



**MINUTES** of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meeting held on **Thursday, February 1, 2024**, 17:00 hours, via ZOOM and live streamed on YouTube.

**PRESENT:**

Patricia France, Chair

David Malian

Paul Lachance

Genevieve Isshak

Laura Copat

Mary Dawson

Jamie Skutovich

Ian McLeod

Chris Lanoue

Dr. Laurie Freeman

Cynthia Bissonnette

Linda Staudt

Anthony Paniccia

Nila Das

David Musyj (ex-officio, non-voting)

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

Karen Riddell (ex-officio, non-voting)

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

**STAFF:**

Executive Committee

**REGRETS:**

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

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 1708 hours with Ms. France presiding as Chair and Ms. Sutherland recording the minutes.

The Chair advised the Board of two recent resignations, Ms. Penny Allen and Mr. Michael Lavoie.

Ms. Allen has resigned from her position on the Board of Directors and FAR Committee. The Chair thanked Ms. Allen for her many contributions over the last eight years and wished her all the best.

The Chair spoke to the passing of Mr. Lavoie on January 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lavoie was on the Board for nine years, he served as Vice-Chair and previously held the position of Chair of FAR. Mr. Lavoie sent his letter of resignation on January 12, 2024. The Chair shared his message with the Board. He stated this was one of the toughest emails he has ever had to write. The Chair expressed her heartfelt appreciation for his years of service, commitment and participation. A moment of silence was held in honour of Mr. Lavoie, a friend and colleague to many.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

None declared.

3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

The minutes of the January 4, 2024 Board meeting had been previously circulated.

**MOVED** by Mr. P. Lachance, **SECONDED** by Dr. L. Freeman and **CARRIED THAT** the minutes of the January 4, 2024 Board of Directors meeting be approved.

4. **REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO and CHIEF NURSING EXECUTIVE:**

Mr. Musyj shared a few words about Mr. Lavoie and Ms. Allen, who both served amazing tenures as board members. This is two big losses for the Board.

Also, Mr. Musyj advised that tonight is Ms. Theresa Morris' last board meeting. She has been replaced by the capable hands by Ms. Kristi Cecile. Mr. Musyj welcomed Ms. Cecile to the Board. Ms. Morris has left an invaluable imprint in healthcare across our region and WRH for decades. We wish her the very best on her retirement. The Chair also congratulated Ms. Morris, on behalf of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Musyj provided the following highlights from his presentation:

**Update on Influenza**

The first slide showed the percentage of tests positive in Canada compared to previous flu seasons. Mr. Musyj stated that the number of positive tests have gone down. In fact, the numbers did not go as high as the average peak and we are seeing this internally at the hospital.

Wastewater data shows a higher rate of Influenza A however it is starting to descend. Slide 4 of the presentation showed the wastewater data for Influenza B which can be an extension of the flu season. Mr. Musyj stated that hopefully these numbers are as high as they are going to get.

**Update on COVID / RSV**

Wastewater testing data shows both COVID and RSV cases are decreasing and this is consistent with what we are seeing in the hospital. Mr. Musyj presented the WRH patient data for the last 12 months for COVID-19, RSV and Influenza inpatient cases.

Mr. Musyj reminded everyone that the masking policy for visitors that was put into place on December 7, 2023 remains in effect. We are hopeful that by the March board meeting, we could be announcing some relaxation of these rules.

The next portion of Mr. Musyj's report related to government announcements. The MOH is expanding the number of and access to Family Health Teams. This is a significant investment of \$110 million to not only increase the number of Family Health Teams but hopefully also provide some extra monies to existing Family Health Teams. Since 2010, WRH has had an Affiliation Agreement with the Windsor Family Health team who has rostered over 10,000 patients. These rostered patients' attendances to the emergency department are less and if they do attend, they are followed up by the WFHT. This affiliation has been critical and a very positive relationship. We look forward to this expansion as it will address some of the demands in the community regarding individuals without access to primary care.

Mr. Musyj also reported that Dr. Catherine Zahn is being appointed the New Chair of Ontario Health. WRH has really developed a close relationship with Dr. Zahn since she came into power in 2021. In fact, Mr. Musyj stated that he has never had a closer relationship with a Deputy Minister. Aside from her general leadership during some of the most difficult times in healthcare, Dr. Zahn has reached out regularly to touch base and get an idea of what is happening at the hospital. She would even call to get some feedback on certain initiatives she was thinking about. In return, she was always available to answer the phone and address any questions, mostly recently during the cyberattack. We look forward to Dr. Zahn's leadership as the new Chair of Ontario Health.

### **Code Grey Status Update**

Ms. Riddell provided an update with respect to the ongoing restoration efforts following the criminal cyber-attack.

As of January 3, 2024, our PACs system is up and running. This is the system that stores images, report and allows chronological view and remote access for interpretation. There is no backlog of P1 and 2 cases and those of semi-urgent priority will take approximately 10 weeks to clear. Ms. Riddell confirmed that WRH is working on a regional recovery plan with our partner hospitals.

With respect to Phase 2 and next steps, the clinical systems that came online in January include CBORD (nutrition software) and Lab – Hematology. The following systems are due to be online in the next few days – Pyxis and CVIS. Ms. Riddell explained there are still many systems left to bring back online which have been prioritized regionally by the hospitals. If all continues as planned, we will be able to lift our Code Grey effective Tuesday, February 6, 2024.

### **5. REPORT FROM SCHULICH:**

Dr. Jacobs was unable to attend the meeting.

### **6. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION:**

Mr. Paniccia reported. There was no financial presentation as no monthly operating results could be developed. We are working with KPMG in order to finish our year end off and to get the audit kicked off as well. In addition, we are looking at doing some preliminary testing pre-cyberattack and then as we work to get everything back up and accounted for, we will start on essentially the October through March 31<sup>st</sup> statements. Mr. Paniccia added that overall the finance staff is doing an amazing job keeping things running under these circumstances.

### **7. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**MOVED** by Mr. A. Paniccia, **SECONDED** by Ms. G. Isshak and **CARRIED**

**THAT** the report from the January 22, 2024 Finance/Audit & Resources Committee meeting be accepted.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE/PRINTED MATTER:**

a) Media Report – FYI only.

The Chair congratulated WRH for receiving the 2024 Believe Windsor-Essex Award.

In addition, the Chair congratulated WRH for receiving three awards from Ontario Health – Trillium Gift of Life Network: Championing Organ and Tissue Donation:

- Hospital Achievement Award – Provincial Conversion Rate (7<sup>th</sup> year)
- Hospital Achievement Award – Provincial Eligible Approach Rate (3<sup>rd</sup> year)
- Award of Excellence (4<sup>th</sup> year )

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

None

**10. NEW BUSINESS:**

None

**11. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:**

**Thursday, March 7, 2024, 1700, via ZOOM.**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to discuss, it was

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

**THAT** the February 1, 2024 Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 1730 hours.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia France, Chair  
Board of Directors

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dawn Sutherland  
Recording Secretary/ds