

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
WORKSHOP
Tuesday, November 13, 2012
County Courthouse, Rawlins, Wyoming**

A workshop of the Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) commenced Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at the County Courthouse in Rawlins, Wyoming. Attending the meeting were Chairman Terry Weickum; Vice Chairman Jerry Paxton; Commissioner Leo Chapman; Deputy County Attorney Mike Kelly; County Treasurer, Cindy Baldwin; and County Clerk Gwynn Bartlett.

Memorial Hospital Board members were present as well as Memorial Hospital of Carbon County staff and their attorney Pat Crank. City of Rawlins and County Attorney staffs were also present.

Chairman Weickum called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. and stated today's workshop is to discuss emergency detentions (EDs). Dr. Cesko of the Memorial Hospital Board explained what an ED is and the process that is currently used. He noted the purpose of today's workshop is to get feedback on the current process and how these should be handled in the future. Glenn Biggs, County Mental Health Examiner, reported there were 88 EDs last year and Dr. Cesko stated if the individual has no other means to pay, the county is responsible for the first 72 hours of those and the state must pay the remainder.

Dr. Cesko discussed his concern that while MHCC is simply a holding facility for those who are a threat to themselves or others, there is a safety concern for MHCC staff, other patients and visitors. He stated the hospital is not properly constructed and equipped to be housing these individuals.

County Sheriff Jerry Colson discussed his department's practices regarding EDs. He provided several suggestions on how he thinks security could be improved at the hospital.

There was discussion on the charges and how much the county and state pay after insurance and Medicare or Medicaid pay. Sherry Massey from the County Attorney's Office discussed her procedure and offered suggestions for MHCC to assist with billing the county and state.

Chairman Weickum stated that the group should come to the county during a budgetary process if funds would be requested for any improvements. Commissioner Paxton suggested estimates be obtained for additional security and other research be completed.

Ned Hill, MHCC CEO, presented estimates for the "gold standard" type of psychiatric room and addressed the reasons that this was brought outside a regular budget cycle stating that questions could be answered and final information could be presented during budget requests. He also stressed the urgency of the issue noting that things can be phased however this leaves the hospital at risk for events similar to the 9 worrisome events that have occurred in the past year alone. Mr. Hill reported that there is another institution that would provide these services and there was discussion of transportation and cost issues. Mr. Hill stated this could be an option in the interim until MHCC is prepared to handle these cases.

Clerk Bartlett suggested possibly using Homeland Security grant funds for parts of the upgrades and offered to investigate this further. The BOCC suggested more information be obtained and planned for then further discussion can take place.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Paxton moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Commissioner Chapman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

-s- Gwynn G. Bartlett, Carbon County Clerk

Approved this 20th day of November 2012

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

Terry Weickum, Chairman