



**MINUTES** of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meeting held on **Thursday, November 3, 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)

**STAFF VIA ZOOM:**

Executive Committee

**REGRETS:**

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

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

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 1705 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 October 6, 2022 Board meeting had been previously circulated.

**MOVED** by Mr. P. Lachance, **SECONDED** by Mr. D. Malian and **CARRIED THAT** the minutes of the October 6, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be approved.

The Chair provided a couple of updates:

- Each November, Grow On Windsor raises funds to reduce the need for our brothers, fathers, uncles, loved ones, and friends to travel down Highway 401 for treatment that they should be receiving right here. Every dollar raised stays local to support the purchase of vital tools and equipment not otherwise funded by the Province. Please visit the Windsor Cancer Centre Foundation for more information.

- Big congratulations to Julia Lane, daughter of long-time TransForm Manager, Cynthia Lane, in winning six of the seven medals at the Down Syndrome World Swimming Championships in Portugal last month.
- Congratulations to Cristina Naccarato who was the successful candidate for the position of Executive Director of the WRH Foundation.

#### **4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO:**

Mr. Musyj reported. Highlights from his report are below.

The first slide of the presentation showed the Hospital's current snapshot as of 10:00 a.m. today. The census at Met is 112% and 110% at Ouellette. The number of ANBs (admit no beds – these are patients waiting for an inpatient care bed) is 37. In October 2019 we averaged 7 ANBs per day and now it is almost 30 a day. This is an issue that is increasing across the Province and we are not alone.

Mr. Musyj outlined what WRH is doing to prepare for the upcoming fall/winter season. We have added close to 400 FT staff as compared to 2019. As well we have added 53 acute care beds, 18 of them are unfunded but operational and we continue to work with OH on this issue. WRH is doing a maximum 70% of surgery volumes as compared to 2019. In other words we are doing as many as we can. The patients being brought to hospital by EMS are sicker and we are admitting 5% more. Lengths of stay in 2022 is 2 days higher. For all of these reasons, the demand on acute care beds is very high. Our ALCs are low compared to others in the Province. Mr. Musyj added that Bill 7 has already created some capacity in the region. Every bed is an important bed. As previously stated back in September the projection from Ontario Health was we could see a shortage of approximately 2400 beds. Another initiative implemented in October was the Physician in Triage to assist with ED wait times.

Ms. Riddell provided a report on RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus), explaining what it is, the symptoms, how it is transmitted and the treatment options. There is no specific treatment or vaccine for RSV and it has been recognized as one of the most common causes of childhood illness. There has been a steady increase in cases across the Province since early September. WRH had 41 positive patients in October. The rise in RSV cases this year could be attributed to fewer public health restrictions such as mask wearing and physical distancing. We anticipate RSV activity will peak in December.

Ms. Riddell also reminded everyone that COVID-19 is still here and shared the similarities between COVID-19 and Influenza. COVID-19 seems to spread more easily than the flu. The only way to determine if you have the flu or COVID is to get tested. Dr. Saad added that COVID-19 is more deadly and kills more people than the flu. It is critical to keep up with your vaccinations as we are expecting to see a peak in COVID cases in January.

Dr. Saad spoke to the upcoming influenza season. Influenza is a very contagious respiratory illness and flu activity often begins to increase in October. We expect to see a peak in December. Since the start of the pandemic, the timing and duration of flu activity has been less predictable. Again, we look at what has occurred in Australia where the flu season hit sooner and harder. Dr. Saad explained the symptoms and warning signs of complications for both children and adults. With respect to treatment, some people do require an antiviral drug such as Tamiflu but most healthy individuals recover within a few days.

In closing, Mr. Musyj emphasized that all 3 of these viruses will be circulating at the same time and it is so important to take every day preventative actions to reduce the spread of RSV, Influenza and COVID-19.

**5. REPORT FROM SCHULICH:**

Dr. Jacobs was unable to attend the meeting.

**6. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION (September 2022 Results):**

Mr. McLeod reported.

**Slide 2 – Funding Update:**

- The Surgical Recovery Premium will be available to hospitals this fiscal year
- Similar to 2021-2022, the premium is set at 15% of the current funded rate for each surgery applied to the last 25% of the volume allocation
- Based on the WRH Surgery Recovery Plan submitted our estimate of potential additional revenue is \$1.8 million

**Slide 3 – Financial Results – YTD September 2022:**

- \$2,354,000 deficit for hospital operations year to date which is \$210,000 worse than budget
- The net deficit after building amortization is \$2,952,000 which is \$161,000 better than budget

**Slide 4 – Covid-19 Impact on Expenses:**

- This slide shows the breakdown of \$13 million in COVID-19 expenses
- Unfunded COVID-19 expenses total \$2,986,000 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 \$262,000 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 \$5.6 million shortfall
- \$1.4 million revenue loss in Patient Services revenue
- \$402,000 revenue loss in Other Recoveries

**Slide 5 – Significant Variances:**

- Salaries & Wage \$3,845,000 deficit

- includes the 2<sup>nd</sup> TRIN (Temporary Retention Incentive for Nurses) payment of \$3,254,000 which is fully funded
- Also includes \$5,517,000 in funded expenses for Nursing Externs, S-PEP and COVID-19 incremental costs
- Medical Staff Fees \$4,409,000 deficit
  - \$2,788,000 is funded through COVID-19 Temporary Physician Funding
  - \$2,866,000 offsetting favourable Patient Services Revenue variance
- Medical/Surgical Supplies \$735,000 deficit
  - 91% of this deficit relates to incremental PPE
- Drugs \$482,000 deficit
  - Offset by favourable revenue in retail pharmacies

**Slide 6 – Significant Variances continued:**

- Other Supplies \$1,685,000 deficit
  - \$963,000 legal fees
  - \$718,000 building and grounds maintenance and service contracts
  - \$247,000 patient transportation cost – patient transports to Hotel Dieu, nursing and retirement homes in order to free up beds.
  - \$226,000 physician recruitment
- Other Supplies surpluses in other categories offset some of the deficits above

**MOVED** by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Ms. P. Allen and **CARRIED**  
**THAT** the November 3, 2022 Financial Presentation (as of September 30, 2022) be accepted.

**7. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**MOVED** by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Mr. P. Lachance and **CARRIED**  
**THAT** the report from the October 24, 2022 Finance/Audit & Resources Committee meeting 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, December 8, 2022, 1700 hours VIA: ZOOM**

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business to discuss, it was

**MOVED** by Ms. L. Staudt, **SECONDED** by Ms. G. Isshak and **CARRIED**

**THAT** the November 3, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 1750 hours.

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Anthony Paniccia, Chair  
Board of Directors

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Dawn Sutherland  
Recording Secretary/ds