



MINUTES of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meeting held on **Thursday, October 6, 2022**, 17:00 hours, via ZOOM, live streamed on YouTube.

PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Anthony Paniccia, Chair

Laura Copat

Paul Lachance

Cynthia Bissonnette

Ian McLeod

Linda Staudt

David Malian

Dr. Laurie Freeman

Genevieve Isshak

Penny Allen

Michael Lavoie

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

David Musyj (ex-officio, non-voting)

Karen Riddell (ex-officio, non-voting)

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

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

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

STAFF VIA ZOOM:

Executive Committee

GUEST:

Sarah Mushtaq

REGRETS:

Mary Dawson

Patricia France

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. EIDAR PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed Ms. Mushtaq to the meeting. Ms. Mushtaq is the Director of Equity, Inclusion, Diversity and Anti-Racism (EIDAR). In her new role at WRH, Ms. Mushtaq has begun the process of obtaining staff, patient, family and community feedback to improve health equity outcomes in the organization working under the Ontario Health EIDAR Framework. The pandemic highlighted some inequities within the organization and we need to ensure our patients are receiving care in a culturally safe way and that our staff feel safe.

Ms. Mushtaq reported on current initiatives, or work in process, and also presented her plans for the next three years. The Hospital participated in Orange Shirt Day last Friday, September 30, 2022 and there are upcoming education sessions scheduled for October. This is all set out in her presentation which was circulated in advance.

Questions/Comments:

The session and video from this past Tuesday with respect to ESC Indigenous Communities was very informative.

As a board, what can we do to help lead the charge?

Ms. Mushtaq explained that engagement and support is very important as well as board participation in the education series.

Ms. Mushtaq was thanked for her presentation.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None declared.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES:

The minutes of the September 8, 2022 Board meeting had been previously circulated.

MOVED by Mr. P. Lachance, **SECONDED** by Dr. L. Freeman and **CARRIED THAT** the minutes of the September 8, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be approved.

The Chair provided a couple of updates:

- Thank you to Ms. P. France and the St. Clair College Alumni Association for a wonderful event – the 28th annual St. Clair College Food and Wine Gala held on September 23, 2022. The event raised \$1.1-million in support of the W/E Acute Care Hospital.
- In support of Breast Awareness Cancer Month, the Protect your Pumpkins t-shirt campaign is running. All proceeds raised will support cancer awareness research and treatment for women in our region through the Windsor Cancer Centre Foundation.
- The 5th annual Halloween Family Spooktacular hosted by T2B Youth Ambassadors is taking place on October 29th at Malden Park. All proceeds will support the Ronald McDonald House and the T2B paediatric programs.
- Thank you on behalf of the Board to Ms. Carol Parent for her fundraising efforts during this year's Sail into Summer, raising over \$50,000 for the hospital and a new endoscopic ultrasound machine.

5. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO:

In addition to Mr. Musyj's written report, he provided the following highlights:

- We are busy preparing for the fall and winter months ahead of us.
- The Minister of Health, Minister Jones held a breakfast session in Windsor on September 27, 2022 to pledge the provincial government's support for the W/E new hospital project. During the event, it was announced that WRH has selected Stantec Architecture as the Planning, Design and Conformance (PDC) consultant for the New Windsor-Essex Acute Care Hospital Project. This team of architects and engineers will support the project through the development of design documents while providing support throughout the tendering and construction stages.

- Mr. Musyj has been asked about possible risks to the new W/E hospital project. He has also been asked about legal costs with respect to CAMPP and the court decision. Premier Ford's message is the Province is not going to delay this project however W/E can delay it, for example, the upcoming municipal elections present a risk. In addition, there are candidates running for council and Mayor in both the County and City that have shown their support for CAMPP publically/verbally and/or in donations to their various appeals to the zoning process. Mr. Musyj read from Justice Corbett's decision. You can visit the CAMPP website for a current list of their donors. Currently, CAMPP still owes the Hospital \$6,942.00 plus interest. Legal costs associated with these challenges are in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. The City of Windsor also incurred costs due to these proceedings and is still owed \$23568 plus interest.

6. CNE REPORT

Ms. Riddell's report focused on influenza projections and prevention. The following are highlights from her report:

- As mentioned in September, based on the Australia experience we are expecting earlier season onset, higher number of cases than the last 5 years and increased demand for hospital beds.
- Annually influenza results in 12,200 influenza related hospitalizations and 3500 deaths.
- Influenza can also be asymptomatic but still be transmitted to others. The contagious period can be up to 5 days.
- In addition to public health measures such as physical distancing, hand washing, masking, the influenza vaccine is the best defense against getting and spreading the influenza virus.
- With the potential for continued COVID-19 circulation this fall it is essential to prevent morbidity and mortality related to influenza. Ontario has a Universal Influenza Immunization Program offering free influenza vaccine each year for those 6 months and older. Influenza vaccines will soon be available in Windsor Essex at your primary care provider, public health unit, pharmacies and various other settings. Check wechu.org for updates on arrival and locations for vaccination
- As of Monday, September 26, individuals aged 18 and over, as well as immunocompromised individuals aged 12 to 17, can now receive a bivalent booster dose at a recommended interval of six months (or a minimum interval of three months) since the last dose, regardless of the number of doses already received. The bivalent vaccines contain two messenger RNA (mRNA) components instead of one. One of the components is from the original strain of the coronavirus, while the other component is from the Omicron strain.

Dr. Saad confirmed there are also non-mRNA vaccines available. These are not so widely available and you will need to contact WECHU for more information.

7. REPORT FROM SCHULICH:

Dr. Jacobs referred to his report which included several announcements.

Year 1 and 2 student integration into the hospital setting is going very well. Thank you to the hospital for their assistance with PPE etc.

An accredited CPD event on Prevention of Burnout will be provided by Drs. Ziter and Vandereeden on October 20, 2022.

8. FINANCIAL PRESENTATION (August 2022 Results):

Mr. McLeod reported.

Slide 2 – Financial Results – YTD August 2022:

- \$726,000 deficit for hospital operations year to date which is \$1,666 better than budget.
- The net deficit after building amortization is \$1,241,000 which is \$1,963 better than budget.

Slide 3 – COVID-19 Impact on Expenses:

- This slide shows the breakdown of \$10.4 million in COVID-19 expenses
- Unfunded COVID-19 expenses total \$1,303,000 due to
 - the wage differential for the Nursing Externs
 - 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 August
- We expect the \$217,000 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 \$4.7 million shortfall. Coded data is available to May so we are estimating volumes for June to August.
- \$1.1 million revenue loss in Patient Services revenue.
- \$351,000 revenue loss in Recoveries.

Slide 4 – Revenue:

- Base and one time funding is \$3.5 million favourable due to amounts that have been accrued for known COVID-19 reimbursements.
- Preferred Accommodation and Co-payment Revenue \$1,287,000 unfavourable due to the inability to bill for private and semi-private rooms assigned for infection control reasons.
- Patient Services Revenue \$2,012,000 favourable – relates to uninsured patient revenue from the Ministry which is paid at the interprovincial rate which is higher than the OHIP rate.

- Other Recoveries favourable \$993,000 – retail pharmacy revenues are offset by higher drug expenses

Slide 5 – Expenses:

- Salaries and Wages are \$82,000 unfavourable year to date. It should be noted that included in the actuals are \$1.6 million in COVID sick and isolation pay and \$2.4 million for nursing externs and \$1 million in screening costs. We would be favourable to budget if these were excluded.
- Medical/Surgical supplies are \$349,000 unfavourable due to increased use of PPE which is not funded beyond June 30, 2022
- Medical staff fee variance is largely attributable to temporary COVID-19 physician payments which are funded (\$2.1 million) with the remainder attributable to additional diagnostic volumes which are funded via OHIP billings (patient services revenue).
- Drugs \$110,000 unfavourable, additional drug expenses in retail pharmacies are offset by recoveries as noted previously
- Other supplies variance of \$762,000 with significant variances in the following categories:
 - legal fees
 - building and grounds maintenance and service contracts
 - patient transportation cost – in May, June and July the hospital was covering the cost of patient transports to Hotel Dieu, nursing and retirement homes in order to free up beds.
 - physician recruitment

MOVED by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Mr. D. Malian and **CARRIED**
THAT the October 6, 2022 Financial Presentation (as of August 31, 2022) be accepted.

9. CONSENT AGENDA:

MOVED by Mr. I. McLeod, **SECONDED** by Ms. L. Copat and **CARRIED**
THAT the report from the September 19, 2022 Finance/Audit & Resources Committee meetings be accepted.

10. CORRESPONDENCE/PRINTED MATTER:

- a) Media Report – FYI only.

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

None

12. NEW BUSINESS:

None

13. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
Thursday, November 3, 2022, 1700 hrs VIA: ZOOM

14. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, it was

MOVED by Ms. G. Isshak, **SECONDED** by Mr. P. Lachance and **CARRIED**

THAT the October 6, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 1745 hours.

Anthony Paniccia, Chair
Board of Directors

Dawn Sutherland
Recording Secretary/ds