



MINUTES of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meeting held on **Thursday, December 8, 2022**, 17:00 hours, via ZOOM, live streamed on YouTube.

PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Anthony Paniccia, Chair

Laura Copat

Paul Lachance

Cynthia Bissonnette

Ian McLeod

Mary Dawson

Linda Staudt

David Malian

Dr. Laurie Freeman

Genevieve Isshak

Penny Allen

Patricia France

Michael Lavoie

Dr. Wassim Saad (ex-officio, non-voting)

David Musyj (ex-officio, non-voting)

Karen Riddell (ex-officio, non-voting)

Dr. Larry Jacobs (ex-officio, non-voting)

STAFF VIA ZOOM:

Executive Committee

REGRETS:

Dr. Maher Sabalbal (ex-officio, non-voting)

Dr. Danielle Soulliere (ex-officio, non-voting)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 1700 hours with Mr. Paniccia presiding as Chair and Ms. Sutherland recording the minutes.

2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

3. PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 3, 2022 Board meeting had been previously circulated.

MOVED by Ms. P. Allen, **SECONDED** by Ms. P. France and **CARRIED**

THAT the minutes of the November 3, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be approved.

The Chair provided a couple of updates:

- We are one week in with the WRHF Mega Money Lottery. The price is at \$27,000 and you can purchase tickets through the website: <https://www.wrhlottory.ca>
- A great event was held this past weekend by Crews N Brews, GL Heritage Brewing and the Garage Gym with donations from Brian & Lisa Schwab. The event raised approximately \$80,000.
- The T2B 25th Anniversary Gala will be held in January 2023 and they are still looking for sponsors.
- Reminder to get your COVID-19 booster and flu shot.

- Congratulations to Nana's Bakery. After 30 years of service, Doug Romanek is retiring on December 11th.

4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO:

Mr. Musyj reported. Highlights are as follows.

The first slide of the presentation showed a snapshot of influenza trends across Canada. Mr. Musyj stated this is consistent with what took place in Australia, as they saw a dramatic increase as compared to the last couple of years with an earlier and more difficult season. Australia's flu season saw a peak at 7-8 weeks post the start of the season and we are hoping to see the same thing. The flu season in W/E started 6-7 weeks ago.

Mr. Musyj also reported on ED visits and the patients that are coming in for care. This graph is broken down by respiratory and non-respiratory visits. As of December 6, 2022, the total number of non-respiratory visits to the EDs was 864 and 93 respiratory visits. October was a very busy month.

The third slide of the presentation provided a snapshot of the sub-set of patients with respiratory issues who have been admitted to the Hospital along with projections. Mr. Musyj explained that influenza and RSV are taking the majority of in-patient cases and COVID-19 seems to be stabilizing. However, we could see a spike in COVID-19 cases in early January.

The Hospital's current snapshot today shows the census is at 102% at Met and 103% at Ouellette. This is not a number you want to be at. The ANB number is high at 18 between the campuses. Mr. Musyj advised that the 5 year old with RSV in the ICU has now been transferred back to the Pediatric unit. For information, there are 12 beds in CCU.

Mr. Musyj also addressed ALCs for LTC. Since Bill 7 came into effect in September we have not had to issue a letter regarding the \$400/day fee (in fact, the letter has not even been finalized). The goal is to never have to issue one of these letters, however, Mr. Musyj indicated that we could have to depending what the next few weeks bring. Bill 7 has opened up the conversation between Home & Community Care, the family and our own frontline staff regarding what options are available everywhere in the system, not just in LTC. Also, there have been more fulsome discussions should a patient want to go home and what types of healthcare services they can receive in their own home.

Ms. Riddell provided an update on WRH's Adult and Paediatric Respiratory Clinic. Under the direction of the Government, the WRH AC expanded its service for both adult and paediatric patients experiencing all respiratory illnesses including COVID-19, influenza and RSV. This started on November 21st. The recommendation is for individuals to seek care with their primary care provider first. Ms. Riddell outlined the services including COVID-19 testing for eligible patients as well as treatment – Remdesivir and Paxlovid, and clinical assessments for respiratory patients. Same day appointments are available and there are physicians on site. We have a plan in place to ramp up the hours if necessary. This has been a well-utilized service with approximately 20 patients per day seeking clinical assessment under updated criteria. Approximately 14 of the 20 patients are children.

5. REPORT FROM SCHULICH:

Dr. Jacobs referred to his report. There has been a lot of work to improve wellness for the faculty members. Drs. Gupta and Hamm provided a session on *Assessing Burnout and Professional Fulfillment in a Regional Community Hospital*. Page 2 outlined the clerkship awards presented to the Windsor medical students.

Thank you to the partners at the University of Windsor on the launch of research grants enabling students from the Schulich campus to engage in research projects under the supervision of a University faculty member/mentor. There are five (5) grants of \$10,000 each.

6. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION (October 2022 Results):

Mr. McLeod reported.

Slide 2 – Funding Update:

- One-time funding confirmation has been received for 18 additional medical/surgical beds in the amount of \$9,198,000. These beds have been in operation since April 1, 2022.
- Funding for the COVID-19 testing, assessment and therapeutic delivery clinic confirmed in the amount of \$2,071,337 for fiscal 2022/23. Based on projections this will be sufficient to cover operating costs.
- Continuation of the “Unearned Funds Program” for volume-based programs in 2022/23. Similar to last fiscal year, this will enable hospitals to use unearned funds such as those for QBPs to address operating cost pressures.

Slide 3 – Financial Results – YTD October 2022:

- \$2,101,000 surplus for hospital operations year to date which is \$4,766,000 better than budget.
- Includes recognition of \$5,393,000 in year-to-date funding for the 18 beds mentioned above.
- The net surplus after building amortization is \$1,395,000 which is \$5,189,000 better than budget.

Slide 4 – COVID-19 Impact on Expenses:

- This slide shows the breakdown of \$14.8 million in COVID-19 expenses
- Unfunded COVID-19 expenses total \$3,731,000 due to
 - The wage differential for the Nursing Externs & S-PEP
 - Expenses no longer funded via incremental expense reimbursement (after June 2022)
 - Sick and isolation costs and additional staffing in the perioperative program
 - Incremental PPE
 - Additional shuttle costs, storage of equipment
- We expect the \$299,000 gap in medical remuneration to be funded.

Revenue shortfalls in the three categories below are not funded:

- Volume-based for Quality-Based Procedures (QBP), Neuro, Cardiac and Wait Time. When compared to the budgeted volumes there is a \$6.6 million shortfall
- \$1.9 million revenue loss in Patient Services
- \$432,000 revenue loss in Other Recoveries

Slide 5 – Significant Variances:

- Salaries & Wage \$3,276,000 deficit
 - Includes the 2nd TRIN (Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses) payment of \$3,254,000 which is fully funded
 - Includes \$6,000,000 in funded expenses for Nursing Externs, S-PEP and COVID-19 incremental costs
- Medical Staff Fees \$5,141,000 deficit
 - \$2,944,000 is funded through COVID-19 Temporary Physician Funding
 - \$2,650,000 offsetting favourable Patient Services Revenue variance
- Medical/Surgical Supplies \$1,242,000 deficit
 - 72% of this deficit relates to incremental PPE
- Drugs \$1,042,000 deficit
 - Offset by favourable revenue in retail pharmacies

Slide 6 – Significant Variances continued:

- Other Supplies \$1,529,000 deficit
 - \$1,113,000 legal fees
 - \$755,000 building and grounds maintenance and service contracts
 - \$284,000 patient transportation cost – patient transports to Hotel Dieu, nursing and retirement homes in order to free up beds
 - \$255,000 physician recruitment
- Other Supplies surpluses in other categories offset some of the deficits above

MOVED by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Mr. P. Lachance and **CARRIED** THAT the December 8, 2022 Financial Presentation (as of October 31, 2022) be accepted.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

MOVED by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Ms. P. France and **CARRIED** THAT the report from the November 28, 2022 Finance/Audit & Resources Committee meetings be accepted.

8. CORRESPONDENCE/PRINTED MATTER:

a) Media Report – FYI only.

9. BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS, COMMENTS OR NOTICES OF MOTIONS:

None

10. NEW BUSINESS:

None

11. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday, January 5, 2023, 1700 hrs VIA: ZOOM

12. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, it was

MOVED by Mr. D. Malian, **SECONDED** by Ms. L. Copat and **CARRIED**

THAT the December 8, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 1740 hours.

Anthony Paniccia, Chair
Board of Directors

Dawn Sutherland
Recording Secretary/ds