaoirleach of Fingal County Council in 1997/1998, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Eastern Health Board and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him. The Chairman acknowledged the contributions which Cllr. Gallagher had made to the Board over the years.

2. Resignation of Cllr. Pat Vance & appointment of Cllr. Dr William O'Connell:

The Chairman informed the members that Cllr. Pat Vance, who was appointed by Wicklow County Council to the Eastern Regional Health Authority, had resigned from the Board of the Eastern Regional Health Authority. The members of Wicklow County Council at their meeting held on the 3rd April 2000, nominated Cllr. Dr. J. William O'Connell, Vale Road, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, to fill the vacancy on the Board of the Authority. The Chairman sought the approval of the members to assign Cllr Dr O'Connell to the East Coast Area Health Board. The members unanimously approved.

The Chairman expressed his thanks to Cllr. Vance for his contributions to the Board of the Authority and welcomed Cllr Dr O'Connell to his first meeting.

3. Travel & Expenses

The Chairman informed the members that the question of members expenses will be dealt with at the Protocol Committee on Tuesday 9th May and that this matter would be given priority by the committee.

4. Personal Computers/e-mail package

The Chairman informed the meeting that the executive were anxious to ensure that any members who wished to avail of e-mail would be facilitated and that they would be in contact with members in the coming weeks to discuss their requirements.

00/05/11 MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6TH APRIL 2000

Agenda Item No. 2

The following amendments were agreed.

Cllr. James Reilly wanted it noted that at the meeting of the 6th April he made a contribution to the debate on waiting lists.

Cllr. Shortall wanted it noted that at the meeting of the 6th April she made a contribution to the meeting on the item on waiting lists in regard to staff shortages which was not recorded in the minute.

Cllr. Don Tipping raised the issue of his motion on the agenda of the 6th April regarding organ retention which fell because of his absence from the meeting. The Chairman agreed that the wording of the motion could be recorded in the minutes.

The Chairman wanted it noted that he had indicated at the meeting on the 6th April that he had reservations with the report on Waiting Lists.

Subject to these amendments the Minutes of the Meeting of the 6th April 2000 were proposed by Cllr. Paddy Aspel, seconded by Cllr. Jane Dillon Byrne and adopted.

00/05/12

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT

✓ Agenda Item No. 3

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

1. **Non-Consultant Hospital Doctors Dispute**
2. **Report on the Forum on Youth Homelessness**
3. **Launch of Cross Departmental Team Report on Homelessness**
4. **Services for Children with Autism**
5. **Development of Acute Hospital Network in East Coast Area Health Board area and role of St. Columcille's Hospital**
6. **Inquiry on Post Mortem Examinations, Organ Removal, Retention and Disposal**
7. **Allocation of Monies**

A discussion took place on the report to which Mr. G. Maguire, Cllr. C. O'Connor and Cllr. E. Byrne, Cllr. J. Dolan, Cllr. L. Butler, Ald. Cllr. I. Callely, Mr. M. Cowley, Mr. P. Ledwidge, Cllr. D. Tipping, Cllr. Dr. Bill O'Connell, Cllr. J. Reilly, Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne, Dr. Gueret and Deputy Shortall contributed.

The Chief Executive clarified the following points.

- The pay and conditions of staff employed by the Area Boards is the responsibility of the Chief Executive of the Area Boards.
- The assessment of need of places for young people who are homeless would cover all areas of the region and not just the places identified in the report.
- The posts approved for autism would be within the community services of the area boards.
- The committee examining hospital services in the East Coast Area had been set up by the Chief Executive of the East Coast Area Board and that Board had welcomed the initiative. The Authority would receive a report in due course.

- If members of the Board wished that specific issues should be brought to the attention of the Chair of the Enquiry on Post Mortem Examinations, Organ Removal, Retention and Disposal he would be willing to do so on their behalf.
- He would take up with the Department of Health & Children issues raised relating to the ear-marking of moneys being allocated to us by the Department, and the question of the Authority's discretion in dealing with their moneys

The Chairman raised an issue relating to a disagreement between the Autism Society of Ireland and the Office of Public Works relating to the purchase of a property, and which disagreement had been discussed on radio programmes that day. The Chief Executive undertook to seek information on the matter and to inform the members.

As decided by the Chairman the text of Cllr. Don Tippings motion for the meeting of the 5th April 2000 is set out in the record.

"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".

The Chief Executive's Report was noted and approved.

00/05/13 To consider report on the establishment of Board Committees
Agenda Item No. 6

As this matter had not yet been dealt with by the Protocol Committee there was no documentation for circulation.

00/05/14 To note statutory provisions governing proceedings at meetings
Agenda Item No 7

As these statutory provisions are governed by legislation they were noted and agreed.

00/05/15 Matters for mention
Agenda Item No. 8

There were no matters for mention

00/05/16 Date and time for next meeting
Agenda Item No. 9

The Chairman stated that he was adjourning the meeting at 8.00 p.m. and that items 4 (*To adopt report on Accident & Emergency Service*) & 5 (*To consider Report of the Chief Medical Officer, Department of Health & Children 1999*) on the agenda would be deferred. It was decided to reconvene the meeting on Friday 19th May 2000 at 11.00 a.m.

It was agreed that the next Board meeting would take place on Thursday 1st June 2000 at 6.00 p.m. in the Board Room, Dr. Stevens' Hospital



EASTERN REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

Minutes of proceedings of reconvened meeting of the Board Meeting
held in the Boardroom,
Dr Steevens' Hospital, Dublin 8
on Friday 19th May 2000 at 11.00 a.m.
(meeting adjourned from the 4th May 2000)

Present

Dr. S. Barry	Cllr. L. Butler
Cllr. C. Burke	Cllr. C. Byrne
Cllr. E. Byrne	Ald. I. Callely T.D.
Cllr. M. Corrigan	Mr. M. Cowley
Cllr. T. Cullen	Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne
Mr. J. Dolan	
Cllr. P. Doran	Ald. Sen. J. Doyle
Cllr. A. Doyle	Dr. J. Fennell
Cllr. T. Fox	Ms. A. Harris
Ms. N. Harvey	Mr. P. Ledwidge
Mr. G. McGuire	Cllr. M. Miley
Dr. B. Murphy	Cllr. E. O'Brien
Cllr C. O'Connor	Cllr. S. O'Fearghail
Cllr. J. Reilly	Dr. J. O'Reilly
Sen. T. Ridge	Cllr. D. Tipping.
Mr. L. Tuomey	Cllr. Jack Wall

In the Chair

Ald. I. Callely T.D.

Apologies

Mr. P. Aspell	Mr. J. Fallon
Dr. R. Hawkins	Ms. M. Hoban
Cllr. R. Shortall	

In Attendance

Mr. Donal O Shea, Chief Executive	
Mr. Pat McLoughlin	Ms. Angela Fitzgerald
Mr. Martin Devine	Ms. Maureen Browne

The Chairman welcomed the members back to the meeting which had been adjourned on the 4th May.

✓00/05/17 **Accident & Emergency Services**
Agenda Item No. 1

The Chief Executive presented a report on the Accident & Emergency Services (*copy appended to the official minute*).

A lengthy debate took place to which the following members contributed

Dr. Siobhan Barry,
Cllr. Christy Burke.
Cllr. Larry. Butler,
Cllr. J. Dillon Byrne,
Cllr Eric Byrne,
Ald Cllr. Ivor. Callely,
Mr. Martin. Cowely,
Cllr. Tom Cullen,
Mr. John. Dolan,
Ald. Sen. Joe Doyle;
Dr. John Fennell,
Dr. Barney Murphy,
Cllr. Charles. O'Connor,
Cllr. Eamon O'Brien.
Dr. James Reilly
Cllr. Jim Reilly.

Matters raised included:

- Security
- Staffing levels
- Management of A&E department
- GP Services
- Waiting List and admission through A&E
- Patient perspective
- Requirement for 24 hour service
- Skills mix
- Bed capacity
- Out of hours dental services
- Design and facilities of A&E departments
- Lack of support services at community level
- Cancellation of procedures

The Chief Executive replied to the debate. In the course of his reply he stated that this Report on A&E was presented in a same format to that of the recent report on Waiting Lists adopted by the Board. He thanked the members for their contributions and clarified the following:

- Bed capacity study is on-going and should be completed by the end of July, and a document will be presented at a further board meeting.
- A detailed progress report on A&E should be completed within 3 months of the Board agreeing the policy document on A&E.

The Chairman thanked the members for their contribution to the debate and expressed his own concerns that similar discussions had taken place in the past but that little or no improvements in A&E services had taken place. However he suggested to the members that we move forward and adopt the report and that a special meeting to discuss matters be held on a date to be agreed. He wanted it noted that the members of the Board of the ERHA are the driving force behind reforming the current A&E Services in the Eastern Region.

The report was unanimously adopted by the Board.

The Chairman proposed that any members who were interested in attending the A&E Departments of hospitals should link in directly with him. **This was agreed.**

00/05/18 Annual Report of the Chief Medical Officer
Agenda Item No. 2

The report was noted and agreed by members.

The meeting concluded at 1.00 p.m.

