

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

**MINUTES – June 30, 2021**

**BY ZOOM:** Vernita Dore; Hampton Long; Jane Kokinakis, D.O.; Paul Sommerville

**PRESENT:** David House (Chair); Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); Kathy McDonagh, Ph.D.; Richardson LaBruce; Stephen Larson, M.D.; Eric Billig, M.D.; Russell Baxley; Karen Carroll; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Allison Coppage; Chris Ketchie; Debbie Schuchmann; Courtney McDermott; Ken Miller; Ashley Hildreth; Brian Hoffman; Courtney Smith; and Anna Sobiech

**Absent:** Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.

**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. McDonagh for Board Members to go into Executive Session for the following purposes: Receipt of legal counsel related to pending litigation with Beaufort County Council; Receipt of legal counsel related to pending certificate of need litigation related to the proposed micro hospital (matters covered by attorney client privilege); Discussion of Medical Staff recruitment and contracting, strategic matters related to facility expansion and contractual arrangements with related partners. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

**Public/Open Session MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. Himmelsbach to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 10:55 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. LaBruce to amend the agenda to remove the discussion topic relating to Press Ganey Associates, who were to provide the Beaufort Memorial Employee and Provider Survey Review and also to amend the agenda to bring the action items to the front of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

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

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Billig to delegate the authority to the President and CEO to take any action regarding the litigation regarding Beaufort County. The motion was seconded by Dr. Larson and unanimously approved.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Mr. Himmelsbach to approve the Infection Control Plan as presented by the QI Committee. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

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Mr. Hampton Long provided a brief overview of the two candidates and indicated that they were approved enthusiastically by the Foundation Board. He referenced their bios that were included in the packet. Mr. House thanked Mr. Long and Ms. Schuchmann for their leadership in building the Foundation Board.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Dr. McDonagh to approve the appointments of Alexis Wilson Bomar and Robert T. Scutta to the Foundation Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. LaBruce and unanimously approved.

Karen Carroll provided a patient story.

**CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for May 26, 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 with the exception of Mr. LaBruce who abstained from the vote due to not attending the last meeting.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:**

**Finance:** Dr. McDonagh reported that May was a strong financial month. She referenced the articles that were included in the board packet, indicating that Sg2 was a source for information to the Board members or staff members. Dr. McDonagh indicated that there was no clear direction from Health and Human Services relating to fund allocations.

**Quality Improvement Committee:** Dr. Billig provided an overview on the Joint Commission Report. He indicated that drug screening is at 95%, pain assessment continues to do well. BMH is focusing on improving the HCAHPS report relating to surveys sent out to patients such as nurse rounding, discharge phone calls, bedside shift reports, and purposeful hourly rounding.

**BMH FOUNDATION:** Mr. Long indicated that the Foundation provided three needed pieces of hospital equipment in the last month which included a Trimano Fortis Support Arm; an Ultrasound for Vascular and Urology use at the Surgical Center; and two Bi-pap machines for Respiratory Therapy. Another Surgical Soiree was held on June 7<sup>th</sup> by Becky and Greg Sprecher. Additional funds were raised towards the Surgical Pavilion (including a \$12,500 pledge). Mr. Long thanked the Sprechers for their leadership. \$3.6M of the \$5M has been raised at this time. Foundation is looking ahead to the Valentine Ball with committees already drawn up. Mr. Long recognized the Co-chairs: Kate and Paul Schaefer and Russell and Stephanie Baxley.

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

**MEDICAL STAFF – Credentials:** The following practitioners requested Appointment: Chaipis, Philip, MD, Locum Tenens/Surgery; Marshall, Johnathan, CRNA, Dependent Practitioner/ Anesthesiology; Fletcher, Timothy, MD, Consulting/Emergency Medicine; Jones, Alyssa, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/Medicine-Hospitalist; McNair, Cierra, MD,

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Consulting/Radiology/VRC; Nieves, Shacola, CNM, Allied Health Professional/OB/GYN (BJHCHS); Primakov, Denis, MD, Consulting/Radiology/VRC.

Reappointment: Castor, David, MD, Community Active/Medicine-Family Medicine; Dastous, Linh, MD, Active/ Medicine-Hospitalist; Ezeihuaku, Christopher, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Hospitalist; Feaker, David, MD, Navy Active/Orthopedic; Kokinakis, Demetrajane, DO, Active/ Surgery-Ophthalmology; Mandel, Adam, MD, Consulting/ Emergency Medicine; Mansker, Deanne, MD, Active/ Surgery-General Surgery; Mikell, Oswald, MD, Consulting/Surgery-Dermatology; Pruitt, Megan, FNP, Allied Health Professional/ Emergency Medicine; Rashid, Khurram, MD, Locum Tenens/ Medicine-Hospitalist; Sanders, Keith, MD, Consulting/Telemedicine; Sanfrancesco, Joseph, MD, Consulting/ Surgery-Pathology; Sciulli, Robert, MD, Consulting/ Radiology/ VRC; Scott, Erin, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Medicine; Stein, Lorin, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Infectious Disease; Stoddard, Leland, MD, Active/Orthopedic; Strickland Callaghan, Kristin, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/ Emergency Medicine; Strohmeyer, Scott, MD, Active/ Orthopedics; Tweedy, Kristin, CRNA, Dependent Practitioner/ Anesthesiology; Werner, Glenn, MD, Active/OB/GYN.

LOA Request: Burrus, Edward, Active/Surgery.

Resignations: Curro, Christopher, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Edun, Babuntunde, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Ezeihuaku, Christopher, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; George, Ayodeji, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Gratia, Claudel, MD, Active/ Hospitalist; Habibullah, Masud, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Ikuru, Esther, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Irish, Mary, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Mukonje, Terence, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Patel, Hardik, MD; Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Rashid, Khurram, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Robinson, Taylor, NP, Allied Health Professional; Sharma, Vishal, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist; Wechsler, Jason, MD, Locum Tenens/ Hospitalist.

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

**CMO Report:** Dr. Gambla indicated that Don Bodiker, RN will be filling Sherri O'Brien's position as Medical Staff Quality Improvement and Peer Coordinator. The SBIRT [Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment] program has been briefly paused. BMH is approaching Mr. Steve Donaldson, Beaufort County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Department, regarding his coordination on a grant. Dr. Gambla explained the strategy of the SBIRT program.

Mr. House referenced the supplemental information in the board packet relating to the BMH Board of Trustees Goals for 2021-2023 (these are updated every two years). He indicated that the highlighted number one commitment is diversity on the board and leadership (training and recruitment standpoint). Mr. House indicated further discussions with Mr. Baxley will be forthcoming, to include HR and others. Dr. McDonagh indicated that these updated goals are based on feedback. She also indicated that the Board Chair received rave reviews. Mr. House referenced the results of the Board Evaluation Performance Assessment and the Board Chairperson Performance Assessment that were provided in the board packet. He briefly reviewed the results, indicating there is a need to focus on succession planning on both the board

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and management levels. Mr. House referenced the Sg2 article, “Strategically Deploying Digital Health” in the board packet.

Mr. LaBruce commended the Board Chair on his dedication to the Board. A discussion ensued regarding outreach programs to encourage recruitment around healthcare careers. Dr. Larson also thanked Mr. House for his board chairmanship and leadership.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

Mr. Baxley provided an update on COVID and vaccines. He indicated that there were no COVID patients in the hospital. Courtney Smith and Ashley Hildreth were honored by the Sea Island Rotary Club on 6/29/21 for their work with the Vaccine Clinic. Mr. Baxley indicated that the Rotary Club members provided their time as volunteers at the Vaccine Clinic which provided 45K vaccines. The Vaccine Clinic is now open one day a week.

Mr. Baxley referenced the land swop document that was in the board packet. BMH is looking at a modular building to place on the land and still maintain 100 parking spots. BMH is in discussions relating to affordable housing in the area. BMH’s focus is to support employees through child care opportunities. Allison Coppage is coordinating with Ms. Erickson on this opportunity.

Patient Transportation Program Update – Mr. Baxley indicated that Courtney Smith continues her diligent work on this. Three drivers have now been hired and will go through orientation. BMH is eager to transport oncology patients and Sickle Cell infusion patients to their appointments. Courtney Smith explained the use of the new booking tool.

A discussion ensued regarding vaccinations and percentages in Beaufort County. Vaccine storage, wastage and the requirements of reporting were also discussed.

**ADJOURN** – A motion was made by Billig, and was seconded by Mr. LaBruce, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Larson, M.D.