



MINUTES of the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meeting held on **Thursday, February 3, 2022**, 17:00 hours, via ZOOM, live streamed on YouTube.

PRESENT VIA ZOOM:

Anthony Paniccia, Chair

Genevieve Isshak

Paul Lachance

Michael Lavoie

Penny Allen

Cynthia Bissonnette

Laura Copat

Dan Wilson

Dr. Laurie Freeman

Ian McLeod

Mary Dawson

Patricia France

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)

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

STAFF VIA ZOOM:

Executive Committee

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 January 6, 2022 Board meeting had been previously circulated.

MOVED by Mr. P. Lachance, **SECONDED** by Ms. C. Bissonnette and **CARRIED THAT** the minutes of the January 6, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be approved.

The Chair provided a couple of updates:

- Hats on for Healthcare – the 13th annual Hats on for Healthcare campaign will take place March 2 – 30, 2022. This year it is a virtual event to support WRH's mental health programs. All details are available on the website.
- February 1 – 7, 2022 is Eating Disorder Awareness week. The Bulimia Anorexia Nervosa Association (BANA) will be hosting a virtual event and running various educational events online to spread awareness, educate and inspire others to take action to support those impacted by eating disorders. More information can be found at <https://bana.ca/>.

4. REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO:

Mr. Musyj gave a verbal report accompanied by slides. The following are highlights from his report:

- i) Provincial snapshot and projections – the Ontario Science Advisory Table has put together a range of scenarios however it is difficult to predict due to Omicron and level of community immunity. Mr. Musyj referred to the example scenarios on slide 1. All example scenarios assume a moderate increase in contacts as of January 31, 2022 with the reopening of the economy.

Mr. Musyj also spoke to the adult inpatient COVID and med/surg census and projections explaining Ontario does not have flexibility in the system with respect to critical care beds, especially in a surge as compared to Michigan.

- ii) Directive #2 – a pause was put into place on January 5, 2022 based upon flex in the system. This created physical capacity in the hospital. Mr. Musyj advised there will be a gradual lifting of Directive #2 with a phased approach (Phases 1 through 4). Phase 1 allows the resumption of diagnostic imaging, cancer screening and scheduled ambulatory clinics at the discretion of individual hospitals. This does not include Day Surgery. There needs to be declining hospitalizations, reduced outbreaks and stabilized bed capacity before we can move to Phase 2, at which time we can do 70% of our 2019 surgery volumes. Phase 3 is 90% and then 100% or greater at Phase 4. Mr. Musyj acknowledged the amount of work the WRH team has done entering into Directive #2.
- iii) Swiss Cheese Model – we must continue with all interventions in order to reduce the risk of acquiring or spreading COVID-19.
- iv) Vaccine Effectiveness – unvaccinated people currently have a 6-fold higher risk of being in the hospital and a 12-fold higher risk of being in the ICU compared to those with 2 or 3 doses of the vaccine.
- v) Vaccine Data for W/E / Canada – Dr. Saad spoke to the safety and side effects of the MRNA vaccines and presented data for W/E as well as Canada.

75.6% of the W/E population are fully vaccinated. Since December 2020 – December 31, 2021, there have been 89 ER visits to WRH related to vaccinations however only 2 patients were admitted, one with pericarditis and one with myocarditis. Both individuals have now received 3 doses of the vaccine.

In Canada there have been 75,026,797 vaccine doses administered. Dr. Saad advised there has been 35,211 adverse events reported, or 1 in 2,131 people. As of January 21, 2022 there has been a total of 277 reports of death in Canada. Dr. Saad explained that although these deaths occurred after vaccination, they are not necessarily related to the vaccine. The data presented also included the AstraZeneca vaccine.

- vi) Antiviral and Antibody treatment – Dr. Saad reported. Windsor Regional Hospital has been approved to provide COVID-19 medications of monoclonal antibody and anti-viral medication to treat COVID-19 positive patients who meet very specific criteria established by the Ontario COVID-19 Science Advisory Table. There is currently a

limited supply of both medications. We have administered 16 doses to date of the monoclonal antibody medication. To date, we have not administered any Paxlovid. Dr. Saad advised there are a lot of drug interactions with Paxlovid such as blood pressure medication.

5. CNE REPORT

Ms. Riddell reported. This month's report focuses on the UNE program (Undergraduate Nurse Employee) as a follow up to the January report that touched on HHR strategies moving forward. Highlights are as follows:

- The UNE program is the most successful strategy WRH has implemented to date. The program was implemented early in the pandemic, March 2020 in order to bolster our HHR capacity. We expanded the program to also include Undergraduate Respiratory Therapy Employees, hiring RT students to assist WRH RTs with the increased demand for advanced respiratory support.
- This program has strengthened the solid partnerships with the University of Windsor and St. Clair College.
- We currently have 200 UNEs employed in every clinical area and also in COVID-specific areas such as the Assessment and Vaccination Centres.
- The Provincial Government initiated funding in early 2021 for an Extern Program to support implementation of this model at other hospitals. Ms. Riddell outlined the many benefits of the program. There is so much need to bolster our front-line providers. The WRH team would not be complete without the UNEs.

Please see the link to the video of some of the UNEs providing feedback on their experience: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/bykyq54mo84tk63/Video%20for%20Board%2020Feb.%203%2C%202022.MP4?dl=0> link for video.

6. REPORT FROM SCHULICH:

Dr. Jacobs reported the following:

- Applications are now being received for the Schulich UWindsor Opportunities for Research Excellence Program. This program has been in place since 2014 and will provide funding for Schulich's Windsor Campus undergraduate medical education students to undertake a research project under the supervision of a University Faculty member.
- Nominations for the 2022 Awards of Excellence are now open. The event will be held on April 13, 2022.
- CaRMS Match Day for the 4th year class is set for April 12, 2022. The Windsor Campus has 10 Family Medicine positions for round 1 and 2 positions in Psychiatry.

7. Financial Presentation – November 30, 2021

Ms. Allen reported.

Slide 2 – Financial Results – Hospital Operations

- \$6.4 million deficit for hospital operations year to date
- The net deficit after building amortization is \$7,657,000
- COVID-19 unfunded ineligible expenses total \$3,936 based on the current reimbursement rules

- COVID has resulted in non-ministry revenues being under budget by \$3.7 million
- Unearned Ministry volume funding being under budget by \$5.1 million. A year ago that number was \$8.6 million a significant improvement.
- Recent communications indicate that the Ministry will require year-end reconciliations and recovery of unearned volume revenues and that non-ministry revenue shortfalls will not be funded. However we expect the advocacy by the Ontario Hospital Association and the hospitals themselves will see a similar plan as last fiscal year to make hospitals whole and not be negatively impacted by the pandemic.

Slide 3 – COVID-19 Impact on Expenses

- This slide shows the breakdown of where the \$3.9 million year to date in extraordinary expenses, and \$3.7 million in lost revenues are impacting our financial statements.

Slide 4 – Revenue

- Base and one time funding is \$25 million favourable due to amounts that have been accrued for known COVID-19 reimbursements. These include the Q1 & Q2 incremental expenses, temporary physician payments, vaccination and assessment centre funding, nursing extern funding and screening costs.
- Ministry drug reimbursements (for high cost drugs) favourable \$1,397,000 but these are offset by higher drug expenses.
- Patient Services Revenue \$2,449,000 favourable – relates to uninsured patient revenue from the Ministry and higher diagnostic revenues which are offset by higher medical staff remuneration expense
- Other Recoveries favourable \$1,567,000 – retail pharmacy revenues are offset by higher drug expenses

Slide 5 - Expenses

- \$32 million year to date unfavourable variance in expenses. The majority of these expenses are COVID-19-related and are confirmed or eligible for funding
- Medical/Surgical supplies are \$3,275,000 unfavourable due to increased use of PPE, depletion of donated PPE supplies and volume increases as procedure backlogs are addressed
- Drugs \$1.7 unfavourable, systemic and renal drugs are funded by Ontario Health and additional drug expenses in retail pharmacies are offset by recoveries as noted previously
- Other supplies variance of \$10.5 million and includes:
 - \$3,561,000 in additional e-Volve HIS project costs due to COVID-19 delays, which have been funded by the Ministry
 - \$3,456,000 for referred out vaccination centre expenses (City of Windsor and County of Essex EMS) also fully funded
 - \$1,940,000 for referred out cataract procedures which are fully funded

MOVED by Ms. P. Allen, **SECONDED** by Mr. I. McLeod and **CARRIED**
THAT the February 3, 2022 Financial Presentation (as of December 31, 2021) be accepted.

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

MOVED by Ms. P. Allen, **SECONDED** by Mr. P. Lachance and **CARRIED**
THAT the report from the January 24, 2022 Finance/Audit & Resources Committee meeting be accepted.

9. CORRESPONDENCE/PRINTED MATTER:

a) Media Report – FYI only.

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

None

11. NEW BUSINESS:

None

12. DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Thursday, March 3, 2022, 1700 hrs VIA: ZOOM

13. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to discuss, it was
MOVED by Ms. P. France, **SECONDED** by Dr. L. Freeman and **CARRIED**
THAT the February 3, 2022 Board of Directors meeting be adjourned at 1745 hours.

Anthony Paniccia, Chair
Board of Directors
/ds

Dawn Sutherland
Recording Secretary