

## **MMH continues to strengthen relationships**

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

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Maintaining a relationship with the public continues to be a primary focus for members of the East Phillips County Hospital District board. A number of ongoing ventures that highlighted the benefits of being involved within the community were discussed at the Oct. 29 board meeting.

Opening the avenues for communication is an important step in identifying and addressing health care issues locally. Melissa Memorial Hospital held its third and final health needs assessment Sept. 26, which MMH administrator John Ayoub stated had a better attendance than the previous two meetings.

Colorado Rural Health Center is now responsible for compiling the information gained through the meetings. Once ratified and approved by the hospital board, the report will be used to aid in strategic planning. Input from the meetings helps the hospital identify what areas of health care the community deem important and what areas people would like to see improved.

The report, which Ayoub hopes will be returned to the board members this month, will be made available to the public by request at the hospital. Ayoub also stated that if enough interest in the report is shown, it could be posted on the hospital's website.

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Holyoke Enterprise November 7, 2013