

**BEAUFORT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
BOARD MEETING – OPEN SESSION**

**MINUTES – July 27, 2022**

**BY ZOOM:** Stephen Larson, M.D.; Jane Kokinakis, D.O.; Richardson LaBruce; Carolyn Banner, Ph.D.; Hampton Long (BMH Foundation); Alice Howard; Shawna Doran; Allison Coppage; Kim Yawn

**PRESENT:** David House (Chair); Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); William Jessee, M.D.; Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.; Russell Baxley; Ken Miller; Karen Carroll; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Chris Ketchie; Dee Robinson; Courtney Smith; and Anna Sobiech

Absent: Vernita Dore; Eric Billig, M.D

Guests: Anne Rivers Borgelt; Mike Kelly (Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP/FORVIS)

**Public/Open Session CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. House called the meeting to order at 7:30 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 Mr. LaBruce for Board Members to go into Executive Session for the following purpose: Discussion of 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 Mr. Himmelsbach to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 7:43 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. LaBruce and unanimously approved.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

Karen Carroll provided a patient story.

**CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for June 29, 2022, Committee Reports & Minutes, Patient Flow, and Staff Reports.** Dr. Jessee made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach to adopt the agenda, amendment to the minutes and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

**COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:**

Finance Committee: Mr. House referenced the finance packet and reminded the Board regarding the \$4M loss that was recognized on the sale of the Hardeeville land. He indicated that management is continuously controlling expenses and driving revenue.

**BMH FOUNDATION:** Mr. Long indicated that the Foundation did not meet in June. The next meeting will be held at the end of August. The Foundation did approve electronically the draft Form 990. He indicated that two Foundation board members resigned due to other commitments. The Foundation gained a new board member, Mary Lohr and are considering

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another qualified prospect. He indicated that the Foundation released funds to BMH for new recliners costing \$161K. Fundraising has reached 78% completion (significantly above prior year).

Quality Improvement Committee: Mr. House indicated that the Quality Committee did not meet. He opened the floor to questions.

Final Single Audit – Mr. Miller clarified that Dixon Hughes Goodman, LLP was merged and the firm name was changed to FORVIS. Mr. Miller clarified that the full audit had been completed and indicated that the Single Audit was required by the Federal Government due to BMH receiving Cares Act funds. He introduced Anne Rivers Borgelt and Mike Kelly. Mr. Kelly indicated that he and Ms. Anne Rivers Borgelt met with the Finance Committee on Monday and reviewed the Single Audit in detail. He indicated that the intent for today’s board meeting was to provide a summary and answer any questions. Mr. Kelly explained that when an entity expends \$750K in federal funds, it is required to have a single audit or compliance audit. The Federal Government determines the procedures to be performed. BMH had two federal programs that resulted in a compliance audit (COVID-19 Provider Relief Fund and COVID-19 Testing for the Uninsured). He referenced the summary pages of the audit for the combined financial audit which was reported in March. He stated that there were no internal control findings. Mr. Kelly reviewed the summary of the auditor’s results and referenced management’s response that was provided in the packet. Mr. House opened the floor to questions and indicated that the Single Audit was approved by the Finance Committee. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Kelly and Ms. Anne Rivers Borgelt exited the Zoom meeting

**MOTION TO RECEIVE AND ACCEPT THE FINAL SINGLE AUDIT AS PRESENTED.**  
Mr. Himmelsbach made the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Jessee. Unanimous approval.

**MEDICAL STAFF:** Dr. Ellenberger referenced the Credentials Grid and indicated two corrections: Elizabeth Penn, MD and Kristen Vestigo, PA-C (both under Requesting Appointment). **Dr. Elizabeth Penn and Kristen Vestigo, PA-C will be added to the August Grid.**

**MEDICAL STAFF – Credentials:** The following practitioners requested Appointment: Hall, Samuel, FNP-C, APP, Department of Medicine, May River Primary Care; Penn, Elizabeth, MD, Active, Department of Pediatrics, BMH Hospitalist; Chapaton-Rivard, Elizabeth, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, Pulmonary-Critical Care; Nechtman, Charles, MD, Active, Department of Surgery, BPP Surgical Specialist; Riddle, Hallie, NP, APP, Department of Medicine, BMH Psychiatry; Vestigo, Kristen, PA-C, APP, Department of Medicine, BM Occupational Health, Okatie; Gulick, Jeffery, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, Team Health, Hospitalist; Erb, Peyton, PA-C, APP, Department of Obstetrics, BMH OB/GYN.

**Reappointment:** Binder, Christian, MD, Contracted, Department of Radiology, vRad; Boatright, Karl, MD, Independent, Department of Orthopedics; Burluson, Braden, AA, Independent, Department of Anesthesiology; Diana, Perin, MD, Independent, Department of Surgery Ophthalmology; Ellor, Susan V., MD, Consulting, Department of Medicine, Tele-Stroke; Eurick, Kyle A., DDS, Active, Department of Surgery Oral, Maxillofacial; Goldberg, Neil, MD, Contracted, Department of Radiology, vRAD; Hale, Walter, AA, Active

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Department of Anesthesiology; Hill, Mary W., MD; Active, Department of Medicine, Psychiatry; Irish, Vincent N., MD, Contracted, Department of Radiology, BMH Radiology; Johannesen, Zachary K., AA, Active, Department of Anesthesiology; Johnston, Stacey, MD, Active, Department of Medicine Team Health Hospitalist; Kelly, Brad, DO, Community Active, Department of Medicine; Kotinsley, Benjamin, MD, Contracted, Department of Radiology, vRAD; Medbery, Clinton, MD, Community Active, Department of Medicine Internal; Medbery, Clinton, MD, Community Active, Department of Medicine Internal; Melendez-Cabrera, Octavio, MD, Active, Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology; Miller, Christopher, CRNA, Independent, Department of Anesthesiology, LCA; Murphy, Heidi, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, Telestroke; Pelfrey, Steven, CRNA, Active, Department of Anesthesiology; Plzak, III, Louis, MD, Active, Department of Surgery, Urology; Polkey, Faith, MD, Independent, Department of Pediatrics; Powell, Amanda, PA-C, APP, Department of Surgery; Renga, Vijay, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, Telestroke; Reuben, Jeffery, MD, Independent Department of Orthopedics Orthopedics, Spine; Russell, IV, James, MD, Active, Department of Surgery, Otolaryngology; Sanito, Nicholas, DO, Active, Department of Medicine, Pulmonology; Sarathy, Aaron, DMD, Active, Department of Surgery, Oral Maxillofacial; Smalheiser, Stuart, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, Cardiology; Statler, Trenton, DPM, Active, Department of Surgery, Podiatry; Stewart, Richard, DO, Active, Department of Medicine, Gastroenterology, Strong, John, MD, Active, Department of Surgery, Pathology; Trask, Samuel, MD; Independent; Department of Medicine, Concierge; Tucker, Warren, MD, Contracted, Department of Surgery, Pathology; Wallace, Rhonda, MD, Active, Department of Medicine; Watson, Ross, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, BMH Hospitalist; Worsham, George, MD, Contracted, Department of Surgery, Pathology.

Requesting a Status Change: Shook, Marshall, MD, Active, Department of Medicine, Cardiology requesting Community Active Department of Medicine; Penn, Daniel, MD, Department of Medicine, Gastroenterology requesting a (Medical) Leave of Absence.

Resignations: Lucchese, Jaclyn, NP, Department of Medicine, Administrative Resignation; Thornberry, Lauren, DPM, Department of Surgery Podiatry; Gillespie, Lauren, CRNA, Department of Anesthesiology, Low Country Anesthesia; Mayer, Dennis, MD, Active, Department of Anesthesia.

After review and the recommendation by MEC, Dr. Jessee made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach to accept the Credentials Committee recommendations as presented with the exceptions of Elizabeth Penn, MD and Kristen Vestigo, PA-C. Unanimous approval.

**CMO Report:** Dr. Gambla provided a few highlights. He indicated the development of advanced endoscopy procedure criteria such as Endoscopic Ultra Sound [EUS]. The plan is being finalized to have Pharmacists embedded in the primary care offices. BMH continues to provide monoclonal antibody infusions. Mr. Baxley provided covid statistics at the hospital. A discussion ensued regarding monkey pox.

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

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MEDICAL STAFF RELATING TO THE APPROVAL OF REFERENCE LABS AS PRESENTED.** Dr. Jessee made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach. Unanimous approval.

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**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE MEDICAL STAFF RELATING TO THE APPROVAL OF REFERRAL SERVICES IMAGING AS PRESENTED.** Dr. Jessee made the motion, which was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach. Unanimous approval.

Mr. House referenced the articles in the board packet.

**MANAGEMENT REPORT:**

Mr. Baxley indicated that Joy Solomon and team had done a phenomenal job with leading the PATH Program (People Achieving Their Highest). He indicated that the program enrolled fourteen individuals. He then indicated that financial management classes were being offered by Regions Bank. The next step is continued dialogue between BMH and all of the partners within the community (County, TCL, School District, USCB, and City of Beaufort). Mr. Baxley provided an update on the education facility on the second floor of the BMAC building, which will be positive for BMH and the community (looking to the future). Mr. Baxley indicated that the Rising Star Program was successful and it was great to work with the school district.

Mr. Baxley indicated that the Board Retreat will be held in September on Thursday, September 29 – starting with the board meeting (agenda would include reviewing and approving the budget and strategic plan); followed by a presentation by Sg2 on educational topics; SCHA perhaps providing a legislative perspective of the state. Sg2 is asking if the board has specific agenda items to be covered. Board Members are asked to provide topics of interest to Mr. Baxley. The board meeting will be held in the BMAC Board Room and breaks will be extended to Room 364.

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting – after a brief discussion the consensus is to have the meetings on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm and September 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm. Meetings will include high level strategy review of the Strat Plan Scorecard and service line planning.

OR Renovation – The renovation is tracking well with weekly equipment planning meetings. The goal is to start construction/demo in January. A meeting with the surgeons will be scheduled.

Learning Center update – BMH is in the final stages of the contract with Modular Genius (building the modular building). Site work is anticipated to start within 60-90 days. The project is proceeding in a positive direction.

Mr. Baxley referenced the updated stats on the Publix kiosks (which was included in the packet).

A discussion ensued regarding Emergency Room satisfaction with wait time and throughput time. It was noted that the care delivered is well received.

Mr. Baxley referenced the Balanced Scorecard.

**ADJOURN** – A motion was made by Dr. Jesse, and was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Larson, M.D.