

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

**MINUTES – April 28, 2021**

**BY ZOOM:** Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); Richardson LaBruce; Vernita Dore; Dan Barton; Ken Miller

**PRESENT:** David House (Chair); Kathy McDonagh, Ph.D.; Stephen Larson, M.D.; Eric Billig, M.D.; Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.; Jane Kokinakis, D.O.; Russell Baxley; Alice Howard; Paul Sommerville; Karen Carroll; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Allison Coppage; Chris Ketchie; Courtney McDermott; Ashley Hildreth; Brian Hoffman; Shawna Doran; Courtney Smith; and Anna Sobiech

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

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Billig for Board Members to discuss strategic matters related to MSPI, Quality Improvement, Medical Staff Credentialing, Contractual Arrangements, Legal and Personnel Matters. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kokinakis and unanimously approved.

**Public/Open Session MOTION:** A motion was made by Dr. McDonagh to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 9:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

Karen Carroll provided a patient story.

**CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for March 31, 2021, Committee Reports & Minutes, and Staff Reports.** Mr. LaBruce made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig to adopt the agenda, amendment to the minutes and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:**

**Finance:** Dr. McDonagh indicated that March was much improved in terms of volume and financial performance. She further indicated that this was a result of patients returning to the hospital and physician practices and the growth strategies in place in terms of physician recruitment. March had a net profit of \$3.1M. Year-to-date [YTD] net profit was \$173K. Total EBITDA for March was \$4M and YTD at \$5.6M. Dr. McDonagh indicated that no additional information was received relating to the Federal Government Health and Human Services Cares funding. A discussion ensued relating to critical staffing and labor rates and the use of Cares Act funds. Mr. Miller clarified that the Consolidated Summary Balance Sheet reflected BMH's

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paying off the bonds. Mr. Baxley further explained the reasons for the pay off and the result of the days cash drop. The \$20M BMH line of credit was referenced. Mr. Sommerville referenced the American Recovery Act and indicated that he will notify BMH on the next scheduled County Council meeting relating to this to allow a BMH representative to attend for potential opportunities.

**BMH FOUNDATION:** Mr. Barton praised the efforts made by the staff relating to fundraising. He provided a brief update on the Foundation financials, indicating that just under \$1M was raised towards the \$1.9M goal. Mr. Barton indicated that the Foundation's current assets were at \$23,681,153. The Foundation provided \$982K to the hospital to benefit products and services and to support its mission. The Foundation's three new outstanding board members have made an enormous contribution to the group. Mr. Barton indicated an additional name will be forthcoming to the board for approval. Mr. House indicated that \$3.6M of the \$5M goal for the operating room renovation has been raised. He thanked those that have contributed in the past, and stressed the need for contributions in this very difficult environment to raise money. Mr. House acknowledged the efforts of the staff.

**MEDICAL STAFF:** Dr. Ellenberger indicated that there five new appointments and there were no outstanding issues. He indicated that satisfaction surveys were reviewed (overall good results and improvements from previous surveys).

**MEDICAL STAFF – *Credentials*:** The following practitioners requested Appointment: Henderson, Jasmine, NP, Allied Health Professional/Medicine-Nephrology; Knapp, Carrie, FNP, Allied Health Professional/Medicine-Palliative Care; Rudman, Larri, MD, Active/Medicine-Family Medicine (Hospitalist-Temporary Privileges); Staben, Mary, MD, Active/Medicine-Internal Medicine; Snow, Timothy, MD, Consulting/Emergency Medicine.

Reappointment: Benn, James, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Psychiatry; Benton, Margaret, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Psychiatry; Caglayan, Emre, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/ Ortho; Coleman, Lawrence, MD, Active/ Pediatrics; Crisologo, John, Active/Medicine-Gastro; Dryzer, Scott, MD, Locum Tenens/ Medicine-Critical Care; Floyd, Joseph, MD, Community Active/ Pediatrics; Fontana, John, MD, Active/ OB/Gyn; Leonard, Bruce, MD, Consulting/ Radiology; McCorvey, Barbara, MD, Consulting/ Radiology-VRC; Meehan, Patrick, MD, Active/ Medicine-Hospitalist; Miller, Natalie, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/ Express Care; Norris, Justin, MD, Consulting Emergency Medicine; Powers, Susan, CRNA, Dependent Practitioner/ Anesthesiology; Robinson, Ronald, MD, Active/ Radiology; Simmons, George, MD, Active/ Anesthesiology; Tucker, Carey, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/ Emergency Medicine; Unsell, Bryan, MD, Consulting/ Radiology-VRC; Vigil, Allison, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Express Care; Zahra, Khalil, MD, Consulting/ Radiology-VRC.

Resignations: Saenz, Naomi, MD, Consulting/ Radiology-VRC; Patel, Hardik, MD, Active/ Medicine-Hospitalist; Cummins, Meghan, MD, Consulting/ Emergency Medicine; Perry, Alec, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/Emergency Medicine; Skotko, Jeremy, MD, Consulting/ Emergency Medicine; Norris, Justin, MD, Consulting/ Emergency Medicine.

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

**CMO Report:** Dr. Gambla indicated that relating to the opiates epidemic, BMH is poised with moving forward with the SBIRT [Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment] program (embedding a counselor in the ER). Palliative Care is entering its third year of the grant. BMH is looking into the feasibility of pursuing disease specific certifications after receiving information from The Joint Commission criteria for disease specific certification in the next year or so.

**ACTION ITEMS, POLICIES, DISCUSSION OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:**  
**None**

**MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

Mr. Baxley provided an update on COVID and vaccines. BMH continues to have positive reports in the community as well as in the hospital with a positive trend. Testing has decreased in the community. BMH continues with its vaccination of the community. A discussion ensued relating to booster shots. There is no shortage of vaccines. BMH will continue education and have pop up vaccinations within the BMH facilities for BMH healthcare workers. Mr. Baxley provided an update on homebound patients and the rural area (working to educate and outreach). BMH will scale down the vaccine clinic to three (3) days a week in the next couple of weeks. BMH is focusing efforts through community leaders.

A discussion ensued regarding nursing vacancy rates and travel nurses.

Mr. House indicated that a vote will be taken at the next meeting whether to continue Zoom, hybrid, or in person meetings.

**ADJOURN** – A motion was made by Dr. Billig, and was seconded by Dr. McDonagh, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Larson, M.D.