

JULY 30, 2013

WEWAHITCHKA, FLORIDA

WORKSHOP

The Gulf County Board of County Commissioners met this date in a workshop with the following members present: Chairman Tynalin Smiley, Vice Chairman Ward McDaniel, Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore and Warren J. Yeager, Jr. <Commissioner Joanna Bryan was absent.>

Others present were: County Attorney Jeremy Novak, Deputy Clerk Kari Summers, Chief Administrator Don Butler, and Assistant Administrator Michael L. Hammond.

Chairman Smiley called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m., E.T.

HEALTHCARE

County Attorney Novak reported that this workshop has been properly noticed and advertised in The Star (local newspaper). County Attorney Novak introduced the panelist: Florida Department of Health Administrator Marsha Lindeman, Joel Montgomery of the Wewahitchka Medical Center, Roger Hall of the Sacred Heart Health System, Board of County Commissioners Chairman Tynalin Smiley, Board of County Commissioners Vice Chairman Ward McDaniel, Board of County Commissioners Carmen L. McLemore, Warren J. Yeager, Jr., and Chief Administrator Don Butler. Commissioner McDaniel welcomed and thanked everyone for attending this town hall meeting.

HEALTH SERVICES – FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Marsha Lindeman, of Florida Department of Health appeared before the Board and gave a power point presentation of the services available through the Florida Department of Health in Gulf County.

HEALTH SERVICES – SACRED HEART HEALTH SYSTEM

Roger Hall, of Sacred Heart Health System appeared before the Board and gave a power point presentation of the services available through Sacred Heart Health System in Gulf County.

HEALTH SERVICES – WEWAHITCHKA MEDICAL CENTER

Joel Montgomery, of Wewahitchka Medical Center appeared before the Board and gave a power point presentation of the services available through the Wewahitchka Medical Center in Wewahitchka, Florida.

PUBLIC COMMENT

County Attorney Novak called for public comment. He stated that a question was submitted from Dolly Guilford asking if any of the organizations are expecting to provide pediatrics services by a pediatrician, and immunization services. FL Department of Health Administrator Lindeman reported that the Health Department has a part time

pediatrician on staff Tuesdays and Wednesdays in Port St. Joe, and there will be an immunization nurse at the Health Department twice a month. Joel Montgomery, of Wewahitchka Medical stated that Wewahitchka Medical Center will see children depending upon their training. Roger Hall, of Sacred Heart Health System reported that Sacred Heart Health System has a children's hospital, located in Pensacola.

County Attorney Novak stated that Mrs. Guilford second written question was: Will there be mental health services provided in Wewahitchka? Joel Montgomery, of Wewahitchka Medical Center discussed an initial push from the Federal Government, stating they are expected to integrate mental health services with the primary care services.

County Attorney Novak called again for public comment. He reported that Mrs. Guilford's third question was: Will Sacred Heart Health System provide free sports health exams for students in Wewahitchka? Roger Hall, of Sacred Heart Health System reported that this service is already provided.

Bobby McDonald, of Wewahitchka appeared before the Board to inquire if Sacred Heart Health System will provide a primary care physician in Wewahitchka. Roger Hall, of Sacred Heart Health System reported that a primary care physician will be stationed in Wewahitchka, effective September 15th. Upon inquiry by Mr. McDonald, Mr. Hall stated that Sacred Heart Health System is a Tri-Care provider.

County Attorney Novak read the fourth question from Mrs. Guilford regarding the sliding scale fees. Mr. Montgomery of Wewahitchka reported that the co-pay at Wewahitchka Medical Center is set at \$10.00. Mr. Hall of Sacred Heart Health System stated that a sliding fee scale will be available.

County Attorney Novak discussed the fifth question submitted by Mrs. Guilford regarding the hours of operation for each facility. Mr. Hall reported that the hours of operation will be 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Sacred Heart Health System in Wewahitchka.

County Attorney Novak discussed the sixth and final question by Mrs. Guilford regarding having a medical doctor on site. He reported that from the previous summary statements that there will be a medical doctor on site.

County Attorney Novak called for public comment. There was no additional public comment. Chairman Smiley called for public comment from the public officials.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner McLemore, Health Department Administrator Lindeman reported that grant funds regarding dental services have been renewed. She discussed applying for grants to help fund services to the public.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner McLemore, Mr. Hall of Sacred Heart Health System stated that medical services will be available in Wewahitchka starting Mid-September.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner McDaniel, Mr. Hall of Sacred Heart Health System reported that they will provide x-ray services in Wewahitchka. Mr. Montgomery of the Wewahitchka Medical Center stated that they do have the equipment for x-ray services, but find it difficult to staff technicians. He reported that they refer patients to Sacred Heart Hospital for these services.

Upon inquiry by Commissioner McDaniel, Mr. Hall of Sacred Heart Health System stated that they have two (2) fulltime admitting physicians.

Commissioner McDaniel reported that the Health Department's fiscal year begins July 1st and that is why the Health Department could not wait for Sacred Heart to take over services before temporarily closing the Health Department Building in Wewahitchka.

Commissioner Yeager thanked everyone for attending this meeting. He discussed the funds collected to cover healthcare services in Gulf County. Chairman Smiley thanked everyone for attending the town hall meeting.

There being no further discussion, the workshop did then adjourn at 8:19 p.m., E.T.

**TYNALIN SMILEY
CHAIRMAN**

ATTEST:

**REBECCA L. NORRIS
CLERK**