

# Bartlett Regional Hospital

Minutes  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
December 22, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.  
Zoom videoconference

**CALL TO ORDER** – Board of Director’s meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Lance Stevens, Board President

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

|                                 |                                  |                    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Lance Stevens, President        | Rosemary Hagevig, Vice President | Brenda Knapp       |
| Kenny Solomon-Gross – Secretary | Mark Johnson                     | Marshal Kendziorek |
| Iola Young                      | Deb Johnston                     | Lindy Jones, MD    |

**ALSO PRESENT**

|  |  |                                     |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| Chuck Bill, CEO  | Kevin Benson, CFO                                  | Billy Gardner, COO                  |
| Bradley Grigg, CBHO                                      | Dallas Hargrave, HR Director                       | Rose Lawhorne, CNO                  |
| Barbara Nault, Legal Advisor                             | Joy Neyhart, DO, COS                               | Joe Wanner (Public)                 |
| Anita Moffitt, Executive Assistant                       | Roy Getchell, HBSD Superintendent                  | Lily Boron, Haines School Principal |
| Hal Geiger (Public)                                      | Roseman GP (Public)                                | Rashah McChesney, KTOO              |
| Kathy Callahan, Director Physician Services              | Debbie Kesselring, Director Medical Staff Services |                                     |
| Michelle Hale, CBJ Liaison (Joined meeting at 7:09 p.m.) |  |                                     |

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** – Mr. Stevens noted a modification had been made to the original posted agenda. Election of Board Officers has been added as item XIV. ***MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Knapp seconded. Agenda approved as presented.***

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – Dr. Roy Getchell, Haines Borough School District Superintendent, introduced himself and school principal, Lily Boron. He expressed gratitude and sincere appreciation for working with the staff at Bartlett Regional Hospital to address the needs of the people in the Haines. He provided an overview of the devastating effects of the massive landslide that happened on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. This landslide took out several homes in the community and the lives of David Simmons and kindergarten teacher Janae Larsen. He highlighted how Ms. Lawhorne, Mr. Grigg and team sprang into action to develop a plan of support. Support included counseling for grief, worries and loss; support for staff in working with students; support for parents; care packages of comfort items; in person classroom support when school resumed; intensive response services for those in grief and support for the reintroduction of kindergarten students back into the building after the loss of their teacher. The support of BRH allowed the school district to finish the semester in person, under challenging circumstances. He is proud and thankful for all of the support that has been provided to Haines and has incredible hope for walking together, side by side, as we move into 2021. Ms. Boron said it’s a privilege to be here to report how much the Bartlett team has brought to the community and to the school. The role of the school is to provide a safe place for students to learn. This support allowed the school district to regroup in a time of intense crisis and finish the semester strong and in person. She expressed thanks to the BRH Board of Directors for the classroom supplies donation which will make a huge difference and have an impact on every student. She again expressed thanks for the BRH team and the support for the Haines community. Mr. Stevens thanked Dr. Getchell and Ms. Boron for speaking. We know the grief and challenges the school district is facing will not end with the end of winter break. We look forward to the partnership this has created and being able to provide support throughout the challenges ahead. We wish you a very safe and happy holiday. He also noted that this is a great reminder of how our community hospital makes a regional impact.

**BOARD EDUCATION: Haines Disaster Support Update** – Ms. Lawhorne thanked Dr. Getchell and Ms. Boron for their heartfelt words. She said it was a very powerful experience for her to have been there. BRH has a mission and vision to be the best community and regional hospital in Alaska and it's important to recognize opportunities when they present to put our mission and vision into action. On December 2<sup>nd</sup>, after becoming aware of the events in Haines, Ms. Lawhorne and Mr. Grigg discussed what assistance could be provided and the importance for the Haines community, particularly school staff and students, to be given the opportunity to process the situation with behavioral health professional staff who can guide them through their emotions. She reached out to Dr. Getchell to offer assistance. Preparations were made for a team of professionals to travel to Haines with much needed supplies and an eagerness to assist with whatever was needed. Relationships and trust of the Haines and Bartlett teams were built, not just as individuals but as community members supporting each other in this time of crisis. These relationships spread exponentially and we were able to rise to the challenge of meeting the needs of the community. Mr. Grigg reported that this has probably been the most rewarding two weeks of his 23 year career. From an on the ground, human impact in the midst of a crisis, we used our middle name very well, Bartlett **Regional** Hospital. He identified all team members involved and the work accomplished (summary report included in the packet). On December 3<sup>rd</sup>, Mr. Grigg had sent a summary of the crisis stabilization plan to Mr. Bill, the Board of Directors and his colleagues at the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) to let them know the work that was to be done with our behavioral health grant money. Although Mr. Grigg was not requesting additional funding, DHSS responded with overwhelming support and offered an additional \$1.4 Million grant funding to assist with these efforts. This money was provided by amending an existing grant in order to speed up the process. The money was prioritized for use in four areas: school district staff training and enhanced behavioral health support, displaced households, childcare and support for Lynn Canal Counseling Services. At this point, it's looking very good that use of CARES dollars is going to be extended to be expended beyond December 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Grigg will meet with Dr. Getchell, Mayor Olerud and the EOC to talk about the approved components the State has given to put these funds into and to identify the agencies where this funding can go. Bartlett is the conduit for these funds, receiving the funds and sifting them through to Haines for use in these areas approved by the State. Mr. Grigg closed his comments by saying he is very proud of the staff for their long days and nights, expressed sincere thanks to the Board for its support and to Mr. Bill not hesitating in approving this support. He praised Dr. Getchell and Ms. Boron for running an amazing ship.

Ms. Knapp commended Mr. Grigg and Ms. Lawhorne for the work and support that has been given to Haines. She wants to make sure this report is shared with the CBJ Assembly as it is a great example of what a community hospital does. Mr. Solomon-Gross and Ms. Hagevig expressed how proud they are of the way everyone pulled together and provided support and agree the report needs to be shared with the Assembly. Mr. Stevens expressed his thanks for the thorough report and support.

**CONSENT AGENDA - MOTION by Mr. Solomon-Gross to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Johnson seconded. There being no objections, consent agenda approved.**

**NEW BUSINESS: Interim CEO Information** – Mr. Stevens had asked Mr. Hargrave to provide information as to how to best engage Mr. Bill beyond February 5<sup>th</sup> should the need arise. Information was provided as to the benefits of a casual position vs. a contractor. Based on the information provided, Mr. Stevens is leaning towards recommending a casual position where we control the work, the work hours and what is to be expected. The proposed hourly rate seems reasonable and there are going to be things that come up with the partnership development as well as legislative and ASHNHA activities that his insight cannot be transferred in a timely manner over the next month. Before questions were posed, Mr. Stevens clarified that discussions about the position and the contract are to be discussed in open session. Personal ability to fulfill the obligation of the job and/or personal characteristics are allowed to be discussed in executive session. Mr. Solomon-Gross asked if Mr. Bill would have to have his own business license if he were a contractor, if we

have an estimated number of hours that we would anticipate needing and what the scope of his job would be. He also inquired as to who Mr. Bill's direct supervisor would be to oversee his work. Mr. Stevens said these details would be worked out but he anticipates that the interim CEO and the new CEO would be who he would report to. There needs to be some flexibility in the number of hours as time needed for different projects will vary but there does need to be boundaries set. Ms. Knapp questioned the salary requested as the amount listed is less than what he currently receives. Mr. Bill said he requested the \$200.00 per hour realizing that it is less than his current rate of pay but noted his expenses will be less. The number of hours per month will be driven by the Board and the interim CEO/CEO but he would hope that 10-20 hours a month and no more would be reasonable. Ms. Knapp asked if there would be a contract that specifies a number of hours not to exceed, tasks that he may be specifically called upon to perform as needed under those hours and a time limit at which the contract would expire or be renewed. Mr. Stevens said yes, this is appropriate to set boundaries so that we have some certainty and flexibility. He also noted that a contract would cause more challenges than we would have if he were a casual employee. Mr. Kendziorek asked if legal has been consulted about this to make sure there are no legal issues. Mr. Hargrave noted that Robert Palmer has advised us of the importance of this being a Board decision and not Mr. Bill's decision. Mr. Bill has made the offer and now the Board needs to determine what they want to do with it. He's not lobbying to become a contractor, he's offering to assist during the transition. Discussion held about casual employees and what the department of labor guidelines are. Mr. Johnson said that based on what he's heard, casual would be simpler but would need to be clarified. He then brought up the issue of contacts with CBJ, ASHNSA and the legislation to ensure our needs are met, another area that Mr. Bill can provide assistance with during the CEO transition. Mr. Stevens summarized discussions by directing Mr. Hargrave to provide a more structured casual relationship for Mr. Bill that the Board can vote on at next month's meeting. Mr. Bill is supportive of the discussions held and is willing to serve as the Board sees fit.

Interim CEO – Mr. Stevens noted that our transitional leadership plan identified the interim CEO to be our CFO, Kevin Benson. Mr. Benson has transitioned into this role at another facility and feels comfortable filling this role as an interim. Due to the increase in responsibility, a proposal to increase his pay from \$236,766.40 (plus 30% for benefits) to \$307,796.32 (plus 30% for benefits) beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> was presented. Mr. Benson will shadow Mr. Bill for a month. ***MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the recommended interim salary for Kevin Benson in the amount of \$307,796.32 (plus 30% for benefits) for purposes of discussion. Ms. Knapp seconded.***

Ms. Knapp wants to make sure Mr. Benson has the support he needs in the Finance Department to be able to cover both the CEO and CFO roles. Ms. Young asked if Mr. Benson plans to apply for the permanent CEO position. He responded that he will not. He feels he can best serve Bartlett in the CFO role supporting the new CEO. Mr. Solomon-Gross expressed support of Mr. Benson shadowing Mr. Bill for a month. Mr. Hargrave asked for clarification of authority. Mr. Bill will have the authority of CEO until February 5<sup>th</sup> and Mr. Benson will take over on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Mr. Benson stated that he was comfortable with the succession plan early on and is even more comfortable taking on this role thanks to the strength of Bartlett's Senior Leadership Team. The team proved, during Mr. Bill's absence in October, that they are capable of managing the organization and Mr. Benson will lean on them to help get Bartlett through the interim CEO phase. Mr. Hargrave asked if the Board is to appoint Mr. Benson for a time certain. Mr. Kendziorek suggested amending the motion to add that it continues until a new CEO is appointed or Mr. Benson requests that he no longer be interim. Ms. Knapp recommends adding by mutual consent in case the Board no longer wants him to fill this position. Ms. Hagevig accepts the amendments.

Roll call vote taken. ***MOTION to approve the recommended interim salary for Kevin Benson in the amount of \$307,796.32 (plus 30% for benefits) to continue until a new CEO is appointed or Mr. Benson and the Board mutually consent that Mr. Benson will no longer serve the role of interim CEO unanimously approved.***

Mr. Stevens thanked Mr. Benson for his willingness to take on this role and acknowledge the strong leadership team to help get through this transition.

**OLD BUSINESS: CLO Replacement Update** – Barbara Nault, of Studebaker Nault, PLLC introduced herself and thanked the Board for the opportunity to work with BRH. She provided some history about herself and noted that she has

done work for the hospital on and off for several years working with Jane Mores and Megan Costello. She lives in the Seattle area but has a 20+ year background practicing law in Alaska. Her firm's specific focus is healthcare law. They will assist or take lead on some matters for BRH and CBJ's legal department will continue to handle others.

**Medical Staff Report** – Dr. Neyhart noted the minutes from the December 1<sup>st</sup> Medical Staff meeting are in the executive session portion of the packet. She reported that her year as Chief of Staff is coming to an end. She learned a lot and enjoyed working with the senior leadership team. She is in awe of what this hospital has done. Mr. Stevens asked about the status of the Juneau Medical Society funds that were to be transferred to the Bartlett Foundation. Dr. Neyhart reported that the Secretary/Treasurer has delivered a letter to the Bartlett Foundation with a request to use some of the funding for specific contributions. Mr. Bill confirmed that the Foundation is willing to accept the funds and take over administration of them after final details are worked out.

Mr. Johnson asked what discussions have taken place amongst the medical staff about a job description for a Chief Medical Officer position. Dr. Neyhart reported that there hasn't been a lot of discussion. A draft job description had been reviewed but has since been updated by Dr. Buley, Mr. Hargrave and Mr. Bill. Given Mr. Bill's upcoming retirement, the Board might want to consider filling CEO position with a physician who has healthcare administration credentials. Mr. Kendziorek stated that he will share his thoughts about this position later in the meeting. Mr. Stevens reported that we're very early in the process and don't have plans at this point to administer or fill the position. Ms. Knapp suggests postponing any decision about filling this position until a new CEO is hired. Mr. Bill and Mr. Hargrave will continue work to define the job description for the Board and new CEO to look at.

Dr. Neyhart thanked Mr. Bill and reported on the incredible care she recently received while hospitalized at BRH. She reported that she came home from Seattle to receive care from her home team rather than stay there and go back to Harborview. Care exceeded her expectations.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Ad Hoc Planning Committee Meeting** – Mr. Kendziorek reported the draft minutes from the November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting are in the packet and hit the highlights. It was a very good meeting with some high levels talks. This affiliation project is being slow rolled in anticipation of a new CEO. Mr. Bill is to provide a document in January with the framework of an RFP that will be coming out later. Dr. Jones noted the importance of the public knowing that we aren't looking to be bought out and that the goal is to strengthen the care available in the community. Mr. Kendziorek reported that we have made this very clear in our meetings. He also stated that we are in the most opportune financial position to form these relationships. Mr. Johnson noted that the ECG report pushes towards aligning with one entity but we need to be looking at more than one as one entity will not be able to meet all of our needs. Mr. Kendziorek clarified that ECG doesn't dictate what we have to do, they've made recommendations only. Ms. Hagevig suggests Mr. Bill provide information about the affiliation efforts during his radio spots to help ease community fears. He is more than happy to do that and reported that feedback received from the medical staff is that they overwhelmingly want autonomy. He also agrees that we should reach agreements with multiple entities to meet all of our needs. Mr. Stevens reported that Mr. Bill had been tasked with developing a marketing plan and hopes he is working on this. Mr. Bill suggested a marketing plan needs to wait until we have more clarity on what partnering is going to look like but can get started on it soon. Discussion was held about break down in communications and how to get physicians on board. This topic will be discussed at the January Medical Staff meeting. Mr. Stevens stated that it's important for BRH to become more proactive in its conversations and communications with the community.

**CEO Recruitment Committee Meeting** – Draft minutes from the December 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting are in the packet. Mr. Solomon-Gross reported that he and Mr. Hargrave are having weekly update meetings. Mr. Hargrave has conducted 21 initial screenings of candidates with more scheduled to take place. A summary list of who has applied will be available at the CEO Recruitment meeting on December 30<sup>th</sup>. We are on target for hitting the goal set for our timeline. Ms. Hagevig reported that a nurse has now been added to this committee.

**Finance Committee Meeting** – Draft minutes from the December 11<sup>th</sup> meeting are in the packet. Ms. Johnston reported that our performance is as expected. We had COVID related delays in completion of our financial audit and Medicare Cost Report. These were highlighted in Mr. Benson’s report and documented in the minutes.

**Planning Committee Meeting** – Draft minutes from the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting are in the packet.

## **MANAGEMENT REPORTS:**

**HR report** – Mr. Solomon-Gross reported that he was happy to learn that the student loan assistance has taken off so well and asked if we will be able to continue offering it. Mr. Hargrave reported that he hasn’t seen a permanent change to the tax code but the State has implemented and finalized regulations for SHARP 3, a student loan assistance program that allows employers to provide student loan assistance without having to pay employer/employee income taxes. We will keep an eye on that and evaluate the success of the current program in increasing retention before determining whether this will be an ongoing benefit or not.

**CNO report** – Ms. Young asked what central staffing at Centennial Hall looks like in terms of number of staff hours, cost and what that effort entails. Ms. Lawhorne reported that central staffing works to meet immediate staffing needs in the hospital. Their role is to coordinate staff on hand with the needs that exist in the moment. She also reported that Centennial Hall is currently closed and we have not invested a large number of staff hours recently. We were dedicating a nurse or higher trained medical personnel to oversee the operations. We collaborate with the management of Centennial Hall. If they have a critical hole that needs to be filled for safety reasons, we look at our staffing to see how we might support them to meet their needs. The funding for these positions is allocated from the COVID-19 cost center. Dr. Jones stated that when we needed Centennial Hall and needed the expertise of the BRH nurses to set it up to meet the needs of the community, they were there. The hospital really served the community well during that time.

**COO report** – Mr. Gardner reported that the molecular lab can be thought of as three components; the construction, Roche 6800 equipment setup and the registration process. As far as construction, the hoods have been installed and certified, ductwork installed and completed on the third floor and other equipment installed. We have received a temporary certificate of occupancy and a substantial completion date is set for January 29<sup>th</sup>. The Roche 6800 arrived in 10 crates. The Roche engineers were on site to help set it up and staff have received training. The IT staff is working on interfacing and validations are being conducted by Britt Watters and Dr. Vanderbilt. There are a variety of stakeholders working on the registration process. It is anticipated to be the end of January before the registration process is finalized, interfacing and validations are completed and then a soft start of testing. We are currently getting 960 tests per week from Roche and have asked them to up the supplies. These increases may not be able to take place until March but we will continue to try to expedite the increase in supplies. The three modules are on campus for the registration triage building. Railings, decks and ramps are being built and power and exhaust fans are going in. The estimated completion date for this project is January 4<sup>th</sup>. Photos of progress to date are included in the packet. Mr. Stevens thanked Mr. Gardner for the thorough report and fast paced efforts to get these projects implemented as quickly as possible. Dr. Jones thanked Mr. Gardner and Mr. Fortin for the hard work and would like to be able to advertise testing capabilities to the legislature when we open. Mr. Gardner thanked Dr. Jones, the Board and Mr. Bill for the support. Mr. Bill added that we’ve had incredible cooperation with CBJ Engineering in getting these things done in a timely manner. He did state that the legislature has contracted with a different company so will not be looking at BRH to do their testing. We are prepared to do so if we need to. Mr. Kendziorek reported that the Planning Committee worked really hard on these projects but it’s Mr. Gardner’s hard work that made these things happen and will continue to make things move forward with the master facility plan.

Ms. Hagevig commented that feedback from the Assembly is that BRH needs to be more focused on its work within the community and to recall that we are a community, publicly owned hospital. In addition to the Haines report, the Centennial Hall homeless efforts and the molecular lab project are good examples that BRH is doing the types of things they should expect from a community hospital. Ms. Knapp also noted that there have been concerns expressed by the Assembly that they are not getting information quickly enough. Mr. Solomon-Gross echoed sentiments expressed by other board members and noted we haven’t even heard from Mr. Grigg yet. He does agree that we do have to do something to provide a conduit for getting information to the Assembly.

**CBHO report** – Mr. Grigg reported that three days before getting the money for Haines, DBH had given BRH another \$1.2 Million to support what we are doing in our Crisis Stabilization program. This amount is in addition to the \$360,000 recorded in November. The fact that the State entrusted us with more operational funds to support what we are doing is pretty phenomenal. Ms. Hagevig reported that the CEO of the Mental Health Trust Authority had nothing but huge praise for Juneau’s cutting edge behavioral health program and the strides made in putting Juneau on the map. Dr. Neyhart noted that behavioral health programs like this don’t happen in most areas of the country. Mr. Johnson echoed sentiments

already expressed and wonders why the prison system doesn't work more closely with the behavioral health system. Mr. Stevens noted as we get stronger in behavioral health, we can continue to look for avenues to provide services that strengthen the overall capabilities of the hospital as well as strengthen the community. He also stated that it's pretty hard to fathom the amount of money from the state and other partners that have been put into these programs, especially due to declining budgets. Hats off to the behavioral health team for all of their efforts and results. Ms. Knapp encourages sending the Haines outreach report to the Mental Health Trust and to make sure our Legislatures see it as well.

Mr. Stevens noted that Ms. Hale has now joined the meeting and welcomed her after her day of long meetings. (7:09 p.m.)

**CFO report** – Mr. Benson reported strong cash collections in October of \$8.9 Million. November came in just over \$9.1 Million. He reported that the disappropriation of \$700,000 CARES funding from CBJ for the molecular lab was to be discussed at this evening's Assembly meeting. These discussions are now postponed until January. Mr. Stevens noted that since our last meeting, there has been clarification on what we can spend CARES money on. Ms. Hale clarified that CBJ has not overspent CARES money, a need had been identified to assist low income people. The use of CARES funding now allowing BRH to pay for the testing equipment was discussed. Mr. Stevens stated that it is an important distinction for the Board to realize and to help the City, as they work through discussions about those with the most immediate financial needs of food and shelter. The Finance Committee will prepare for adjustments as we need to be forward thinking when the City is thinking of immediate hardship needs vs. Capital projects and what our role is in that. Ms. Hale expressed appreciation for the comments. She noted that the reason the Assembly chose to move discussions to January 6<sup>th</sup> is because if legislation is signed, it will take some of the pressure off. Mr. Stevens thanked Ms. Hale for the information and said it gives us two weeks to prepare and to be a part of discussions.

**CEO REPORT** – Mr. Kendziorek requested an update on the Bartlett Surgery and Specialty Clinic building. Mr. Bill reported that the appraisal came in at \$3.2 or \$3.4 Million dollars. He expressed concerns that he had asked CBJ engineers to look into. Engineers felt that the appraised price was reasonable but suggested obtaining a commercial appraisal and inspection due to infrastructure concerns that they were not able to comment on. Mr. Bill also expressed concerns about leasing parking from Tlingit and Haida that may affect the appraised value. We expect to have a report early in January about the infrastructure. Mr. Kendziorek suggested that a Chief Medical Officer (CMO) may be more than what BRH needs and suggests more thought be given to hiring one. He proposed combining the roles of the Chief of Staff (COS) and a CMO and make it a three year paid position. This would require physician buy-in and a change in the Medical Staff bylaws but would go a long way in improving our relations and communication with the Medical Staff. Ms. Hagevig agrees this is an interesting concept and suggests we follow up on it sooner rather than later. Ms. Knapp sees merits to the idea presented but expressed concerns about lines of authority and a need for it to be explored in more detail. Discussion was held about development of a job description. Mr. Stevens said this gives us a great opportunity to expand conversations when the new CEO comes on board. Dr. Neyhart agrees it's a good idea to put the discussion of a CMO on hold until a new CEO is hired. She noted that the COS is elected by the Medical Staff and not appointed by the Board or the CEO. It would take a change of the bylaws to change the term and should also be put on the back burner until a new CEO is hired. She also noted the COS and the CMO have entirely different roles. Mr. Bill and Mr. Hargrave will continue working with Dr. Buley to put together a CMO job description for the CEO to look at and to determine if they want to hire one or not. A discussion was held about how Dr. Buley became involved in the development of a proposed job description. Ms. Hagevig suggests this draft job description be presented at committee level for review prior to presenting it to the Board. A determination was made to move it to the Governance Committee and that the medical staff be notified when these discussions are to be held. A date for the next Governance Committee meeting will be determined after Mr. Bill, Mr. Hargrave and Dr. Buley finish the proposed job description. Dr. Jones reported that the Medical Staff has a lot of anxiety about this and suggests not spending a lot of time on this until the new CEO is hired. Mr. Bill agrees, the Board should not put a lot of energy into this at this time. He then expressed how proud he is of Mr. Grigg and Ms. Lawhorne for the support provided to Haines and then reported on the following: We are in discussions with a urology group in Anchorage about providing urology services for BRH in Juneau. The Rural Demonstration Project has been renewed pending the President's signature. (This is \$3.7 Million dollar project for BRH but the net impact is \$1.8 Million a year due to the Medicare low volume discount and will be retroactive to July 1, 2020.) He has continued discussions with the organizations that have expressed interest in partnering possibilities. These organizations include University of

Washington, Virginia Mason, PeaceHealth, Providence and SEARHC. Work will continue to develop a draft RFP for the new CEO to look at. There is absolutely no interest or intention of losing local control or autonomy. Dr. Neyhart and Mr. Bill have met to discuss the future of pediatric care in Juneau. They will hold another meeting with Dr. Dressel and a Valley Medical physician to discuss options. He reported there are no COVID positive patients in house and have one employee in quarantine due to travel. We have provided 497 COVID vaccinations and had one severe reaction to the vaccine. There are on average 6 vaccine doses per vial instead of 5 doses. Distribution of the vaccine is driven by the guidelines from the CDC and State Epidemiology. Second vaccinations are to be given 21 days after initial vaccination. Mr. Johnson noted that the President is threatening to veto the COVID relief bill. Discussion was held about the number of employees choosing not to be vaccinated. 70% of staff have received the vaccine. This is up from the 40% that had said they would take it when the survey had been conducted. We still have 20-30% of our staff that want to wait for FDA approval. Ms. Hagevig asked if ASHNHA has had a chance to weigh in on the Governor's Executive Order to divide the DHSS into two departments. Mr. Bill said it's too soon to speculate but wonders what is driving it. Ms. Hale asked Mr. Bill to speak to the changes in communication to allow CBJ to know about local issues before it makes national news such as the adverse reaction to the COVID vaccine. Mr. Bill is still unclear how the New York Times got the information first but a plan is now in place to notify the appropriate local people as soon as possible. Dr. Jones explained how the adverse reaction made national news before it became known locally. He reported that he had sought assistance from Dr. Anne Zink, Chief Medical Officer for the State of Alaska, when the adverse reaction took place and she was on the phone with several physicians from the CDC. Knowing about the event, the CDC and the State of Alaska wanted to get out in front of it so shared the information. Ms. Hale thanked Dr. Jones for the explanation. Dr. Neyhart expressed her appreciation for the discussions she has had with Mr. Bill about the future of pediatric care in Juneau. She wants to make it clear that she is not looking for a buyout for her practice and to assure the Board that outpatient pediatric care is not a losing proposition.

**PRESIDENT REPORT** – Mr. Stevens thanked Dr. Neyhart for her year of service as the Chief of Staff. He reported that in recognition of her service, a leaf will be put on the Bartlett Foundation's Giving Tree in her name. He stated that he has had two very rewarding and challenging years serving as the Board President. He is looking forward to the opportunity for the next President to serve and grow their knowledge about the inner workings of the hospital. It's been a privilege and an honor to serve.

**ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS** – Mr. Stevens opened the floor to the nomination of Board Officers.

- Board President – **Ms. Young nominated Marshal Kendziorek for Board President.**

Mr. Kendziorek accepted the nomination and provided a brief statement about his years of experience on the Board to support his nomination.

**Ms. Hagevig nominated Kenny Solomon-Gross for Board President.** Mr. Solomon-Gross accepted the nomination and provided a brief statement about his experience on the Board and how he would serve the Board to support his nomination.

Ms. Hale wanted to emphasize that the Board is the community and when decisions have to be made about what serves Bartlett and what serves the community, that's the wrong way to think about it. It's what serves the community vs. what serves the community. As we move forward with the elections, everyone needs to be thinking of that. She also reported that it's very hard for her to stay on top of what's going on with the BRH Board so she's started attending committee meetings which puts an enormous drain on her time.

Mr. Stevens reported that we have gone past our allotted time on our agenda. The rule of the Board is to continue on our agenda and extend our time. ***Motion by Mr. Johnson to extend time on our agenda for at least a half an hour. Mr. Kendziorek seconded. Motion approved.*** Meeting time extended to 8:34 p.m.

**Roll call vote taken for Board President Nominations.** Mr. Kendziorek, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Johnston and Ms. Young voted in favor of Marshal Kendziorek for President. Mr. Stevens, Ms. Hagevig, Mr. Solomon-Gross, Ms. Knapp and Dr. Jones voted in favor of Kenny Solomon-Gross for President. **Mr. Solomon-Gross approved for Board President by majority vote.**

Vice-President: **Ms. Knapp nominated Rosemary Hagevig for Vice-President.** Ms. Hagevig accepted the nomination. No other nominations and no objections. **Ms. Hagevig approved for Board Vice-President.**

Secretary: **Ms. Johnston nominated Mark Johnson for Board Secretary.** Mr. Johnson accepted the nomination. No other nominations and no objections. **Mr. Johnson approved for Board Secretary.**

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Solomon-Gross thanked Mr. Stevens for his two years of service. Mr. Solomon-Gross will look for help from Mr. Stevens in the coming year. Mr. Stevens congratulated the newly appointed officers and thanked those that are willing to serve and continue to move the community part of Bartlett Regional Hospital to the forefront and for the efforts that have propelled us to some of the extreme success we've heard in tonight's meeting. Ms. Knapp also thanked Mr. Stevens for his time and noted that Mr. Stevens will also have a leaf put on the Foundation's Giving Tree. Mr. Bill said Mr. Stevens will be recognized in a special way at the next Board meeting. Mr. Solomon-Gross requested Mr. Stevens to finish out tonight's meeting.

**BOARD CALENDAR** – January calendar reviewed. No additions or changes at this time. Mr. Stevens noted that committee assignments will be one of the first tasks for the new Board President. A physician recruitment meeting may be scheduled for the end of January.

**BOARD COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS** – Mr. Solomon-Gross thanked the Board for their support and will serve BRH and the community to the best of his abilities. He thanked Mr. Kendziorek for his willingness to step up and serve as President and hopes to be able to count on him and his wealth of knowledge during the next year. Mr. Stevens commented that we speak to the quality of the Senior Leadership Team we have and it's easy to congratulate them because they do an outstanding work. It's also important to recognize the staff so don't forget to thank them during the holidays. It's a huge team that makes it all work and we couldn't make it work without each and every one of them.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *Motion by Mr. Solomon-Gross to recess into executive session as written in the agenda to discuss several matters:*

- *Those which by law, municipal charter, or ordinance are required to be confidential or involve consideration of records that are not subject to public disclosure, specifically the credentialing report, Medical Staff Meeting minutes, the patient safety dashboard and union negotiations.*

**Ms. Hagevig seconded.** The Board entered executive session at 8:22 p.m. and returned to regular session at 8:44 p.m.

**Ms. Hagevig made a MOTION to approve the credentialing report as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded. Motion approved.**

**ADJOURNMENT** – 8:45 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** 5:30pm -Tuesday, January 26, 2021