

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

MINUTES – November 22, 2021

BY ZOOM: Richardson LaBruce; Stephen Larson, M.D.; Hampton Long; Allison Coppage;

PRESENT: David House (Chair); Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); Vernita Dore; Eric Billig, M.D.; Jane Kokinakis, D.O.; Paul Sommerville; Russell Baxley; Karen Carroll; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Chris Ketchie; Ken Miller; Brian Hoffman; Shawna Doran; Dee Robinson; Courtney Smith; Ashley Hildreth and Anna Sobiech

Absent: Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.

Public/Open Session CALL TO ORDER: Mr. House called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. The meeting has been posted. Anna Sobiech took roll call. A quorum of the Board is confirmed.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Billig for Board Members to go into Executive Session for the following purpose: Discussion of CEO compensation, Medical Staff recruitment and contracting, strategic matters related to facility expansion and contractual arrangements with related partners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach and unanimously approved.

Public/Open Session MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Billig to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 9:46 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach and unanimously approved.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

Karen Carroll provided a patient story.

CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for October 27, 2021, Committee Reports & Minutes, and Staff Reports. Dr. Billig made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. LaBruce to adopt the agenda, amendment to the minutes and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

BMH FOUNDATION: Mr. Hampton Long indicated that the Foundation had its virtual Annual Meeting. The Foundation received two \$50K gifts towards the Surgical Pavilion. He indicated that \$1M is still needed to reach the \$5M goal. The Annual Appeal Letters were mailed and to date, \$122K was received. The Foundation staff has been busy with the Valentine Ball which is scheduled for February 5, 2022. \$126K has been raised to date for the Valentine Ball. Mr. Long thanked the business communities of Beaufort and Beaufort County. An update was provided on the Executive Director search.

COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:

Quality Improvement Committee: Dr. Billig indicated that the Quality Committee reviewed the credentials report. The pain assessment scores and drug scan rates were good. The Joint Commission came on site – BMH is waiting on the final report. The action item, Risk Management Plan, had minor updates and the Committee recommends approval.

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

MEDICAL STAFF – Credentials: The following practitioners requested Appointment: Banish, William, MD, Locum Tenens/ Surgery-General Surgery; Pederson, Cierra, CRNA, DNP, Allied Health Professional/ Anesthesiology; Willis, Edie, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Nephrology; Windham, Michael, MD, Locum Tenens/ Medicine-Gastroenterology.

Reappointment: Annibale, David, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Perinatal; Cahill, John, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Perinatal; Gwozdz, Glenn, MD, Consulting/ Medicine-Gastroenterology; Jenkins, Dorothea, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Perinatal; Juersivich, Adam, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Neuro; Kasireddy, Uma, MD, Locum Tenens/ Medicine-Hospitalist; Katikaneni, Lakshmi, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Perinatal; Koch, Frances, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Perinatal; Lee, Kimberly, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Perinatal; Looti, Alain, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine; Matmati, Kelly, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine; Mayer, Emily, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Infectious Disease; Patel, Neil, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Neurology; Ross, Julie, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Pediatrics; Ryan, Rita, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Pediatrics; Scott, Douglas, MD, Active/ Orthopedics; Scotty, Martha, DMD, Navy Active/ Surgery-Oral Surgery; Southgate, William, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Pediatrics; Taylor, Amy, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Internal Medicine; Webb, Robert, MD, Community Active/ Medicine-Internal Medicine.

Resignations: Norris, Justin, MD, Consulting/ Emergency Medicine.

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

CMO Report: Dr. Gambla indicated that the Joint Commission spent time reviewing the appointment and reappointment process. Pharmacy is looking at pro formas and options for 340B contracts (still in the analysis process). Dr. Gambla provided an update on addiction medicine. Palliative Care – working through details to apply for disease specific certification. Dr. Gambla provided an update on Seraph technology (an intervention therapy to assist covid patients).

ACTION ITEMS, POLICIES, DISCUSSION OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

Shawna Doran indicated that the Risk Management Plan was updated to align with risk management goals that were industry wide and more defining language was added.

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

MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMPENSATION PLAN FOR THE CEO AS RECOMMENDED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH THE COMPENSATION PLAN TO BE EFFECTIVE AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2021. Mr. LaBruce made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach. Unanimous approval.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Mr. Baxley provided an update on COVID-19. He indicated that BMH is not experiencing a high demand for vaccines especially with the pediatric population. After discussions with directors and providers, BMH's intent is to close the Vaccine Clinic after the first of the year. The center will continue to function with Express Care, Physical Therapy, Orthopedics, and Pain Management. BMH will continue covid testing at the Express Care locations and provide pre-op testing.

Mr. Baxley indicated that BMH will make an announcement relating to the mandatory COVID 19 Vaccination Policy which is a communication from the White House. Hospitals that deal with Medicare and Medicaid are mandated by the Vaccine Policy. To otherwise not be compliant would open the hospital to penalties for Medicare and Medicaid and potentially lose the ability to get paid should the policy not be in place. The policy needs to be in place by December 6, 2021 (with individuals having at least one vaccine and the second vaccine by January 6, 2022). Weekly testing for hospitals is not an option under this mandate. Per the Attorney General, this mandate is effective for SC hospitals until otherwise granted a stay. Discussions ensued.

Workforce development – Mr. Baxley indicated that BMH met with CommunityWorks and will be moving forward January 1, 2022 with the home buying assistance program for employees. BMH will also be moving forward on several other initiatives. Mr. Baxley provided a brief update on the marketing campaign to recruit nurses. Mr. Himmelsbach requested to have the Human Resource initiatives listed on a one-page report.

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Dr. Billig, and was seconded by Mrs. Dore, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Larson, M.D.