

March 13, 2008

A special meeting of the Bladen County Board of Commissioners was held on March 13, 2008 at 6:30 pm to conduct a public hearing regarding the proposed lease, sale, or conveyance of Bladen County Hospital to Cape Fear Valley Health Care System. The following members were present:

Margaret Lewis-Moore, Chairperson
Billy Ray Pait
Lewis Tatum
Delilah B. Blanks
W.D. Neill, Jr.
James G. Smith
Larry Smith
Charles Ray Peterson
Greg Taylor

Chairperson Moore called the meeting to order. Commissioner Blanks provided the invocation and Vice Chairman Pait led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation Regarding Affiliation Proposal:
(Bladen County Hospital CEO David Masterson)

- Bladen County Hospital CEO David Masterson discussed the benefits and advantages of Bladen County Hospital becoming an affiliate of Cape Fear Valley Health System.
 - Benefits/Advantages
 1. More Doctors and Specialists
 2. All Employees will be offered jobs in transition.
 3. Financial Stability
 4. Same services will be offered.
 - Other Items Mentioned
 1. Cape Fear Valley will not offer retiree health coverage but the hospital is working with the county regarding this matter.
 2. Bladen County Hospital will have the ability to terminate the agreement with Cape Fear Valley without cause, but will be required to repay Cape Fear Valley for its investment.
 3. Bladen Medical Associates will be included in the agreement.
 4. Bladen Health Watch employees will transition with Cape Fear Valley Health System.
 5. Bladen County Hospital Foundation will not be included in the affiliation.
 6. Bladen Fitness Services is not currently included in affiliation. However, discussions are being held regarding its future.

Presentation Regarding Affiliation Proposal:
(Cape Fear Valley Health System CEO Mike Nagowski)

- CEO Mike Nagowski stated that he was very excited about the affiliation of Bladen County Hospital with Cape Fear Valley. And he felt it would be a win-win situation for both parties.
- Mr. Nagowski stated that he felt it was very important to keep the name of Bladen County Hospital. The new corporation would be formed with Cape Fear Valley Health System called, “Bladen County Hospital, LLC.”

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Public Hearing: Chairperson Moore opened the floor for public comments.

(Mr. Mac McCrary served as Facilitator during the public comment period)

1. David Clark

- Mr. Clark thanked the members of the Board of Commissioners for all of their work with the affiliation process. He encouraged the Board to move forward with this affiliation.

2. Beverly Grayman- Rich

(Cape Fear Valley Health System Employee and Interim Nursing Director at Bladen County Hospital)

- Ms. Rich stated that it had been a pleasure serving Bladen County Hospital as an Ambassador for Cape Fear Valley.
- Ms. Rich stated that Bladen County Hospital Nurses will have numerous services offered to them through Cape Fear Valley such as a Critical Care School.

3. Ed Melvin

(Cape Fear Valley Health System Board Member and County Commissioner)

- Mr. Melvin stated he was most excited about the affiliation with Bladen County Hospital because he is a native of Bladen County. Furthermore, he stated he would be a voice for Bladen County.

4. Dan Allen (Current Chairman of Bladen County Hospital Board of Trustees)

- Mr. Allen encouraged the Board to vote in favor of the agreement with Cape Fear Valley on March 25, 2008 and to consider the affiliation as providing “Quality Health Care in Bladen County”.

5. Barbara McDonald (Cape Fear Valley Employee)

- Ms. McDonald expressed how much she loved coming to Bladen County to her home at White Lake. She stated that she feels Bladen County Hospital and Cape Fear Valley will have a good working relationship.

6. Betty Carroll (Bladen County Hospital Retiree)

- Ms. Carroll stated that she was excited about the affiliation with Cape Fear Valley because she has had excellent experiences with Cape Fear Valley. She expressed concerns regarding her retiree health benefits and asked commissioners to provide coverage.

7. Marie Smith (Bladen County Hospital Retiree)

- Ms. Smith stated that she thought the affiliation with Cape Fear Valley was a wonderful choice. However, she expressed concerns regarding her retiree health benefits.

8. Lonnie Dowless (Former member of Bladen County Hospital Board of Trustees)

- Mr. Dowless stated that he was in favor of the affiliation with Cape Fear Valley. He also stated that Cape Fear Valley was a wonderful Hospital with a great deal of services to offer Bladen County.

9. Roxanne Brisson (Bladen Medical Associates Employee)

- Ms. Brisson stated she was looking forward to working with Cape Fear Valley.

10. Berline Graham

- Ms. Graham expressed how thankful she is of the Cape Fear Valley Partnership.
- She expressed her hope that through the affiliation, Cape Fear Valley will become involved in outside activities that promote the hospital.

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11. Dr. Pearly Graham Hoskins (Bladen County Hospital Medical Provider)

- Dr. Hoskins stated that she was very supportive of the affiliation.
- Dr. Hoskins expressed how important the hospital was to Bladen County. She stated that without a hospital people will not want to live in Bladen County and new industries will not want to locate in Bladen County.
- Dr. Hoskins stated that the affiliation will keep Bladen County Hospital open.

Margaret Lewis-Moore expressed appreciation for citizen comments. She thanked everyone for attending and for their interest in Bladen County Hospital.

A motion was made by Lewis Tatum, seconded by Larry Smith and approved to adjourn at 7:45 pm.

**Margaret Lewis-Moore, Chairperson
Bladen County Board of Commissioners**

ATTEST:

Ashley C. Sasser, Clerk