



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
THE METROHEALTH SYSTEM

June 23, 2021

Committee Members Present: Ms. Whiting, Mr. Hairston, Mr. Monnolly, Dr. Silvers

Other Trustees: Ms. Chappell, Ms. Dee, Mr. Hurwitz, Ms. Kirk (Zoom)

Staff Present: Dr. Boutros, Dr. Boulanger, Dr. Chehade, Ms. Jacono, Mr. Nevel,  
Mr. Phillips, Ms. Platten, Ms. Rajki, Mr. Richmond, Mr. Stern

Ms. Whiting called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The following minutes were approved as submitted:

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2021;  
Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2021;  
Community Engagement Committee Minutes of April 21, 2021; and  
Legal and Government Relations Committee Minutes of March 17, 2021.

**2. Information Items**

Dr. Boutros presented a video just released by America's Essential Hospitals discussing the role of America's Essential Hospitals in Healthcare, noting that approximately 40 years ago five hospitals formed a national association of public hospitals to create a collaborative entity for hospitals united by a mission of healthcare for everyone. He stated that more public support is needed by hospitals struggling to keep doors open that treat patients with little or no financial means, noting that Medicare and Medicaid did not cover half of the targeted population which is extending services to the vulnerable populations in the entire community and not just the poor. America's Essential Hospitals is a group that unites mission driven hospitals in one voice to understand challenges faced by safety net hospitals. The National Association of Public Hospitals and Health Systems was formed to unite and assist safety net hospitals with solutions to address vulnerable population health issues and gross disparities in health care over time and, as advancing equity for patients is the larger purpose, America's Essential Hospitals will represent its members nationally for fighting for marginalized people and underserved communities. Dr. Boutros reminded the Board that MetroHealth collaborated in forming the Front Line Alliance and he was happy to announce that America's Essential Hospitals will be joining MetroHealth, the Front Line Alliance, and the American Hospital Association to create a

unique designation and making a proposal to the federal government to protect hospitals such as MetroHealth, noting that this should happen within the next 12 months.

#### Human Resources Diversity Report – Alan Nevel

Mr. Nevel began his report with an update on the Crain's Cleveland Business Excellence in Human Resources award that is given annually and stated in 2020 MetroHealth was a finalist; he was happy to announce that MetroHealth won the Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Award for this year and it will be publicly announced on August 2, 2021. The people in the Board Room and the other 7,800 members of the MetroHealth family that assisted in obtaining this award were recognized on the continued venture of our quest for excellence.

Mr. Nevel shared a few slides from the Diversity Committee meeting held on May 12, 2021 noting that MetroHealth is part of a health care sector collaborative consisting of all the regional hospitals coming together to address workforce gaps and needs of all hospitals in terms of upscaling the community in preparation for individuals to enter into health careers that enable them to have a family sustaining wage and career path into health care. With respect to developing today's workforce, the review began with looking at roles that include high turnover and hard to fill positions such as Environmental Services, Food Services, Central Sterile Processing, and Nursing Assistants, noting there is a partnership between all of the health care institutions along with the community and work force agencies towards employment and projecting a goal to build a pipeline of talent. This first program will begin in August 2021 with the goal to hire at least 20 people each year out of approximately 100 participants; individuals will be taken through a boot camp type of experience to provide them with the skills to be able to successfully compete for roles in the workforce at MetroHealth. For individuals not ready for the boot camp type of experience, the Tri-C and MetroHealth Access Center will come into play along with programs offered by the Institute for H.O.P.E. On June 22, 2021 the third class of students celebrated their graduation within the Lincoln West School of Science and Health, and with that event MetroHealth realized that investing in the future of our youth in the community in exposure to health care careers will pay off in the long term. Tiffany Short, Director of Culture and Organizational Effectiveness, is leading the program exposing our youth around these health care careers.

Dr. Boulanger was excited to announce that Dr. Charles Modlin will be joining MetroHealth in August; Dr. Modlin has been a staff urologist at the Cleveland Clinic since the mid-1990s, completed his training at Northwestern University in Chicago and his six-year residency in urological surgery at New York University, and is the Director of Minority Health at the Cleveland Clinic. As well as being a Urologist at MetroHealth, Dr. Modlin will also be the Medical Director for a variety of matters for Inclusion, Diversity and Equity with a particular interest in health disparities.

Dr. Boutros announced that Dr. Modlin's skill set during the year will culminate to MetroHealth's Juneteenth celebration in Cleveland over the next several years. The Juneteenth event last weekend was well attended and was a great success for the two-week planning and stated an average of 2,000 people attended throughout the entire day on Mall C. The numbers are expected to increase to approximately 5,000 to 6,000 next year and working to moving the event to the Port known as the MetroHealth Cleveland Juneteenth Freedom Fest.

### 3. Recommendation/Resolutions Approvals

- A. Recommendation to the President and Chief Executive Officer of The MetroHealth System for Capital Expenditures for the Transformation Project

Dr. Boutros reviewed that the budget approved by the Board overall for the Transformation was approximately \$87 million for furniture, fixtures, IT technologies, artwork; this resolution was already presented to the Board and appropriate departments and permits management to contract the subcontractors to purchase all the necessary support not going above the \$87 million. There were no questions.

- B. Recommendation to the President and Chief Executive Officer of The MetroHealth System for the Continued Engagement of Kaufman Hall as the System's Financial Advisor for Transformation

Mr. Richmond stated that Kaufman Hall has been MetroHealth's financial advisor since participating in the bond financing in 2017. MetroHealth now has an opportunity to reduce the overall cost to capital associated with the Brecksville facility which could equate to approximately \$1 million per year; Kaufman Hall is engaged to assist and to review different options associated with the property over the next several months. The \$175,000 related to the Brecksville facility will be broken into two components: reviewing feasibility and, if feasible, would move to execution of the transaction, first coming before the Board of Trustees for approval. There were no questions.

- C. Recommendation to the President and Chief Executive Officer of The MetroHealth System for the Purchase of Workers' Compensation Insurance

Dr. Boutros reviewed the purchase for MetroHealth's workers' compensation insurance policy and stated that he, together with Laura McBride, would like to recommend that the System continue to purchase the insurance through Willis Towers Watson with an annual premium of \$773,000 and, for the claims in excess of \$1.25 million with limits of \$500,000,000 would be provided for annual premiums longer for a total workers' compensation policy of approximately \$1 million. There were no questions.

- D. Recommendation to the President and Chief Executive Officer of The MetroHealth System for Capital Improvements and Engagement of Turner Construction Company for a Main Campus Transformation Enabling Project

Dr. Boutros reviewed the recommendation and indicated that a design build is needed in order to proceed with the construction of the parking garage prior to the opening of the Glick Pavilion and the process has begun in sending out for different bids. There were no questions.

There being no further questions with respect to all four above-mentioned recommendations, the Committee unanimously approved the recommendations for full Board action.

Ms. Whiting indicated that there are matters to be considered at this meeting involving discussions of trade secrets and matters required to be kept confidential by law. Upon unanimous roll call vote, the Committee went into Executive Session to discuss such matters at 4:30 p.m.

Following Executive Session, the meeting reconvened in open session at 5:00 p.m.

There being no further business to bring before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ms. Vanessa L. Whiting  
Chair