

**THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF CRAVEN
RECONVENED ITS RECESSED SESSION OF DECEMBER 20, 2010 ON
DECEMBER 22, 2010 AT 8:43 A.M. AT CAROLINA EAST MEDICAL CENTER.
THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO RECEIVE A BRIEFING FROM
THE HOSPITAL.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Steve Tyson
Vice Chairman Lee Kyle Allen
Commissioner Scott C. Dacey
Commissioner Thomas L. Mark
Commissioner Theron L. McCabe
Commissioner Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Commissioner Jefferey S. Taylor

STAFF PRESENT:

Harold Blizzard, County Manager
Jack B. Veit, III., Assistant County Manager
Richard F. Hemphill, County Finance Director
Gwendolyn M. Bryan, Clerk to the Board
Jim Hicks, County Attorney

HOSPITAL BOARD PRESENT:

Milt Gold
Ed Armstrong
Dell Ipock
Charles Wetherington
Barbara Lee
Johnnie Sampson, Jr.
Norman Kellum
Sydney Barnwell

HOSPITAL STAFF PRESENT:

Ray Legett, President
Cindy Turco, Attorney
Fred Carmichael, Attorney

The history of the hospital and background on its development were presented by Ray Legett. He reported that 186,496 patients were cared for in 2010. The presentation included discussion of emerging trends and the economic impact of the medical center:

- Increasing Emergency Department visits
- Increasing proportion of Medicaid and uninsured self-pays
- Collection of approximately 17% (or less) of self-pays
- 2,100 employees
- 2nd highest employer after MCAS, Cherry Point
- \$146 million annual payroll
- \$2.5 million annual energy costs
- \$1.5 million to fully fund EMS-911
- Stocks all ambulance (volunteer rescue squads) services (\$75,000/year)
- Philanthropy - \$225,000
- \$33 million paid in bad debt, increased to \$38 million in FY 10-11 budget
- 74% are government payors (Medicaid, Medicare, Tri-Care)

Projected changes that are needed for continued success include:

- Drive down costs
- Promote wellness
- Reduce duplication
- Reduce re-admission rates
- Efficient resource management
- Focus on patient safety and quality care

Medical practices that have previously been integrated into Carolina East Health Care System include:

- Primary Care – Vanceboro
- Heart Center
- Urology Center
- Orthopedic Hospitalists
- Emergency Medicine Physicians
- Surgical Hospitalists

Mr. Legett advised the Board that, with the planned merger with ECIM, that practice would be the 8th practice integrated by the medical center. It is expected to become integrated January 1, 2011. The administration will continue conversations with other practices that have expressed interest in integration.

The Commissioners requested to receive copies of the power point presentation, as well as an electronic version to be placed on the County's website.

Questions from the Commissioners were entertained, followed by a motion to adjourn at 10:05 a.m. by Commissioner Sampson, seconded by Commissioner McCabe and unanimously carried.

Chairman Steve Tyson
Craven County Board of Commissioners

Gwendolyn M. Bryan
Clerk to the Board