

The MetroHealth System Board of Trustees

FULL BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

5:00 – 7:00 pm

The MetroHealth System Board Room K-107

Meeting Minutes

Present: John Corlett-I, Maureen Dee-I, John Hairston-R, John Moss-I, JB Silvers-I, E. Harry Walker, M.D.-I¹

Staff: Airica Steed, Ed.D,-I, Anise Ardelt, M.D., Ph.D-I Laura Black-I, Richard Blinkhorn, M.D.,-I, Kate Brown-I, Nabil Chehade, M.D.-I, Alfred Connors, M.D.-I, Joe Frolik-I, Geoff Himes-I, Olusegun Ishmael, M.D.,-I, Julie Jacono-R, Natalie Joseph, M.D.-I, Melissa Kline-I, William Lewis, M.D.,-I, Laura McBride-R, Alan Nevel-I, Holly Perzy, M.D.-I, Alison Poullos-I, Christine Alexander-Rager, M.D.-I, Sonja Rajki-I, Deb Southerington-I, David Stepnick-R, Todd Walker-I, Donald Wiper, M.D.-R, Adam Winston-I

Guests: Jasmine Boutros-R, Suzanne Aral-Boutros-R, Gail Long-I, Robert Shapiro-R, Sabrina Roberts-I, Mark Wallach-R

Dr. Walker called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm, in accordance with Section 339.02(K) of the Ohio Revised Code with a quorum present.

(The minutes are written in a format conforming to the printed meeting agenda for the convenience of correlation, recognizing that some of the items were discussed out of sequence.)

Dr. Walker called the meeting to order and shared a video regarding the MetroHealth Nurse Partnership.

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 24, 2023, regular Board Meeting and May 26, 2023, Special Board Meeting were unanimously approved as submitted. RESOLUTION NO. 19576

II. Medical Staff Report

Dr. Alexander related recent activities of the medical staff including a summer event and Mr. Himes, interim CFO, providing a financial update at the June 27, 2023, Medical Staff

¹ I-In-person, R-Remote

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meeting. She reported that the new Medical Staff Member at Large to the MEC is Dr. Ellen Gelles and thanked outgoing Member at Large, Dr. Rob Pollard, for his service.

Dr. Alexander also reported that one of the MEC's newest committees is working on Point of Care Ultrasound to unify efforts to provide this important service across the System. The committee formed is focusing on training and education, credentialing, maintenance of images, billing, and documentation.

Dr. Alexander shared information about the graduating residency class. She related that 20 residents and fellows will be staying at MetroHealth and three who left for fellowships will be returning as faculty. In looking back over last year, 55 medical staff members have been hired, about 20% of them received their training with MetroHealth. In response to questions, Dr. Alexander said the team will be taking a deeper dive into the data to work on improving our ability to retain provider that train at MetroHealth.

Lastly, Dr. Alexander reported that Dr. Kelly Gibson, Director, Division of Maternal Fetal Medicine was awarded \$2.5M in continued funding to participate as one of only a few selected institutions from across the country, in the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute in Child Health and Human Development's Maternal Fetal Medicine Units (MFMU) Research Network. She also noted that General Dentistry and Oral Surgery are now unified under the Department of Dental Medicine as a standalone department.

Dr. Walker asked for a motion to approve the Medical Staff Appointments, Reappointments and MEC Minutes from May 2023. The Board unanimously approved the same via RESOLUTION 19573.

V. Information Items

A. Update on Strategic Planning Process 2024

Dr. Walker informed the Board that with the many changes during COVID and post COVID, he and Dr. Steed agreed it was appropriate to start another strategic planning process in 2024. Dr. Steed added that this next strategic planning process will build on the existing strategic plan and provides an opportunity for full engagement of all constituents. Funds will be earmarked for consultative support to assist in the navigation of this process with full engagement of the Board of Trustees, Medical Staff and decision leaders, and the community.

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B. Update on Executive Searches

Dr. Steed informed the group of the updates on executive position searches with two of four executive leadership roles filled. Dalph Watson, J.D., will be the new Chief People Officer. Ms. Watson will lead our “people first” strategy and human resources functions for the organization and will start on July 24, 2023. Ms. Watson has worked in both the public and private sectors and comes to us more recently from Walmart Health. Ms. Watson served as the Chief Human Resources Officer for the City of Detroit and has a very detailed background in human resources for public entities.

Dr. Richard Blinkhorn who has served in an interim role of Chief Clinical and Academic Officer, has been appointed as our Chief Physician Executive and Clinical Officer. He will be leading the entire provider and clinical enterprise which also encompasses the Academic Officer function. Dr. Blinkhorn has been with the organization for many years and was choice to assist in reaching the System’s goals, as the need for stability and continuity are significant as we move forward.

Dr. Steed highlighted the promotion of two other leaders. Robert Douglas Bruce, M.D. was promoted from Physician Executive in Primary Care to the position of Chief Clinical Integration Officer and John Chae, M.D. was promoted from Vice President of Research and Sponsored Program to Chief Academic Officer with a related appointment as the System’s Senior Associate Dean for Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, both promotions are positioned under Dr. Blinkhorn’s leadership to continue the elevation and the priority of our academic and research mission, which are critical to the success of The MetroHealth System.

Dr. Steed related that the searches for the Senior Vice President for Campus Transformation and Facilities and Chief Financial Officer are still under way.

VI. Executive Session

Dr. Walker asked for a motion to recess into executive session to discuss hospital trade secrets as defined by ORC 1333.61; to conference with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are subject to pending or imminent court action; and to consider the appointment, employment, or compensation of a public employee. Mr. Hairston made a motion and Mr. Corlett seconded. The Board held a roll call vote with all Trustees in attendance voting to approve the motion to go into executive session for the purposes stated by Dr. Walker.

Members of the public were excused. The Board went into executive session to discuss the identified matters at 6:26 pm.

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Following the executive session, the meeting reconvened in open session at approximately 9:05 pm.

There being no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

THE METROHEALTH SYSTEM

E. Harry Walker, MD, Chairperson

NEXT MEETING: **Wednesday, August 23, 2023**
 5:00 – 7:00 pm
 The MetroHealth Board Room (K-107) or via Zoom