

**BEAUFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BOARD MEETING BY ZOOM (DUE TO COVID-19) – OPEN SESSION**

**MINUTES – AUGUST 26, 2020**

**BY ZOOM:** David House (Chair); Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); Andrea Allen; Kathy McDonagh, Ph.D.; Richardson LaBruce; Eric Billig, M.D.; Hampton Long; Alice Howard; Paul Sommerville

**PRESENT:** Russell Baxley; Ken Miller; Karen Carroll; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.; Stephen Larson, M.D.; Allison Coppage; Chris Ketchie; Brian Hoffman; Shawna Doran; Courtney McDermott; Debbie Schuchmann; Courtney Smith; Ashley Hildreth and Anna Sobiech

Absent: Faith Polkey, M.D

**Public/Open Session CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. House called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. and took roll call. A quorum of the Board is confirmed. He stated that the Press had been notified.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Dr. McDonagh to go into Executive Session at 7:45 a.m. to discuss MSPI, Quality Improvement, Medical Staff Credentialing, Strategic Planning, Contractual Arrangements, Legal and Personnel Matters. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

**Public/Open Session MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. LaBruce to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved. Anna Sobiech took roll call.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

Ms. Debbie Schuchmann provided a patient story.

**CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for July 29, 2020, Committee Reports & Minutes, and Staff Reports.** Mr. LaBruce made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Allen, to adopt the agenda, amendment to the minutes and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:**

**Finance Committee:** Dr. McDonagh referenced the Finance meeting which was held on Monday, August 24, 2020 and indicated that the committee reviewed July financials which were strong due to both the operational efficiency by administration and the funding received from Health and Human Services. The committee discussed reserving these funds – BMH is working with the external auditors on this. Dr. McDonagh indicated that the fiscal 2021 budget will be discussed at the September meeting. The Line of Credit is in the approval process with Beaufort County Council.

---

**Governance Committee:** Mr. LaBruce indicated that at the meeting held on August 25, 2020, the committee discussed the open office position of the Board and voted to nominate Dr. Stephen Larson as Secretary. This will be placed as an agenda item for the September board meeting. After discussions regarding the potential upcoming Board vacancy, the committee had four to five potential candidates that will be contacted for interviews. Mr. LaBruce indicated that the annual education for members needs to be completed by October 1, 2020. He indicated that Sg2, Beckers and American Hospital Association [AHA] offered seminars. Dr. McDonagh referenced the AHA Tackling Health Equity: A two-Part Podcast for Trustees that was included in the packet.

**BMH FOUNDATION:** Mr. Long indicated that three new Foundation board member nominees will be brought forth to the board meeting in September for approval. Employee COVID Relief Fund highlights were provided. Annual Appeal letters will be mailed out in October. The Foundation annual meeting will be held virtually in November. The Valentine Ball will be held virtually on February 6, 2021. Ms. Schuchmann provided an update on the OR renovation, physician giving campaign, donors campaign, and providing education around the Surgery Center to the new Foundation board.

**MEDICAL STAFF:** Dr. Ellenberger indicated that there were no outstanding issues.

**MEDICAL STAFF – *Credentials*:** The following practitioners requested appointment: Blau, Sarah, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/ Medicine-Family Practice; Burger, Brian, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Neurology; Fedec, Stephen, DO, Active/Medicine-Cardiology; Feller, Debra, CRNA, Dependent/Anesthesiology; George, Ayodeji, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Hospitalist; Ikuru, Esther, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Hospitalist; McShea, Joseph, DO, Community Active/Medicine-Family Practice; Mukonje, Terence, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Hospitalist; Saconn, Paul, MD, Active/Medicine-Radiation Oncology; Sanito, Nicholas, DO, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Critical Care; Sharma, Vishal, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Hospitalist; Webster, James, MD, Associate/Surgery-Ophthalmology.

Reappointment: Dippel, Roderick, MD, Active/Medicine- Hospitalist; Lowe, Forrest, MD, Consulting/Telemedicine-Neurology; Poling, Jeff, MD, Active/Medicine-Hospitalist; Rendon Pope, Emi, MD, Associate/Medicine- Internal Medicine; Rashid, Khurram, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Internal Medicine; Reuss, Peter, MD, Consulting/Radiology-VRC; Sanders, Carson, MD, Associate/Orthopedics; Schreffler, William, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Orthopedics; Sardana, Vandit, MD, Active/Orthopedics; Stevens, Johnna, MD, Community Active/Medicine-Internal Medicine; Singleton, Jamie, MD, Community Active/Pediatrics; Walz, Alice, MD, Consulting/Telemedicine-Pediatrics.

After review and the recommendation by MEC and then QIC, Dr. McDonagh made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Allen to accept the Credentials Committee recommendations as presented. Unanimous approval.

**CMO Report:** Dr. Gambla indicated that COVID weekly update calls continues for providers with feedback to continue post-COVID. He indicated that 340B for Medicaid expansion is still on hold pending final guidance from the state. Jennifer Moore is a new Rad Onc site manager who is starting in September. Opiates committee is meeting and will be looking into grant

---

funding. Palliative Care completed its first year with almost 750 consults and are looking to strategize for year two. Dr. Gambla provided an update on Sickle Cell.

**ACTION ITEMS, POLICIES, DISCUSSION OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:**

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING POLICIES AS PRESENTED:**

**Temporary Privileges Policy, MS.11**

**Legibility of Documentation Policy, MS.34**

Mr. Himmelsbach made the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig. Unanimous approval.

A discussion ensued regarding the **Medical Staff Services Background Checks Policy**. This policy is currently being withdrawn to compare it with the current language in the Bylaws for consistency for best practices and review with legal counsel and will be brought back next month.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED BY THE QI COMMITTEE.** Mr. Himmelsbach made the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig. Unanimous approval.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE RISK MANAGMENT PLAN AS PRESENTED BY THE QI COMMITTEE.** Mr. Himmelsbach made the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig. Unanimous approval.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

COVID-19 Update and Discussion – Mr. Baxley provided statistics on data trends. He indicated that the masking ordinances were helping as shown by the trend line of positive cases going down. He provided an update on the temporary daycare to be provided to BMH employees (one-year trial period). Discussions ensued regarding protocols and testing based on exposure. Mr. Baxley explained how BMH provides donations (through the BMH Foundation Steering Committee – which is driven by employee funds) to other non-profit organizations.

Social Determination of Health and the Green Team Initiative – Mr. Baxley explained the green team initiative and social determinants of health with the new green team focusing on transportation and food insecurities opportunities.

**ADJOURN** – A motion was made by Dr. McDonagh, and was seconded by Dr. Billig, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David House