

# Bartlett Regional Hospital

Minutes  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
February 22, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.  
BRH Zoom videoconference

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**ABSENT** – Deb Johnston

**ALSO PRESENT**

Jerel Humphrey, Interim CEO	Kevin Benson, CFO	Kim McDowell, CCO
Dallas Hargrave, HR Director	Karen Forrest, Interim CBHO	Robert Tyk, Interim CFO
Barbara Nault, Legal Advisor	Robert Palmer, CBJ Law	Joseph Roth, MD, COS
Carly Allen, DO	Anita Moffitt, Executive Assistant	

**APPROVE AGENDA** – Mr. Solomon-Gross requested the introduction of interim Chief Financial Officer be added after public participation. ***MOTION by Dr. Jones to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Stevens seconded. There being no objections, agenda approved.***

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**INTERIM CFO INTRODUCTION** - Mr. Humphrey introduced and extended a welcome to interim Chief Financial Officer, Robert Tyk. Mr. Tyk reported that BRH is the thirtieth facility he has worked at in his 45 years in this line of work. His oldest son lives in Anchorage so although he has never been in Southeast Alaska before, it's not his first time to Alaska. He is happy to be here and looking forward to working with everyone.

**CONSENT AGENDA** - ***MOTION by Ms. Hagevig to approve the consent agenda as presented. Mr. Stevens seconded. There being no objection, the January 25, 2022 Board of Directors minutes, the February 3, 2022 Strategic Planning Work Session minutes and December 2021 Financials approved.***

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Covid-19 Update** - Ms. McDowell reported that we have two Covid patients in the hospital, none on ventilators. There are 4 employees out with Covid. ED activity is pretty consistent with Covid, a lot of it being found incidentally in asymptomatic patients. PPE and testing supplies remain stable as does staffing. Molecular lab did over 6,000 tests in January. Dr. Jones reported that the numbers are definitely going down. We have a good supply of Paxlovid, Molnupiravir as well as monoclonal antibodies to treat patients in early stages of Covid.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Strategic Plan** – Mr. Hargrave reported that the draft strategic goals and key initiatives document, included in the packet, is a result of the strategic planning work sessions and feedback obtained from board members afterwards. This document includes suggested committee assignments for each initiative. Assigned committee will report back

to the board as to the movement and progress in meeting those initiatives. Discussion held about the committee assignments. Support expressed by multiple board members to adopt the initiatives tonight and assign them to committee later. Mr. Solomon-Gross will work with Mr. Hargrave to assign the initiatives. ***MOTION by Dr. Jones to adopt the strategic plan and have Mr. Solomon-Gross and Mr. Hargrave assign initiatives to the committees they deem appropriate. Ms. Young seconded. There being no objection, MOTION approved.***

**MEDICAL STAFF REPORT** – Dr. Roth reported the following from the February 1<sup>st</sup> medical staff meeting: There was a discussion about the new CT scanner and MRI and what they could do. There are a lot of new things these machines can do in theory, but we don't have the staff to do those things. Mr. Hawkins has been asked to supply a list of things the new imaging modalities will potentially be able to do so the medical staff can weigh in on what they think would be great to have in Juneau. There was a discussion about changes made in the Meditech system without physician input. Meditech Expanse is an ongoing frustration to the medical staff, mostly due to lack of support. Dr. Roth and Mr. Humphrey are working together to get the support requested by medical staff. Dr. Roth stated that physician input should be obtained when considering the physician call room. A solution to how we can get patients awaiting placement in other facilities out of BRH needs to be found. This affects elective surgical cases when beds are not available for recovery. He noted that Wildflower Court (WFC) has a closed wing due to lack of staffing. He wonders if there is a way for CBJ to hire nurses or CNAs to help staff WFC to help placement of these patients that no longer need to be at BRH. Dr. Allen will provide an overview of the results of Physician Health and Wellness Committee survey during tonight's executive session.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Planning Committee** – Draft minutes from the February 4<sup>th</sup> meeting in the packet. Ms. Knapp reported that there were updates on the Master Facility Plan and timelines. Several projects are close to completion. The crisis stabilization building project has slowed down due to weather and the inability to pour concrete. Ms. Rynne had provided an update on the ED expansion project. The final report about the ED expansion from Architects Alaska has not been made available yet. As a result of the architect's meeting with staff, it was identified that upgrades to some of the existing space had not been considered as part of the RFP process. Revised cost estimates to address these upgrades are to be provided by March 7<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Jones and Ms. Forrest reported that concrete for one of the slabs was poured on Saturday (2/20) and the next slab will be poured on Thursday (2/24).

**Finance Committee** – Draft minutes from the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting in the packet. Mr. Benson reported the minutes accurately reflect the activity from the meeting. December was a favorable month. Received provider relief funds of \$2.8 million bolstered our bottom line to \$2.2 million.

**Compliance Committee** – Draft minutes from the February 15<sup>th</sup> meeting in the packet. Ms. Young reported the minutes accurately reflect what took place in the meeting. Annual compliance training for the board is scheduled to take place on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Senior leadership has been invited to attend as well. Questions and topics board members would like to discuss should be emailed to Mr. Overson or Ms. Young prior to the meeting.

***MOTION by Ms. Young on behalf of the committee to approve the annual risk management plan.***

It was clarified for Mr. Geiger that the purpose of this plan is that it's a requirement of CMS that we have a risk management plan that is reviewed and approved annually and updated as needed. Ms. Knapp noted this plan has gotten pretty lengthy over the years and suggests review take place throughout the year and not wait until the last minute next year. **There be no further discussion and no objections, MOTION approved.**

**BRH & Assembly Joint Committee** – Draft minutes from the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting in the packet. Mr. Solomon-Gross reported that considerations for existing properties were discussed and will be discussed at the Planning Committee meeting. Excavation and parking garage options will be expensive projects so must be thoroughly vetted by planning and finance. There had been extensive discussion about the purchase of the Family Practice Physicians building. Committee

members from the assembly and the board are in favor of moving ahead. **MOTION by Mr. Stevens that the board authorize the CEO to sign a purchase and sales agreement for the fair market value and authorize expenditures up to \$50,000 for inspections, surveying, appraisal and similar tasks for the Family Practice, LLC Building located at 10301 Glacier Highway. Ms. Knapp seconded.** Mr. Johnson expressed concern about the month to month leases of current tenants. He also noted the property has been on the market for 3 years and is designed as a health clinic. Any other purpose would require major renovations. Dr. Jones supports moving ahead. Mr. Geiger noted that this has been discussed extensively and supports moving ahead. Ms. Young noted that all discussions about this have been held in executive session and she does not support moving ahead. There are a lot of unknowns in the future in regards to inflation. BRH has a lot of projects in progress and doesn't want to lose resources. Ms. Hagevig is in favor of moving ahead, the issues have been dealt with and have been thoroughly vetted. Mr. Johnson disagrees and raised the issue of possibly having to have a Certificate of Need (CON) depending on what BRH uses the building for. Ms. Knapp expressed her support of moving forward. There is flat land that can be built upon in the future and it's a good investment that supports existing practices in the community. Mr. Solomon-Gross stated that it has been vetted by CBJ Lands, the attorneys and the BRH and Assembly Joint Committee. Roll call vote taken. **MOTION approved by a 6-2 vote.** (Mr. Solomon-Gross, Ms. Hagevig, Ms. Knapp, Mr. Geiger, Mr. Stevens and Dr. Jones voted yes. Mr. Johnson and Ms. Young voted no.)

#### **MANAGEMENT REPORTS:**

**Legal Report** – Ms. Nault reported that she is continuing to work on contracts related to the sleep lab and providing advice on the guidelines of the CDC for the diabetes prevention program. Also assisting with call coverage arrangements for various specialties, continues to provide support for the 340B contract pharmacy reporting and assisting with patient issues as they've arisen. She has reached out to the attorney at Horty Springer about board review of medical staff policies but they have not been able to connect. She hopes they will be able to connect this week and she will be able to provide an update at the next meeting.

**HR Report** – Mr. Hargrave reported that the CEO recruitment committee has been established. They have had one meeting with BE Smith to talk about the process moving forward. Mr. Hargrave, Mr. Solomon-Gross and Ms. Russel had a meeting with the BE Smith recruitment team yesterday. The next step is to get the position posting out and to start reaching out to potential candidates. March 3<sup>rd</sup>, and potentially the morning of March 4<sup>th</sup>, the senior executive recruiter from BE Smith will be in town to talk to board members, key stakeholders and community partners about what they would like to see in a CEO. This information will be used to screen candidates. He will work with Ms. Moffitt to schedule the stakeholder and community partner interviews.

**CCO Report** – Ms. McDowell highlighted from her report, as a result of the recent Joint Commission (JC) survey, OB was recognized for their exclusive breast milk feeding performance. JC wants to highlight them to other hospitals that usually fail in the area of collaboration and improvement for better patient care. Mr. Stevens expressed congratulations to the OB staff and everyone that helped to develop this program. Mr. Solomon-Gross congratulated Physical Therapy for no longer having a wound care wait list.

**CBHO Report** – Ms. Forrest reported that we are working on the program, staffing and patient flows for the crisis stabilization building. The Alaska Mental Health Trust has invited BRH to apply for \$100,000 in operating funds to be used for technical assistance for our programing. We are revisiting our ligature risk ratings for the crisis stabilization building. The Withdrawal Management Unit had been closed for about 6 weeks due to staffing. It reopened and filled up immediately. A couple of nurses have stepped up into management roles in the mental health unit. We continue to work hard on addressing some of the environmental issues that came to light in the Joint Commission survey. Standards continue to evolve and we continue to learn things over time so continue to implement those things to keep everyone safe.

**CFO Report** – Mr. Benson noted that the finance report is fairly complete. He said he has really enjoyed his time at BRH, it's a great organization, doing great things and he wishes BRH the best. Ms. Knapp wished Mr. Benson the best. Mr. Solomon-Gross thanked him for his leadership and for hanging in there until Mr. Tyk came on board.

**CEO Report** – Mr. Humphrey expressed his contentment with the reorganization of the organization. With Mr. Tyk joining the team, we should have some normalcy. Mr. Humphrey as identified internal controls as an area of focus for Mr. Tyk. There has already been a lot of progress made but there is still some tightening to do. Ms. Young asked if Mr.

Humphrey has reached out to SEARHC about extending the lease for the surgery and specialty clinic. Other tenants in the building have had some success in doing this. Mr. Humphrey noted that previous inquiries did not produce a positive result but he will reach out to SEARHC's CEO. Mr. Johnson agrees that it will be expensive to move to a temporary location and Mr. Geiger agrees that it's important that an effort be made to extend the lease. Mr. Solomon-Gross noted that he had the opportunity to meet with Erin Hardin, Director of Marketing and Strategy. He worked with her on a small project and she did great. He is really happy to have her here and reading the goals in her report.

**PRESIDENT REPORT** – Mr. Solomon-Gross reported that it's been a busy month with all of the meetings. He will continue to work on the strategic planning goals with Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Hargrave. Information about the Governance Institute's Leadership conference is in the packet. Anyone wishing to go needs to let Ms. Moffitt know so she can register and make room reservations for those wishing to attend. These conferences are very educational.

**BOARD CALENDAR** – March calendar reviewed. Board compliance training is scheduled to take place at 5:30pm on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. A Governance Committee meeting may be added. BE Smith recruiter visit to be added on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> – these are not public meetings. Strategic plan committee assignments will be available prior to the March 4<sup>th</sup> Planning Committee meeting.

Mr. Solomon-Gross called for a 5-minute break at 6:37 p.m. Meeting resumed at 6:43 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** – *MOTION by Mr. Geiger to recess into executive session to discuss several matters as written in the agenda:*

- *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 Practitioner Health and Wellness Committee survey results, Credentialing report, Medical Staff Meeting minutes, patient safety dashboard and a patient concern.*

*And*

- *To discuss possible BRH litigation, specifically a candid discussion of facts and litigation strategies with the BRH and Municipal attorney. (Unnecessary staff and Medical Chief of staff may be excused from this portion of the session.)*

*And*

- *To discuss information presented that the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of BRH; that being a discussion about campus planning. (Unnecessary staff and Medical Chief of staff may be excused from this portion of the session.)*

**Ms. Knapp seconded.** The Board entered executive session at 6:44p.m. They returned to regular session at 8:02 p.m.

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

**BOARD COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS** – Mr. Johnson will be in Mexico but will try to call in for the March board meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 8:03 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** 5:30 p.m. – Tuesday, March 22, 2022