

Memorandum

To: *Project File #11-005 Touchette Regional Hospital*

Place: *Centreville City Hall, 5800 Bond Avenue, Centreville, Illinois*

Hearing Officers: *Courtney Avery, Administrator, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board, Mike Constantino, Project Reviewer*

Date: *3/18/2011*

Time: *1:00pm-2:00pm*

Re: *First Public Hearing*

- 13 Individuals were in attendance but did not provide testimony
- 5 Individuals testified in support of the project
- 2 Individuals testified in opposition to the project

To: *Project File #11-005 Touchette Regional Hospital*

Place: *East St. Louis City Hall, 301 River Park Drive, East St. Louis, Illinois*

Hearing Officers: *Courtney Avery, Administrator, Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board, Mike Constantino, Project Reviewer*

Date: *3/18/2011*

Time: *4:00pm-5:00pm*

Re: *Second Public Hearing*

- 19 Individuals were in attendance but did not provide testimony
- 4 Individuals testified in support of the project
- 2 Individuals testified in opposition to the project

**Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Centreville City Hall

PROJECT #11-005

Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 5800 Bond Avenue
Centreville IL

NAME: Touchette Regional
Hospital

Time: 4:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE/NO-APPEARANCE ON PROJECT

SCDDPORT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	<i>CHRIS LEYD</i>	<i>TRH</i>	<i>OLIVETTE, MO</i>	<i>BOTH</i>
2	<i>JAMES PEASST</i>	<i>TRH / KTHH</i>	<i>SWANSEA IL</i>	<i>BOTH</i>
3	<i>Larry McCallister</i>	<i>TRH / SHH</i>	<i>OLIVETTE, MO</i>	<i>BOTH</i>
4	<i>Steve Ludwig</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>ST. LOUIS MO</i>	<i>None</i>
5	<i>Clare DeGroot</i>	<i>Holland's Kengler</i>	<i>Caracas</i>	<i>oral</i>
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**Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Centreville City Hall PROJECT # 11-005 Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 5800 Bond Avenue NAME: Touchette Regional Hospital Time: 1:00 P.M.

/ No TESTIMONY TO ~~PROJECT~~ PROJECT

#	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	Rodney Lewis	City of Centreville	Centreville	attendance
2	Michael J Gray	City of Belleville City of Belleville City of Belleville	Belleville	attendance
3	Michael McManus	City of Belleville	Belleville, IL	attendance
4	Larry Horne	Attendance	Belleville, IL	attendance
5	LISA GUILD WALKER	Attendance (SEE NOTES)	SAINT LOUIS MO	
6	THOMAS WILES	ATTEND (SEE IL)	BELLEVEILLE, IL	
7	NATHAN KIMNEY	Memorial Hospital	BELLEVILLE	attendance
8	Brendan WSK	(31-22)	Belleville, IL	
9	Laura Burbank	SETU NO/RS	St. Louis, MO	attendance
10	TIM DONELLI	DML -	Avon IL	attendance
11	POD O'CONNOR	Personal	Belleville	attendance
12	Shogla Smith	Personal	Bradley	attendance
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**Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Centreville City Hall

PROJECT #11-005

Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 5800 Bond Avenue
Centreville IL

NAME: Touchette Regional
Hospital

Time: 4:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE/NO TESTIMONY ON PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	<i>Jacqueline Lee</i>	<i>BND-Belleville News-Democrat</i>		<i>Media</i>
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**Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: Centreville City Hall

PROJECT # 11-005

Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 5800 Bond Avenue
Centreville IL

NAME: Touchette Regional
Hospital

Time: 1:00 P.M.

TESTIMONY TO OPPOSE PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	<i>Pauline McElatherr</i>	<i>Resident</i>	<i>East St Louis Ill.</i>	<i>ORAL</i>
2	<i>Michael S Gray</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>Belleville IL</i>	<i>ORAL</i>
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Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
 PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER
 PROJECT # 11-005
 Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 301 River Park Dr.,
 East St. Louis IL
 NAME: Touchette Regional
 Hospital
 Time: 4:00 P.M.

TESTIMONY TO SUPPORT PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	Larry McCallister	TRH/STHF	D'Ellen	Both
2	James Rooster	TRH	Suburban	Both
3	Chris Lynn	TRH	Olivette, MO	Both
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**Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: St. Louis Municipal Bldg. PROJECT # 11-005 Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 301 River Park Dr, NAME: Touchette Regional Time: 4:00 P.M.
East St. Louis, IL Hospital

TESTIMONY TO OPPOSE PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	STADLY BROWN	4394 O. B. S	Stadly Brown	
2	DAVID BLAKE	Ettrere	ESL	
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**Illinois Health Facilities & Services Review Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: St. Louis Municipal Bldg.

PROJECT # 11-005

Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 301 River Park Dr,
East St. Louis, IL

NAME: Touchette Regional
Hospital

Time: 4:00 P.M.

TESTIMONY TO OPPOSE PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	<i>Lyndia Elliott</i>	<i>SEIU</i>	<i>E. St. Louis IL</i>	<i>oral</i>
2	<i>TAKEN NOTES</i>	<i>SEIU</i>	<i>Belleville IL</i>	<i>oral</i>
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**Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: East St. Louis Municipal

PROJECT # 11-005

Date: March 16, 2011

Building

Address: 301 River Park Drive

NAME: Touchette Regional

Time: 4:00pm

East St. Louis, IL

Hospital

ATTENDANCE/NO TESTIMONY ON PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	Francella Jackson	City of E. St. Louis	ESL	—
2	Victoria Vasileff	Resident	Belleville	—
3	Debra Kuehl	Resident	St. Louis	Opposed
4	Dwayne Stewart	City of E. St. Louis	E. St. Louis	—
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**Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board
PUBLIC HEARING REGISTER**

Site: East St. Louis Municipal Building

PROJECT # 11-005

Date: March 16, 2011

Address: 301 River Park Drive
East St. Louis, IL

NAME: Touchette Regional Hospital

Time: 4:00pm

ATTENDANCE/NO TESTIMONY ON PROJECT

✓ #	NAME (Please Print)	AGENCY, ORGANIZATION OR INSTITUTION REPRESENTED (PLEASE PRINT)	CITY (Please Print)	ORAL, WRITTEN OR BOTH (PLEASE PRINT)
1	MILLS MCGRAW	TOUCHETTE HOSPITAL	Centerville, IL	
2	Roboy Lewis	City of Centerville	Centerville, IL	
3	Debra Taylor	SEIU	Bell	
4	Laura Burkhardt	SEIU	St. Louis, MO	OPPOSE
5	Bonnie Beamon	SEIU	St. Louis, MO	OPPOSE
6	Lisa Gaud Waddell	SEIU MO/KS	St. Louis MO	OPPOSE
7	M.A. ST COOPER	SEIU	Bell	OPPOSE
8	Bond Green	TRH	Bellville, IL	
9	Debra Burkhardt	SEIU MO/KS	St. Louis	OPPOSE
10	Laura Horne	Attending	Bellefonte, IL	OPPOSE
11	Angela Lyness	Memorial Hospital	Bellefonte, IL	OPPOSE
12	Brendan Nester	CITY OF EAST ST. LOUIS	East St. Louis	
13	Allin Parks	City of East St. Louis	East St. Louis	
14	Steve Nagy	Medina		
15	Steve Nagy		East St. Louis	OPPOSE

Touchette Regional Hospital Certificate of Need Application
Project Number 11-005
Public Hearing Testimony
March 16, 2011

Good Afternoon. My name is Larry McCulley and I am the President and CEO of Touchette Regional Hospital and Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation. I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak on behalf of Touchette Regional Hospital and the Foundation. I have worked for the health care system for more than 14 years. I want to thank HFS and the Review Board for coordinating today's public hearing and for being here in our community.

I am here today to speak about the necessity of the Certificate of Need to close the 39 licensed Behavioral Health beds at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital and to establish 12 licensed beds for Behavioral Health at the Touchette Regional Hospital Campus located just over 4 miles away. I also must note this CON will close the emergency department at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital and therefore it is our intent to staff an urgent care center in the Windsor Medical Office building located adjacent to Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital.

Our decision was not an easy choice, but one based upon necessity. Our decision allows us to maintain behavioral health services, to continue our strong charity care program, and to financially stabilize Touchette Regional Hospital so we can continue our mission to serve this region. Without this change we face not only the elimination of key services, but also the catastrophic failure and closure of both facilities that will cost nearly 700 jobs. We can't allow both facilities to close.

The importance of behavioral health services to the area is why we feel it is prudent to invest in relocating the service to our main campus to assure continuance of inpatient behavioral health services. Our plan integrates the behavioral health services at our main campus located in Centreville, Illinois by creating a 12 bed unit at the Touchette Regional campus. Because of space availability this was the largest number of beds we could provide. Our most recent analysis reflects that this 12 bed unit can assume the volume from the Kenneth Hall facility. Since October of 2010 our average daily census has averaged 10 patients as a long term practicing psychiatrist who had a traditionally heavy admitting practice has scaled back his activity as he transitions into retirement. The positive result of this transition is the integration of the care that should result in better coordination of care for our behavioral health patients with medical consults.

A second key part of our decision was the importance of assuring we can continue to offer access to all people in our community that need hospital based services. Touchette provided over \$7 million in Charity Care in 2010 to patients in the greater East St. Louis region and surrounding communities. Our charity care percentage as reported by the Illinois Department of Public Health for 2009 of 6.3% was over four times higher than the other two hospitals in St. Clair County. Our charity care program is a critical component of our mission and the reason why many people in our community can still

receive hospital services. Our charity care program has increased each of the last 3 years going from \$5.1 million in 2008, \$6.6 million in 2009 and over \$7 in 2010. Our charity care program provides assurance that the most vulnerable people in our community will have access.

To continue to provide this access we have to stabilize the financial position of the Hospital so we do not face closure of both facilities. Some of the financial and operational hardships Touchette Regional has with operating Kenneth Hall are:

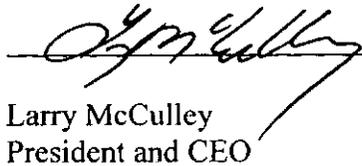
- We only use 8% (19,500 sq. ft.) of the 226,000 sq. ft. facility for patient related services.
 - The need and desire is to partner with developers for a transition of this historical building, the Kenneth Hall facility, into a mixed use facility that will help anchor the re-development of downtown East St. Louis. This proposed renovated facility will target the development of housing for seniors, low-income families, assisted living, and those seeking residency in a prime location in downtown East St. Louis. Additional space will be allocated for leasing opportunities targeted at commercial business and local support agencies. Our efforts will be coordinated with the city leadership.
- We incur over a \$3 million loss by operating the behavioral health services at this campus. These financial losses are the result of annual operational costs to provide redundant support and to maintain services in an underutilized, outdated facility that dedicates less than 12,000 sq. ft. (5%) of the 226,000 sq. ft. building for delivering patient related health services.
- The Emergency Department on the KHRH campus loses an estimated \$2.2 million annually operating in 7,500 sq. ft. (3% of the 226,000 sq. ft.) of the KHRH building. The burden of this financial impact is for an emergency room that has transitioned since 2008 into a service that is now focused on urgent care based services. In fact, up to 94% of the 12,301 patient visits would be better cared for in an urgent care environment.
 - While TRH will close the current Emergency Room we plan to staff and equip an urgent care site in the adjacent Windsor Medical Office building to provide access to for the community. We estimate that we will incur a loss of about \$1 million a year by operating this service.
- Operating two campuses requires us to support over \$1 million in annual costs for utilities, plant operations, maintenance, repairs, insurance, security, and supplies. This is the cost we incur to support just 8% percent of a building that is used for the behavioral health service and Emergency Department. In 2010, TRH spent \$90,000 on repairs to piping, plumbing, and an emergency electrical generator at the KHRH campus.
 - The number of jobs lost will be less then 50 employees. We hope through attrition we will be able to lower this impact by the time the transition occurs to 25 or less. This transition will allow us to maintain an estimated 40 jobs. Without this transition these 40 jobs would also be lost.

- Another factor is that this year (2011) the Kenneth Hall facility will need to invest at least \$5.8 million for repairs and upgrades for required IDPH mandated compliance with fire codes, elevators, and electrical deficiencies throughout the building. TRH does not have this level of capital funds to invest in these extensive repairs.
- Touchette is also being forced to consider financial reductions to address cuts to our Medicaid payments of over \$2.3 million under the proposed state of Illinois budget.

Our financial outlook for maintaining Touchette Regional Hospital with behavioral health and the continued health care access through our charity care program is dependent on the physical integration of these two campuses. By reducing the approximate \$5.5 million dollars in annual losses from the Kenneth Hall campus operations we can stabilize the financial health of Touchette and continue access to our hospital based care, including behavioral health services . Without this plan moving forth we are faced with the loss of behavioral health and possibly that of the entire Touchette Hospital operation.

In summary, I recognize the necessity of the Certificate of Need to discontinue the Behavioral Health services at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital and to establish the service at Touchette Regional Hospital and close the emergency department at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital. I thank you for your consideration of this proposed sustainability plan for maintaining healthcare services.

Signed:



Larry McCulley
President and CEO

Touchette Regional Hospital Certificate of Need Application
Project Number 11-005
Public Hearing Testimony
March 16, 2011

Good Afternoon. My name is Larry McCulley and I am the President and CEO of Touchette Regional Hospital and Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation. I want to thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak on behalf of Touchette Regional Hospital and the Foundation. I have worked for the health care system for more than 14 years. I want to thank HFS and the Review Board for coordinating today's public hearing and for being here in our community.

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The importance of behavioral health services to the area is why we feel it is prudent to invest in relocating the service to our main campus to assure continuance of inpatient behavioral health services. Our plan integrates the behavioral health services at our main campus located in Centreville, Illinois by creating a 12 bed unit at the Touchette Regional campus. Because of space availability this was the largest number of beds we could provide. Our most recent analysis reflects that this 12 bed unit can assume the volume from the Kenneth Hall facility. Since October of 2010 our average daily census has averaged 10 patients as a long term practicing psychiatrist who had a traditionally heavy admitting practice has scaled back his activity as he transitions into retirement. The positive result of this transition is the integration of the care that should result in better coordination of care for our behavioral health patients with medical consults.

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receive hospital services. Our charity care program has increased each of the last 3 years going from \$5.1 million in 2008, \$6.6 million in 2009 and over \$7 in 2010. Our charity care program provides assurance that the most vulnerable people in our community will have access.

To continue to provide this access we have to stabilize the financial position of the Hospital so we do not face closure of both facilities. Some of the financial and operational hardships Touchette Regional has with operating Kenneth Hall are:

- We only use 8% (19,500 sq. ft.) of the 226,000 sq. ft. facility for patient related services.
 - The need and desire is to partner with developers for a transition of this historical building, the Kenneth Hall facility, into a mixed use facility that will help anchor the re-development of downtown East St. Louis. This proposed renovated facility will target the development of housing for seniors, low-income families, assisted living, and those seeking residency in a prime location in downtown East St. Louis. Additional space will be allocated for leasing opportunities targeted at commercial business and local support agencies. Our efforts will be coordinated with the city leadership.
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 - While TRH will close the current Emergency Room we plan to staff and equip an urgent care site in the adjacent Windsor Medical Office building to provide access to for the community. We estimate that we will incur a loss of about \$1 million a year by operating this service.
- Operating two campuses requires us to support over \$1 million in annual costs for utilities, plant operations, maintenance, repairs, insurance, security, and supplies. This is the cost we incur to support just 8% percent of a building that is used for the behavioral health service and Emergency Department. In 2010, TRH spent \$90,000 on repairs to piping, plumbing, and an emergency electrical generator at the KHRH campus.
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- Another factor is that this year (2011) the Kenneth Hall facility will need to invest at least \$5.8 million for repairs and upgrades for required IDPH mandated compliance with fire codes, elevators, and electrical deficiencies throughout the building. TRH does not have this level of capital funds to invest in these extensive repairs.
- Touchette is also being forced to consider financial reductions to address cuts to our Medicaid payments of over \$2.3 million under the proposed state of Illinois budget.

Our financial outlook for maintaining Touchette Regional Hospital with behavioral health and the continued health care access through our charity care program is dependent on the physical integration of these two campuses. By reducing the approximate \$5.5 million dollars in annual losses from the Kenneth Hall campus operations we can stabilize the financial health of Touchette and continue access to our hospital based care, including behavioral health services . Without this plan moving forth we are faced with the loss of behavioral health and possibly that of the entire Touchette Hospital operation.

In summary, I recognize the necessity of the Certificate of Need to discontinue the Behavioral Health services at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital and to establish the service at Touchette Regional Hospital and close the emergency department at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital. I thank you for your consideration of this proposed sustainability plan for maintaining healthcare services.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. McCulley", is written over a horizontal line.

Larry McCulley
President and CEO

Touchette Regional Hospital Certificate of Need Application
Project Number 11-005
Public Hearing Testimony
March 16, 2011

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments at this public hearing. My name is Dr. James Probst, Medical Director of emergency services for Touchette Regional Hospital. I have been providing emergency services for ten years and have served as the Medical Director of the Emergency Services at Touchette and Kenneth Hall since 2008. I can offer first hand experience of the services at both Touchette and Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital as I work at both hospitals.

Since 2008 Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital has basically served as a freestanding emergency department. We have support at Kenneth Hall in terms of laboratory, x-ray and respiratory services, but we do not have surgical services, an ICU or Med/Surg beds at the Kenneth Hall. There are only inpatient mental health beds at the Kenneth Hall campus. Since 2008 patients presenting at the Kenneth Hall emergency department that need a higher level of care have been transferred to either Touchette Hospital or to other hospitals in the St. Louis metro area. We have worked very closely with the local ambulance service, MedStar, and Dr. Jeff Schafer the Regional EMS Medical Director to ensure patients are taken to the appropriate setting given the limited services at Kenneth Hall. The number of patients that arrive at the Kenneth Hall emergency department that subsequently have to be transferred to another hospital for critical services has been reduced by over 70%. Some statistics that give you an idea of the type of services provided at the Kenneth Hall emergency department and the relatively low amount of trauma seen at the facility includes:

- 1) Usually about 2 patients per month present to the KHRH emergency department with what could be considered immediate trauma.
- 2) Less than 5% of patients seen at the KHRH emergency department come to the hospital by ambulance with advanced life support staff.
- 3) More than 94% of all patients seen at the KHRH emergency department could be appropriately seen at an urgent care setting.

As a physician who practices at each of these facilities, I would like to offer my view with respect to the Kenneth Hall Campus. Because of the downsized nature of the Kenneth Hall building it is very challenging to operate within the facility. The infrastructure of the heating, plumbing and cooling has continual problems which causes problems in the emergency department. For example, the air conditioning unit that services the Kenneth Hall emergency department is in continual need of repair and was not operational at multiple times last summer. The challenge that Touchette Regional Hospital has in making ends meet to run both campuses has placed a struggle on the hospital to stay current and provide much needed up-to-date diagnostic equipment in order to maintain the appropriate level of service needed by an emergency department. I understand that until Touchette Regional Hospital eliminates the burden of the multi-million dollar loss of operating the Kenneth Hall campus we will not be able to improve the emergency facilities and services that we provide to the patients we serve.

In conclusion I am in favor of the Certificate of Need to close the emergency department at Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital for the overall benefit of the community. The majority of patients currently seen at the Kenneth Hall emergency department can be referred to

an urgent care center to be located in the Windsor Medical Office Building. I urge the Health Facilities and Services Review Board to approve the application as submitted.

Signed:



James Probst, DO

Touchette Regional Hospital Certificate of Need Application
Project Number 11-005
Public Hearing Testimony
March 16, 2011

Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments at this public hearing. My name is Dr. James Probst, Medical Director of emergency services for Touchette Regional Hospital. I have been providing emergency services for ten years and have served as the Medical Director of the Emergency Services at Touchette and Kenneth Hall since 2008. I can offer first hand experience of the services at both Touchette and Kenneth Hall Regional Hospital as I work at both hospitals.

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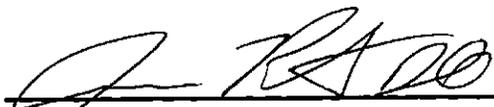
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Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Probst", written over a horizontal line.

James Probst, DO

Touchette Regional Hospital Certificate of Need Application
Project Number 11-005
Public Hearing Testimony
March 16, 2011

Good afternoon. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to offer comments at this public hearing. My name is Dr. Christopher Loynd. I am a Board Certified Psychiatrist and currently serve as Chair of the Department of Psychiatry for Touchette Regional Hospital and also provide physician services for Touchette's inpatient and outpatient mental health services. I have practiced as a psychiatrist in the East St. Louis area for the past four years at the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation offices in the Windsor Medical Office building. I am a graduate of Washington University School of Medicine and did my residency at Washington University and Barnes-Jewish Hospital.

I am in support of the Certificate of Need to relocate Behavioral Health services from Kenneth Hall to the Touchette Regional Hospital Campus. I would like to address the mental health aspect of this plan. Although Touchette Regional Hospital is licensed for 39 mental health beds, the average inpatient census has been 12 patients over the last year and over the past four months our average inpatient census has been 10 patients. In addition, St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Belleville has agreed to take patients if there are times when we do not have a bed available. I believe the 12 bed unit that will be established at Touchette Regional Hospital can handle the volume that we are currently seeing and could result in a better coordination of care. Many of our mental health patients also need medical consults. To have the two services located on separate campuses can create a challenge in coordinating medical and psychiatric consults. A benefit of relocating the services to Touchette Regional Hospital will be the ability to have better coordinated care for our mental health patients who often have underlying medical needs.

Rather than discontinue the service, like many other hospitals have done, Touchette Regional Hospital is relocating the service to its main campus 5 miles away to gain greater efficiency. This makes sense because the majority of patients treated by Touchette Regional Hospital are from the immediate metro east area. Overall 85% of all patients are from St. Clair County. Breaking that figure down, 63% of all patients come from the communities of Alorton, Cahokia, Centreville, East St. Louis and Washington Park, 19% come from Belleville, Fairview Heights, O'Fallon and Swansea and 3% come from other communities in St. Clair County. Touchette Regional Hospital has also demonstrated its commitment to mental health by expanding its outpatient services over the past three years.

The three physicians that provide coverage to the inpatient unit at Kenneth Hall have all indicated our support and willingness to continue to provide that coverage once the service is moved to Touchette. Even though the total number of beds will be less the new unit will be more modern and up to date and should be able to accommodate the patient volume. The existing behavioral health unit at Kenneth Hall is need of updates and repair similar to the rest of the Kenneth Hall facility.

I am grateful that Touchette Regional Hospital has chosen to maintain inpatient behavioral health care as it address the expressed concerns about additional loss of mental health services in the Southern Illinois area. I'm sure others can provide more detail regarding the financial situation that Touchette Regional Hospital is facing. My understanding is that without this change the \$5 million in losses attributable to the Kenneth Hall campus threaten the access to inpatient behavioral health care that we are able to provide to area residents and well as other hospital based care.

In summary, I am in favor of the Certificate of Need to relocate the behavioral health services from the Kenneth Hall Campus to Touchette Regional Hospital and urge the Health Facilities and Service Review Board to approve the application as submitted.

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Loynd', is written above a horizontal line.

Christopher Loynd, MD

Touchette Regional Hospital Certificate of Need Application
Project Number 11-005
Public Hearing Testimony
March 16, 2011

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