

August 2, 2010
Guthrie, Oklahoma
9:00 A.M.

The Board of Logan County Commissioners met in Regular Session with Chairman Mark Sharpton presiding, Member Monty Pearcy present and Member Mike Pearson present and transacted the following:

The Agenda was posted at 8:43 A.M. on July 30, 2010 and was posted at the Courthouse and Annex.

Present at the meeting were: David Ball, Jerry Acton, Pat Acton, Nixie Goff, Belinda Ramsey, Paul Heckler, Mary Murphey, Gail Taylor, Hugh Goodall, Ken Wieland, Pam Daniels, Hollie Chappell, Cathie Cordis, Phil Nichols, Mark Radford, Jeff Chappell, LaVerne Dowding, Steve Rowley, Ann Pearson, ReJuania Zmek, Enrique Segura, Kandy Mize and Rick Blankenship.

The meeting was called to Order by the Chairman.

The flag salute was given.

MOTION ADOPTED TO APPROVE MINUTES

Monty Pearcy made the motion which was duly seconded by Mike Pearson with the voting as follows: Sharpton-AYE, Pearcy-AYE and Pearson-AYE;

THAT, the minutes July 30, 2010 be approved.

MOTION ADOPTED TO APPROVE LOGAN COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN

Monty Pearcy made the motion which was duly seconded by Mike Pearson with the voting as follows: Sharpton-AYE, Pearcy-AYE and Pearson-AYE;

David Ball, Emergency Management Director, presented Safety Awards for years without a lost time accident to the following:

Mark Hanneman	5 Years ó not present at meeting
Tory Hough	5 Years
Kandy Mize	15 Years
Enrique Segura	10 Years

The employees were presented with certificates and gift cards. The Board congratulated the employees for their service.

Steve Rowley, CEO of Logan Medical Center, presented the June 2010 report of LMC. Mr. Rowley said that the financials had not yet been approved by the hospital board. He said that the next report will reflect the best month in the history of the hospital. He said that currently all beds are full.

Mark Sharpton asked how a Letter of Intent for a \$266,000 monthly lease could be signed when the report indicates a loss of money each month. Mr. Rowley said the Letter of Intent was only to research the project.

Monty Pearcy asked why the numbers were increased. Mr. Rowley said that volumes have increased, contracts or better. Mr. Pearcy asked where are the patients coming from. Mr. Rowley replied that it is new growth.

MOTION ADOPTED TO ACCEPT REPORT OF LOGAN MEDICAL CENTER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2010

Monty Pearcy made the motion which was duly seconded by Mark Sharpton with the voting as follows: Sharpton-AYE, Pearcy-AYE and Pearson-AYE;

THAT, the June 2010 report of Logan Medical Center as presented by Steve Rowley be accepted.

Mark Sharpton read a Resolution requesting the resignation of Steve Rowley as CEO of Logan Hospital and Medical Center and Dennis Ochs as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Logan Medical Center due to misuse of public funds. The resolution references an ad in the Guthrie News Leader on November 11, 2009 to influence citizens to pressure the beneficiary in regard to appointments to the LMC Board of Trustees. The resolution also references that a hospital vendor, Impact! Communications, Inc., was used in the process of drafting political literature meant to influence the outcome of an election and that Steve Rowley was a participant in the literature. The resolution also says that LMC Board of Trustees Chairman, Dennis Ochs, refuses to allow fellow trustees to discuss the Impact! Communications, Inc. contract in an open meeting. Copies of the ad, LMC check, emails and letter from Dennis Ochs are attached to the resolution.

Monty Piearcy said he would have preferred two resolutions, one for each person. He asked how the expenditures had been tracked. Mark Sharpton said that the date of the publication of the newspaper ad and the date of a check issued by LMC to the Guthrie News Leader coincide.

Steve Rowley said that Dennis Ochs reimbursed the hospital for the expense. Mark Sharpton said that it was not a lawful expenditure of public funds, the county is not a loan company. He said that public money should have never been spent on advertising of a political nature.

Monty Piearcy said that he has been called by a LMC Board member about not being able to put items on the hospital board agenda. He said that he would like to hear both sides of the issue.

Mark Sharpton also presented copies of emails sent between Len Tontz, Steve Rowley and Michelle Rathman-Batschke regarding a Letter to the Editor submitted to several papers by Mr. Tontz. Mr. Sharpton said that the emails indicate that a company, Impact! Communications, contracted by Logan Hospital was involved in the letter campaign, again a misuse of public funds.

Monty Piearcy said he was not ready to vote. He said he would like a joint meeting between the county commissioners and the hospital board.

Mike Pearson asked if there was a statute regarding the issue of the vendor being involved in the letter. Mark Sharpton said he didn't know if it was illegal. He said it is unethical to use a publicly paid contractor to advise on a political issue. Mike Pearson agreed that is wasn't proper.

Monty Piearcy said that too much was placed on the resolution. He said he would have preferred two separate resolutions and agenda items. He said he would like further investigation regarding the issues. Mark Sharpton said that the hospital board should investigate.

Monty Piearcy said that a joint meeting with the hospital board should be held to address the expenditures, agendas and other issues. He asked if the hospital board approves each expenditure as do the commissioners. Mark Sharpton said he didn't know, those records have been asked for many times and have not been provided by the hospital.

Mark Sharpton asked Mr. Rowley if he was going to resign. Mr. Rowley said that he had no comment at this time. He said he works for the trust authority.

Mr. Rowley said that on multiple occasions the hospital board has asked for a joint meeting. He said he believes that miscommunications exist. He said he is caught between the two entities. He said that all want the hospital out of government control. He said the trust authority has a fifty year contract to operate the hospital without interference. He said the trust authority has absolute control of the running of the hospital. He said the commissioners and the trust authority are trying to run the hospital and there is conflict. He said management, employees and physicians are caught in the middle. He said they know how to run a hospital, they have years of experience.

Monty Piearcy said the commissioners are not trying to run the hospital. He said the commissioners are in the business of road, bridges and county funds. He said that the hospital receives county funds and the commissioners have asked the hospital for records of how those county funds are handled. Mr. Rowley said they have provided the records. Mr. Sharpton asked where the contracts requested are. Mr. Rowley did not answer that question.

Mr. Rowley said that the trust authority has asked for a meeting with the commissioners to work out the issues. He said the hospital board asked Mr. Meadows, a hospital trustee, to contact Mark Sharpton about scheduling a meeting before July 29, 2010. He said the hospital board never received an answer. Mr. Sharpton said that he received a letter about a facilitated meeting. He said he doesn't need a facilitated meeting with the hospital attorney. Mr. Rowley said if legal counsel is present then answers can be obtained immediately. Mr. Sharpton said a meeting doesn't need to include Mr. Rowley. He said it should be between the hospital board and the county commissioners only. Mr. Rowley said his participation is decided by the trust authority. He said he answers to the hospital board.

Monty Piearcy said a special meeting should be called. He said that a forensic audit may be needed.

Mark Sharpton asked if there were any other similar expenditures at the hospital. Mr. Rowley said he was not aware of any. Mr. Sharpton said that he believes the sales tax the hospital receives may be compromised by improper expenditures.

MOTION ADOPTED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OF STEVE ROWLEY AS THE CEO OF LOGAN HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER AND DENNIS OCHS AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LOGAN HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER

Mark Sharpton made the motion which was duly seconded by Mike Pearson with the voting as follows: Sharpton-AYE, Piearcy-ABSTAIN and Pearson-AYE;

THAT, a Resolution calling for the resignations of Logan Medical Center Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Dennis Ochs and Logan Medical Center CEO, Dennis Rowley, be approved.

There were no resolutions appointing Requisitioning Officers.

There were no resolutions appointing Receiving Officers.

MOTION ADOPTED TO ADOPT, APPROVE AND ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

Monty Piearcy made the motion which was duly seconded by Mike Pearson with the voting as follows: Piearcy-AYE, Sharpton-AYE and Pearson-AYE,

THAT, the following items on the Consent Agenda be approved, accepted and adopted:

There were no Transfer of Appropriations within various accounts

Cash Fund Appropriations
(See pages beginning 275-TR-1)

Accept checks due and owing the County

Blanket Purchase Orders #110613 - #110619

There were no claims for the month of July.

There were no citizens to be heard.

There was no new business.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mike Pearson made the motion which was duly seconded by Mark Sharpton with the voting as follows: Piearcy-AYE, Sharpton-AYE and Pearson-AYE,

THAT, there being no further business to come before the board the meeting was adjourned until a 9:00 A.M. August 13, 2010.

ATTEST: _____
Logan County Clerk

Chairman, Board of County Commissioners