

***By Russ Pankonin***

***The Imperial Republican***

Chase County commissioners voted last week to accept the resignation of Bill Bauerle from the Chase County Community Hospital board of trustees. The resignation will become effective Sept. 30.

Bauerle has served on the board for 13 years and is the current chair of the board.

In his letter of resignation that he presented to the commissioners, Bauerle said he was reluctantly submitting the resignation as per the request of Commissioner Jodi Thompson.

Bauerle provided the commissioners with an overview of issues facing the hospital and asked to go into executive session to discuss hospital personnel.

After 45 minutes in closed session, the meeting resumed in open session.

Bauerle's letter had an effective date of Aug. 31, 2012. Don Weiss, Jr.'s motion to accept Bauerle's resignation as of that date failed on a 2-1 vote with Thompson and commissioner Chuck Vette opposing the motion.

Thompson then moved to accept the resignation effective Sept. 30, 2012. That motion passed 2-1 with Weiss voting no.

Thompson said the decision to extend the effective date would allow for some transition time and allow Bauerle to address some pending board issues.

She's hopeful a new appointment to the board can be made at the next commissioner's meeting Aug. 14.

Later that day, hospital board member Vicky Heskett went into closed session with Vette and Thompson on hospital personnel issues. Heskett was present via telephone for the eight-minute closed session. No action followed in open session.

Other members serving on the hospital board include Bob Mendenhall, Sr. and Sam McNair, both of Imperial, and Eddie Nichols of Wauneta.