

AGENDA ITEM # 15**March 23, 1999**

Discuss and take appropriate action on funding for Round Rock Health Clinic for one month, out of indigent health care costs.

Williamson County and Cities Health District Director Karen Wilson discussed the possibility of Williamson County allocating \$40,000.00 to \$60,000.00 from the indigent health care line item to meet operating costs of the Round Rock Health Clinic for the month of April, 1999. Round Rock Hospital will donate all equipment presently being used but will discontinue funding the rural health clinic effective March 31, 1999. Round Rock Hospital created the clinic in 1995 to provide care for pregnant women and children on Medicaid and some Medicare clients but decided in January to close the clinic. Williamson County does not have enough physicians willing to accept Medicaid. Two nurse practitioners actually provide the care with back up and consultation from two Round Rock physicians.

The two nurses are attempting to form a non-profit corporation. They have the support of a foundation called Providence Texas which will provide financial support until the clinic is self-sustaining.

Moved: Commissioner Boatright

Seconded: Judge Doerfler

Motion: To allocate funds not to exceed \$60,000.00 for the Round Rock Health Clinic for the month of April, 1999, with payment procedures to be worked out by Assistant County Auditor Julie Kiley and Williamson County and Cities Health District Director Karen Wilson.

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 0 < Clerk copy here >

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**WILLIAMSON COUNTY & CITIES HEALTH DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: March 22, 1999

TO: County Commissioners
Greg Boatright
David Hays
Mike Heiligenstein
Frank Limmer

FROM: Karen Wilson *KW*
WCCHD Director

SUBJECT: Commissioners Court Agenda Item Regarding Round Rock Health Clinic

On the Court agenda for March 23 there is an agenda item to consider allocating funds from the County Indigent Health Care line item to meet operating costs of the Round Rock Health Clinic for the month of April. I would like to give you a little background about this clinic.

The Round Rock Hospital established this clinic in 1995 to provide prenatal care to women on Medicaid and to provide health care to children on Medicaid. This clinic is a very valuable resource in the county as there are not enough physicians who will take care of the women and children who are on Medicaid. The Round Rock Hospital has decided to close this clinic effective March 31.

Two nurse practitioners, Sue Gondren and Melanie Truesdell, provide the health care services with back-up by two Round Rock physicians. These two nurses are very committed to keeping this clinic open and have decided to form a non-profit corporation. They have the support of a foundation called Providence Texas. This foundation will provide financial support until the clinic is self-sustaining. Foundation staff and the two nurse practitioners met with Judge Doerfler and myself last week to discuss this situation. The Foundation is currently raising funds to help support this clinic. Many of the donations received are in the form of real estate, so the Foundation may not have adequate cash available on April 1 to sustain this clinic. The request is being made to the Commissioners Court to approve use of County Indigent Health Care Funds to meet expenses during April if needed to keep this clinic operational. Providence Texas is confident that they will have adequate funds by May 1 and quite possibly sooner. The estimated expenses are \$40-60,000 per month. Because it takes a while for reimbursement from Medicaid to start flowing, very limited income is expected during the first 3 months.

To date, expenditures from the County Indigent Health Care line item are lower than expected. Therefore, I anticipate that there will be adequate funds this year to allocate some to this clinic. This clinic is providing care to women and children from all over the county. A hardship would be created for many if it closes. I encourage you to vote in favor of providing temporary financial assistance to the Round Rock Health Clinic. I will be available in my office today at 930-4387 if you have questions. I also plan to attend Commissioners Court tomorrow.

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AGENDA ITEM # 16March 23, 1999

Consider rescinding action on Agenda Item #11 from March 16, 1999, pertaining to Tax Office line item transfer.

No action was needed on this agenda item.

AGENDA ITEM # 17March 23, 1999

Consider approving transfer of the following fixed assets from Maintenance to Communications:

1-radio 29861	1-radio 13420	1-radio 20734
1-radio 13404	1-radio 23176	1-radio 481SWH5989
1-Strobe Controller RPS640GQ		
4-Red & blue lights		
1-Spot Light		
4-power cords and speakers		
1-siren control #90680		
1-shotgun mount		

Moved: Commissioner Boatright

Seconded: Commissioner Hays

Motion: To approve transfer of the following fixed assets from Maintenance to Communications:

1-radio 29861	1-radio 13420	1-radio 20734
1-radio 13404	1-radio 23176	1-radio 481SWH5989
1-Strobe Controller RPS640GQ		
4-Red & blue lights		
1-Spot Light		
4-power cords and speakers		
1-siren control #90680		
1-shotgun mount		

Vote: Motion carried 4 - 0

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