

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

MINUTES – January 26, 2022

BY ZOOM: Vernita Dore; Richardson LaBruce; Jane Kokinakis, D.O; Carolyn Banner, Ph.D.; Hampton Long; Allison Coppage; Brian Hoffman; Chris Ketchie;

PRESENT: David House (Chair); Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); Stephen Larson, M.D.; Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.; Eric Billig, M.D; Paul Sommerville; Russell Baxley; Karen Carroll; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Ken Miller; Shawna Doran; Dee Robinson; Kim Yawn; Courtney Smith; and Anna Sobiech

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 Dr. Billig 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 Dr. Billig to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 9:13 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Dore and unanimously approved.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

Karen Carroll provided a patient story.

CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for December 8, 2021 and December 15, 2021, Committee Reports & Minutes, and Staff Reports. Mr. LaBruce made a motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Dore to adopt the agenda, amendment to the minutes and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

BMH FOUNDATION: Mr. Hampton Long indicated that Kim Yawn has been busy as the new Executive Director focusing on the Valentine Ball. A signature gift in the amount of \$50K was received for the Surgical Pavilion. \$4.3M has been raised to date towards the \$5M goal. Mr. Long indicated that there has been a great response to the annual appeal which to date has raised \$356K (\$35K over the goal and 8% above 2020). Mr. Long thanked the community and everyone on the board for their response. Mr. Long thanked Geneva and Dr. Luke Baxley for this year's letter. The Valentine Ball Committee along with the Executive Committee and hospital agreed to postpone the Valentine Ball from February 5th to March 5th due to the situation with Omicron Variant. Planning is in full force with the venue moved from Dataw to Kate Gleason Park. Another update will be provided at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION:

Quality Improvement Committee: Dr. Billig reviewed the Joint Commission Report. He indicated that The Joint Commission conducted an on-site survey last month and provided a very thorough assessment. Fifty-three minor issues were reported out of fifteen hundred points. One was correcting the maternal hypertension and preeclampsia protocol which now BMH has a much clearer protocol. BMH has submitted all corrections and are now waiting for a revisit. Dr. Billig indicated that the medication scan rates are at 96%.

MEDICAL STAFF: Dr. Ellenberger indicated that there were no outstanding issues on the incoming appointments. Dr. Ellenberger indicated that the Evaluation and Management of Preeclampsia and Acute-Onset Hypertension in Pregnancy Policy was approved.

MEDICAL STAFF – Credentials: The following practitioners requested Appointment: Belcher, Xavier, MD, Telemedicine/Medicine-Psychiatry; Childers, Braden, CRNA, Dependent Practitioner/ Anesthesiology; Clare, Michelle, DO, Consulting/Emergency Medicine; Esmaeili Shandiz, Alaleh, MD, Consulting/Surgery-Pathology; Ferguson, Felicia, FNP, Allied Health Professional/Medicine-Internal Medicine; Griffin, Claudia, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/Medicine-Internal Medicine.

Reappointment: Billig, Eric, MD, Active/ Radiology; Cazorla, Sarah, MD, Active/ Surgery-Plastic Surgery; Dean, Mark, MD, Active/ Orthopedics; Derrick,III, Fletcher, MD, Active/ Medicine-Internal Medicine; Draves, Susan, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Internal Medicine; Guram, Shalik, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine-Pediatrics; Kirshtein, Amy, MD, Consulting/ Surgery-Pathology; McGuinness, Ian, MD, Navy Active/ Surgery-Podiatry; McSweeney, Kelly, MD, Consulting/ Surgery-Pathology; Prewette, Ervin, MD, Consulting/ Telemedicine; Ricks, Alesia, CRNA, Dependent Practitioner/ Anesthesiology; Smalheiser, Veronica, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Internal Medicine; Stock, Kent, MD, Active/ Medicine-Infectious Disease; Vane, Dennis, MD, MUSC Affiliate/ Pediatrics-Pediatric Surgery.

Resignations: Escarza, Robert, MD, Consulting/Emergency Medicine; Dreier, Yolanda, MD, Community Active/Pediatrics; Martin III, William, MD, Community Active/Pediatrics; Lika Schrock, PA-C, Allied Health Professional/ Orthopedics; Wolf, Suzanne, CNM, Allied Health Professional/ Ob/GYN

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

CMO Report: Dr. Gambla indicated that Karen Sorensen and her team put together a great service excellence program this year which will focus on employee wellness and burnout mitigation (Schwartz Institute). A separate condensed version of the service excellence program is directed towards the providers. MUSC will be coordinating with BMH to research the feasibility and structure of providing a GME residency program at BMH (having residents filter through BMH). Dr. Gambla provided a quick recap on COVID and then provided an update. Discussion ensued. Mr. Baxley provided an update and timeline regarding the Federal mandate on vaccinations for hospital employees and contract labor. A discussion ensued regarding contract labor.

ACTION ITEMS, POLICIES, DISCUSSION OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

Mr. LaBruce provided background and introduction to the action items. He indicated that this will be a proposed amendment to the Bylaws to increase the Board of Trustees number of voting members from eight (8) to nine (9).

Motion to have Article III, Section 3.3 of the Beaufort Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees Bylaws Subsection (a), be amended to have the first sentence read: The Board shall be appointed by Beaufort County Council and shall consist of nine (9) voting members, or such other number as the Board shall determine, but in any event not less than seven (7), as provided by law. Mr. LaBruce made the motion, which was seconded by Dr. Billig. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

Mr. LaBruce stated that the Governance Committee had interviewed many quality candidates over the past year, three now serving on the Board (Ms. Vernita Dore and Dr. Carolyn Banner and also Dr. Kokinakis). Mr. LaBruce indicated that after meeting a number of extremely qualified candidates, with diverse backgrounds and a wealth of talent, the Governance Committee felt it was prudent to proceed and increase the board members in order to utilize that talent.

Mr. LaBruce indicated that in accordance with the policy that had been adopted by the Beaufort Memorial Board of Trustees a few years back, two names would be provided to County Council for approval for every one vacancy. Due to increasing the Board of Trustees members to nine (9), there is now a vacancy. Mr. LaBruce indicated that after discussions, the Governance Committee has recommended two candidates. Mr. LaBruce provided a background summary on the first candidate, William F. Jesse, M.D. He indicated that Dr. Jesse served as the Vice President of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations. Mr. Himmelsbach also indicated that Dr. Jesse also spent nine years on the board of Exempla Healthcare (a three hospital system). Mr. LaBruce indicated that Dr. Jesse is a tremendous candidate that the Governance Committee would like to recommend for the nomination to send to County Council. Mr. LaBruce then provided a background summary on the second candidate, Jerry D. Estenson, DPA. He indicated that Dr. Estenson had served as CEO of two private corporations, taught in a university setting, and had experience in executive leadership. His specialties include executive leadership, developing leadership skills, management and public administration. Mr. LaBruce indicated that Dr. Estenson is a tremendous candidate that the Governance Committee would like to recommend for the nomination to send to County Council.

Motion for Beaufort Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees to nominate William F. Jesse, M.D. and Jerry D. Estenson, DPA for consideration by Beaufort County Council for appointment to the Beaufort Memorial Board of Trustees effective upon their appointment. Mr. LaBruce made the motion which was seconded by Dr. Billig. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

Mr. House referenced the article provided in the board packet.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Mr. Baxley referenced the Balanced Scorecard.

Homebuyer Assistance Program – Mr. Baxley indicated that since the launch of the program, 30 individuals have expressed interest. Mr. Baxley provided a brief overview of the home buying assistance program.

COVID-19 Update – Mr. Baxley provided an update. He indicated that BMH has been seeing the need for testing going down in the community. Effective this week, BMH will be closing down the Port Royal testing unit. Community testing will continue in Okatie.

BMH is currently working on employee retention bonuses, market adjustments and merit adjustments. BMH is also working with TCL and USCB to create a workforce development program.

Karen Sorensen, Director of Patient Experience and Kathy Bingham, Employee Engagement, Wellness, and Success Coordinator indicated that the focus was on the challenges impacting our workforce. The Board was provided an abridged version of the presentation of the Service Excellence workshop that will be starting in February for employees.

Mr. House indicated that committee changes are made in March. Mr. House will be approaching board members regarding committee participation interest. Mr. House indicated that his chairmanship ends March 1, 2022; however, he is willing to serve another two years. Voting will take place at the February board meeting which will also include voting on Mr. Himmelsbach and Dr. Larson each serving another term.

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Dr. Billig, and was seconded by Mr. Himmelsbach, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Larson, M.D.