

Slow going for Horton healthcare future

(KAIR)--Despite reports to the contrary, no timetable is yet established for the possible return of healthcare services in the City of Horton.

That word was delivered Wednesday during a special meeting of the Horton City Commission focused on the fate of the city's lone nursing home.

Horton City Administrator John Calhoon said talks continue in the effort to restore healthcare services. "I called the trustee this afternoon. My main question was I have had limited contact the last week or two, can you please just tell me have we drastically had a change one direction or the other? The answer was no, but the honest answer is things are just moving a little slower than we would hope."

The Horton Community Hospital closed in March. The Commission, shortly after the closing, held a special meeting where it was announced that the trustee of the facility was interested in working with the City to establish a plan to restore healthcare services.

Despite the slow timeline for that process, Calhoon said he has not given up hope. "I know I haven't given up on bringing as much hospital services back, and I hope nobody out there has. I know it's hard for some of the employees to sit and think there is hope, but we haven't given up yet, and until we hear something from the trustee or bankruptcy court that says certain things are not going to happen, that's the way that I'm going to remain."

In recent days, it's been rumored and reported that in lieu of the reopening of the hospital, a healthcare clinic would open in Horton in a matter of days or weeks.

However, that is not yet finalized with no actual plan in place to open a clinic.

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