

Bartlett Regional Hospital

Minutes
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
April 27, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.
Zoom videoconference

CALL TO ORDER – Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Kenny Solomon-Gross, Board President

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

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

ALSO PRESENT

Rose Lawhorne, CEO	Kevin Benson, CFO	Billy Gardner, COO
Bradley Grigg, CBHO	Dallas Hargrave, HR Director	Keegan Jackson, MD, COS
Michelle Hale, CBJ Liaison	Robert Palmer, City Attorney	Barbara Nault, Legal Advisor
McHugh Pierre, Goldbelt CEO	Anita Moffitt, Executive Assistant	Mignon (Mimi) Benjamin, MD
Claire Stremple, KTOO	Joanne Gartenberg, MD	Joy Neyhart, DO
Gail Moorehead, Quality Director	Nathan Overson, Compliance Director	Katie Bausler, Public Relations

APPROVE AGENDA – MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the agenda as written. Mr. Johnson seconded. There being no objections, agenda approved.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – McHugh Pierre, President and CEO of Goldbelt, Inc. spoke on behalf of Protect Juneau's Future (an organization of tourism businesses) about opposition to proposed potential ballot initiatives that would significantly reduce cruise ship passengers in Juneau. He requests the Board review the initiatives when they become public and oppose them if they are approved as written. He reported the three initiatives would only allow ships at dock from 7:00am – 7:00pm, would eliminate cruise ship visitors from being here on Saturdays and starting January 1st, 2026, no ships over 100,000 tons would be allowed. This would be a drastic reduction in visitor capacity and tax revenues. Signature gathering to get these initiatives on the ballot will begin on May 3rd. Protect Juneau's Future is requesting that people not sign. Dr. Jones talked about testing capabilities available at BRH for cruise passengers.

CONSENT AGENDA - MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the consent agenda as written. Mr. Johnson seconded. There being no objections, consent agenda approved.

NEW BUSINESS

CEO Compensation and Performance Evaluation – Mr. Hargrave provided an overview of healthcare related executive coaching and how this might help Ms. Lawhorne transition from CNO to CEO. **MOTION by Mr. Geiger to approve up to \$60,000 for this coaching. Mr. Stevens seconded. There being no objections, MOTION approved.**

OLD BUSINESS

Behavioral Health Pediatrician – For purposes of discussion **MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve this position for a Behavioral Health Pediatrician.** This had been discussed and approved at Executive Committee Meeting. Ms. Lawhorne clarified the scope performed by this provider – to address acute care needs, not as a long term care

provider. Follow-up meeting and discussions were held with stakeholders to address concerns. Support was expressed by several Board members. *There being no objections, MOTION approved.*

Crisis Stabilization Center Design Change – Ms. Lawhorne reported that a need for short term and long term space has been identified as a result of being unable to purchase the BSSC building, where the current lease ends December 2022. Adding an additional floor to the Crisis Stabilization Building has been proposed as a solution, which was discussed with, and supported by, the city. The cost of adding this floor is conservatively \$2.5 Million. This is an action item moved forward from the Executive Committee. For purposes of discussion, **MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the Crisis Stabilization Center design change.** Mr. Stevens noted this floor expansion is going to cost about the same or slightly less than the \$2.75 Million approved for the purchase of the BSSC building and will not have the long term maintenance costs that we foresaw with the purchase of that building. Mr. Solomon-Gross complimented the CEO and Senior Leadership team for being able to pivot and bring this to the Board fairly quickly to take action on with the City and the City Manager to make sure this happens. Ms. Hagevig noted that there is already an appropriation by the Assembly for the purchase of the other building and asked if we have to start over. Mr. Benson reported that this was discussed with the City Manager earlier this week and was informed that the money could be re-appropriated for a different purpose. This additional floor may add 2 extra months to construction time however, we had included an extra 6 months to allow for any issues that may come up. Mr. Stevens requested a roll call vote. Roll call vote taken, **MOTION to approve the Crisis Stabilization Center design change unanimously approved.**

MEDICAL STAFF REPORT – Dr. Jackson reported that there was a guest presentation by Mila Cosgrove and Robert Barr at the April 6th Medical Staff meeting. They discussed vaccine rates in the community and asked the medical staff to provide support to encourage vaccinations. Discussion about legislative agendas for naturopathic doctors prescribing medications. Still troubleshooting Meditech issues while transitioning from outside support to internal support, several action items still open for repair. Concerns with transition from ER to Medical floors, including patient medications not easily continued. Workarounds are being used. There was communication regarding the BOPS pediatrician position. Medical Staff felt that transparency and communication could have been better and encouraged for any future provider changes. Still conversation about Certified Nurse Midwives in the Credentials Committee. Medical Staff were excited to hear about the recruitment of Urologist. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Knapp expressed the importance of Public Service Announcements to encourage COVID vaccination. Dr. Benjamin will talk about this on Capital Chat. Pop-up and walk-in clinics have been very helpful in increasing the number of vaccinations given. Ms. Knapp questioned the percentage of Juneau residents that have not received second dose of vaccines.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee Meeting – Draft minutes from the April 19th meeting are in the packet. Ms. Johnston reported that there was a fair amount of time spent on the building purchase that fell through and what the alternatives are. Also discussed, postponing the swing bed application. Ms. Hagevig noted that the hospital's budget was presented to the Assembly earlier this month and has been approved. Ms. Knapp noted that Mr. Benson's assembly presentation was very knowledgeable and successful. Mr. Solomon-Gross expressed appreciation for the Finance Committee and Mr. Benson's and Ms. Lawhorne's presentation.

Executive Committee Meeting – Draft minutes from the April 22nd meeting are in the packet. Mr. Solomon-Gross reported. Spoke about the Crisis Stabilization design change and the CEO compensation and evaluation.

Governance Committee Meeting – Draft minutes from the April 23rd meeting are in the packet. Ms. Knapp reported that Ms. Hagevig chaired the meeting for her. The main item for consideration was the BOD self-evaluation tool. Mr.

Hargrave had done outreach to the Governance Institute (GI) and received very good information that was shared with the committee. The GI is finalizing a tool the board would like to use. Since the BRH Board is a member of the GI, it is part of the membership and is not an added expense. More information will be supplied. Also discussed was Robert's Rules as a result of procedures in our meetings differing from CBJ. We are governed by our bylaws, approved by the Assembly. Mr. Palmer asked that BRH states going forward out of committee that the committee has discussed something and is requesting that the Committee Chair making a recommendation to the Board states, "I am moving that this item be adopted."

MANAGEMENT REPORTS:

Legal Report – Ms. Nault provided a summary of projects her company has been working on since last month's meeting.

HR Report – No questions or comments

CNO Report – No questions or comments

COO Report – Mr. Gardner reported that we have entered into contracts with schools, mines, and others to provide COVID testing. ROCHE labs is eliminating purchase commitments through purchasing contract so supplies can now be purchased as needed. Originally, 500 tests per week were estimated. This week alone, that many tests will have been conducted through school testing. ASU-11 endo fan project has been completed and went very smoothly. Power conditioning and phase one suppressors have been installed and our equipment is now protected in case of power surge. Ms. Hale and Dr. Jones expressed thanks to Mr. Gardner and staff for all of the work on the installation of the analyzer. Mr. Geiger asked for more information about future planning for vascular screening. BRH is updating CT scanners, which will be able to detect cardiovascular disease. Mr. Solomon-Gross initiated a discussion about the drop in imaging performed in 2020 versus 2019.

CBHO Report – Since January, BRH has had at least one room in Med Surg for pediatric behavioral health patients. January through March revealed more bed days for minors under crisis than the previous two years combined. The state has given us approval and support to designate a few beds on MHU for adults under crisis. This will allow for a smooth transition to the new facility. The proportion of patients that get admitted is increasing. We are seeing a lot of child welfare involvement in the pediatric patients we serve and juvenile probation officers are reaching out for BOPS support. Other DET facilities are restricting regional access too, and facilities are coordinating when to open. Our goal is to return to the statewide referral source. We can take 12 patients on MHU, RRC has 12 residential beds and currently has 8 in use. Employment contract negotiations with two psychiatrists who are currently providing locums coverage for BRH are in progress.

CFO Report – No questions or comments

CEO Report – Ms. Lawhorne reported that several candidates were interviewed for the CNO position, and Kim McDowell, the current ED Director, has been offered the position. Senator Sullivan will be on campus later this week to look at the Crisis Stabilization Program. Ms. Lawhorne is working with Gail Moorehead on the COVID response roles on projects. Legislative efforts include Crisis Now, a letter sent in support for Disproportionate Share Hospital (DSH) funding (federal funds with matched state funds). With support from DHSS and ASHNHA, we are requesting that the state allocate those funds as well. Other bills include Covid-19 disaster and emergency, telehealth billing and licensure, claims database as a central repository (to increase transparency), nursing licensure contract, certificate of need discussion, senate bill 70 about access to Narcan and Naloxone. Discussion about the American Rescue Act – funding for rural hospitals.

CEO REPORT/STRATEGIC DISCUSSION – Ms. Lawhorne reported the vaccination rates for people fully vaccinated and how many have received first dose only. We have had no COVID admissions in the hospital in several weeks. She expressed thanks to Mr. Gardner and team for renovations to the triage building and updates to the ventilation systems. Mr. Solomon-Gross questioned the readiness of the hospital if designated as a distribution hub for wide spread vaccinations as proposed by Governor Dunleavy. BRH is working with the city and Public Health on this.

PRESIDENT REPORT – Mr. Solomon-Gross opened discussion about future meetings being in-person or a hybrid of in-person and virtual attendance. The Assembly is returning to in-person meetings in May. Support expressed for returning to in-person meetings, with virtual attendance an option if needed. Ms. Hale reported that as vaccination rates improve, current restrictions will be loosened. It is unknown at this time what the plan is for public attendance. Since a

new CEO has been hired, the affiliations topic will be taken up again. All board members are registered to attend the Governance Institute's Leadership Conference in October.

CBJ LIAISON REPORT – Ms. Hale advocated taking a look at the PSA that rose from the Assembly's action yesterday. Advocating for 70% vaccination and Juneau is well on its way.

BOARD CALENDAR – Ms. Knapp noted that there is no regular time listed for the Governance Committee to meet but one should be scheduled to discuss the Board Self-Evaluation. The next meeting will be held at 12:00pm on Friday, May 21st.

BOARD COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS – Ms. Hale reported that the Assembly has voted to drop the CBJ specific travel policy and will follow the State's policy, to be effective May 1st. COVID testing is optional at the airport. If not vaccinated, it is recommended to test, but not mandated.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – ***MOTION by Mr. Stevens 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.*
And
- *To discuss pending litigation related to BRH, specifically a candid discussion of the facts and legal strategies with BRH's attorneys;*

Mr. Johnson seconded. The Board entered executive session at 7:19 p.m. after taking a three minute recess. They returned to regular session at 7:31 p.m.

MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the credentialing report as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded. There being no objections, credentialing report approved.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:32 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: 5:30 p.m. – Tuesday, May 25, 2021