

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

MINUTES – February 24, 2021

BY ZOOM: Bill Himmelsbach (Vice-Chair); Richardson LaBruce; Faith Polkey, M.D.; Hampton Long; Alice Howard; Paul Sommerville

PRESENT: David House (Chair); Andrea Allen; Stephen Larson, M.D.; Eric Billig, M.D.; Kathy McDonagh, Ph.D.; Russell Baxley; Ken Miller; Brian Hoffman; Karen Carroll; Kurt Ellenberger, M.D.; Shawna Doran; Kurt Gambla, D.O.; Allison Coppage; Chris Ketchie; Courtney McDermott; and Anna Sobiech

Public/Open Session CALL TO ORDER: Mr. House called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. and stated that the Press had been notified. Anna Sobiech took roll call. A quorum of the Board is confirmed.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Himmelsbach to go into Executive Session at 7:45 a.m. for Board Members to receive legal guidance related to amendment to Article III of the Amended and Restated Beaufort County Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees Bylaws, pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70 (a)(2) (matters covered by the attorney client privilege). The motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen and majority approved. Mr. Richardson LaBruce recused himself due to conflict of interest.

MOTION: Motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-70 (a)(2) for the receipt of legal guidance related to pending litigation against Beaufort County. Mr. Himmelsbach made the motion, which was seconded by Mrs. Allen and majority approved. Mr. Richardson LaBruce recused himself due to conflict of interest.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mr. Himmelsbach for Board Members to discuss strategic matters related to MSPI, Quality Improvement, Medical Staff Credentialing, Contractual Arrangements, Legal and Personnel Matters. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Allen and unanimously approved.

It is noted: Mr. Richardson LaBruce was in agreement with the third motion but recused himself from the first two due to conflict of interest. Mr. LaBruce was placed in Zoom “waiting” during the sessions relating to the first two motions.

Public/Open Session MOTION: A motion was made by Mrs. Allen to re-commence into Public/Open Session at 9:36 a.m. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig and unanimously approved.

Mr. House provided the mission statement.

Dr. Gambla provided a patient story.

MOTION: A motion to amend the order of the agenda was made by Dr. Billig and seconded by Mrs. Allen. Unanimous approval.

MOTION: A motion to amend Section 3.3(a) of the Beaufort County Memorial Hospital Amended and Restated Board of Trustees Bylaws to replace the number of voting members from nine (9) to eight (8) was made by Dr. McDonagh. The motion was seconded by Dr. Billig. Mr. Richardson LaBruce recused himself from the vote and noted that he does not have copy of the proposed Bylaw Amendment (due to his recusal). Dr. Polkey indicated a nay. Majority approved.

CONSENT AGENDA – Approval of Minutes for January 27, 2021, Committee Reports & Minutes, and Staff Reports. Dr. Billig made a motion, which was seconded by Dr. Larson, to adopt the agenda, amendment to the minutes and reports as presented. Unanimous approval/no oppositions.

COMMITTEE CHAIR ISSUE IDENTIFICATION: None

BMH FOUNDATION: Mr. Long indicated that the Foundation had an excellent first ever Virtual Valentine Ball on February 6th (despite the pandemic, weather and technical issues). Three hundred viewers were participating at different times. After expenses, \$226K was raised (prior year was \$209K). Savings were realized due to Foundation staff providing in house marketing, design, etc. Mr. Long thanked everyone who participated in the event which had a great result. Mr. Long acknowledged the corporate community's great response in bringing in \$187K in sponsorships. Mr. House commended the efforts of all who made this event a great success.

MEDICAL STAFF: Dr. Ellenberger indicated that there were no outstanding issues. He indicated that two new physicians were recommended for appointment approval. He referenced the policies in the board packet as action items for the board.

MEDICAL STAFF – *Credentials:* The following practitioners requested Appointment: Grewal, Parneet, MD, Telemedicine/Medicine-Neurology (Stroke); Laundon, Robert, Kregg, MD, Consulting/Emergency Medicine.

Reappointment: Webb, Sally, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Braden, Jennifer, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Emergency Medicine; Bradshaw, Marques, MD, Consulting/Radiology-VRC; Borg, Keith, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Emergency Medicine; Cochran, Joel, DO, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Donovan, Mary, NP, Allied Health Professional/ Medicine-Internal Medicine; Dryzer, Scott, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Critical Care; Evans, Melissa, MD; Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Gault, Annemarie, NP, Allied Health Professional/Medicine- Sickle Cell; George, Ayodeji, MD, Locum Tenens/ Medicine-Internal Medicine; Habib, David, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Hall, Gregory, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Emergency Medicine; Hannah, Jessica, MD, Telemedicine/Medicine-Neurology (Stroke); Ikuru, Esther, MD, Locum Tenens/ Medicine; Jackson, Benjamin, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Emergency Medicine; Jacobson, Richard, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatric-Psychiatry; Lehman-Huskamp, Kathy, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-

Emergency Medicine; Mack, Elizabeth, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Maurer, David, MD, Active/Surgery-Otolaryngology; Muttal, Saraswati, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatric-Psychiatry; McSwain, Steven, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Patel, Rupal, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Critical Care; Price, Amanda, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Emergency Medicine; Rashid, Khurram, MD, Locum Tenens/Medicine-Internal Medicine; Russell, William, MD, Consulting/Telemedicine; Schaefer, Paul, PA-C; Allied Health Professional/ Orthopedics; Tecklenburg, Frederick, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Critical Care; Soriano, Jason, MD, Consulting/Medicine-Neurology; Taylor, Anne, NP, Allied Health Professional/Medicine-Neurology; Titus, Mary, MD, Telemedicine/Pediatrics-Emergency Medicine.

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

CMO Report: Dr. Gambla indicated that the revised post orders/resuscitation orders are now being implemented in the hospital. The pharmacy upgrade is near completion with two sites being established for compounding. SBIRT [Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral to Treatment] agreement is close to finalizing. Palliative care expanding to seven days in the near future. Dr. Gambla explained the process of COVID antibody infusions.

ACTION ITEMS, POLICIES, DISCUSSION OR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING POLICIES AS PRESENTED BY THE QI COMMITTEE:

- Medical Staff Confidentiality, MS.01
- Medical Staff Leadership Education, MS.03
- Standing Orders and Protocols – Development, Review, and Implementation, MS.04.01.01
- Review for Competency of Privileges in Another Department, MS.21
- ER Communication with Medical Staff, MS.27
- Reappointment to the Medical Staff, MS.36
- EMTALA Medical Screening Examination (MSE), MS.55
- EMTALA Transfers, MS.56

Dr. Billig made the motion to approve all the policies presented, which was seconded by Dr. Larson. Unanimous approval.

MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Balanced Scorecard – Mr. Baxley referenced the scorecard which was provided for board review. He referenced Quality and indicated that the hospital was focusing on patient falls and corrective measures/action plans. Another focus is set on hospital acquired infections. The hospital is working actively on improving areas relating to quality. An update was provided on

the overall ratings of the hospital. The goal is to increase the scores relating to outpatient departments with a focus on customer service. The focus in the next year will be on inclusion and bias. Physician and employee satisfaction scores have been finalized. Scores will be presented to the board. Growth has been hampered by the COVID effect. Express Care and telemedicine volumes increased through the pandemic. Labor and Delivery, however, has experienced growth. BMH has experienced increased expenses for vaccinating the community (increased staff expenses and drug costs relative to the pandemic). Dr. Polkey (Beaufort Jasper Comp Health) and Mr. Baxley (BMH) are in discussion regarding combining efforts in vaccinating the hard to reach underserved population. Discussions are also underway on ways to reach the home bound patients. Mr. Baxley provided an update on the discussion he had with Dr. Simmer, Director of SCDHEC. A discussion ensued regarding the vaccine supply issue.

Johnson Controls – Mr. Baxley indicated that BMH is committed to being good stewards of its resources and environment by identifying opportunities for lighting, water, solar, etc. A report will be presented to the board once a financial understanding is made. An explanation of how this project is self-funded will also be provided.

Mr. House thanked and acknowledged the 8 years of commitment and service made by Dr. Faith Polkey and 12 years of commitment and service made by Mrs. Andrea Allen on the Board and Board Committees.

ADJOURN – A motion was made by Dr. Billig, and was seconded by Mrs. Allen, to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous approval. The meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Larson, M.D.