

Hospital earns money in August

By DOUG FLANAGAN
Post-Register Writer

The Quincy Valley Medical Center made almost \$40,000 in August, bringing its year-to-date profit to almost \$99,000.

The hospital had budgeted to make \$15,300 in August.

"That's a larger total than we had budgeted, larger than expected," financial officer Ken Kiehn said at Monday's Grant County Hospital District No. 2 commissioners meeting. "We had

more business in the hospital in August. It was a good month. But we want to work to see if we can get the categories that we're spending more money in, like professional fees and purchased services, lower because September, October and November are typically slower months."

One element that will help the medical center's overall financial picture look a bit better in coming months is the money it was able to collect as a result of its agreement with the Gorge Amphitheatre.

Emergency medical services director Doug

Martinson said preliminary reports indicate that the center will receive \$39,533 in standby income from the Gorge for its emergency transport services and supplies.

"We had a contract with them to provide three ambulances for each concert, one at the campground and two at the amphitheatre," Martinson said. "They dictated our staffing levels, but we told them our first priority was to the community, so we were allowed to leave if we had to. There was no dedicated standby. But we ended up transporting 63 patients from the Gorge."

• The commissioners approved the appointments of doctors Maria Celeste Lomarda and Anna Marie Espiritu, family practice physicians employed by Quincy Community Health who now have admitting privileges at the Quincy hospital.

"They will be a significant part of our on-call team," said medical staff services coordinator Glenda Bishop. "They help admit patients to the hospital. They will be a huge help to doctors (Mark) Vance, (Robert) Shelly and (Mary) Klinger."