

The MetroHealth System Board of Trustees

AUDIT AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, June 11, 2025

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

MetroHealth Board Room K-107 and Virtual

Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present:	Sharon Dumas-I, Artis Arnold-R, John Moss-I
Other Trustees Present:	John Corlett-R, Michael Summers-I, E. Harry Walker, M.D.-I, Ronald Dziedzicki-I
Staff Present:	Christine Alexander-Rager, M.D.-I, Robin Barre-I, Chris Briddell-I, Phillip Brooks-R, Kim Cunningham-R, David Fiser-I, Joseph Golob, M.D.-I, William Lewis-I, Sarah Partington-I, Allison Poullos-I, Amanda Roe-I, Tamiyka Rose-I, Deborah Southerington-I, Ronald Walker-I, James Wellons-I, Patrick Woods-I
Invited Guests:	Hayley Oakes (Grant Thornton)
Other Guests:	Guests not invited by the Board of Trustees are not listed as they are considered members of the audience, and some were not appropriately identified.

Ms. Dumas called the meeting to order at 11:00 am, 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.)

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March 26, 2025 Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

II. Information Items

A. Ethics & Compliance Update – C. Briddell / S. Partington

Ms. Dumas introduced Chris Briddell, SVP Chief Ethics Risk & Compliance Officer and Sarah Partington, Executive Director of Ethics & Compliance, to discuss ethics and compliance activities and updates.



The MetroHealth System Board of Trustees

Ms. Partington directed the Committee's attention to the compliance dashboard, which detailed achieved metrics such as the progress of the departmental work plan, the number of System policies reviewed and updated in the past 12 months, and the MetroHealth Ethics Line (MEL) 2025 Q1 data. A breakdown of MEL cases for Q1 2025, with comparative data from the previous three quarters, showed 179 opened cases and 216 closed cases, which encompassed 70 inquiries and 146 allegations. The average time to close a case was 38 days, which is significantly below the national average of 45 days. The MEL system allows reporters to submit information anonymously while retaining the ability to check the case status or provide additional information without revealing their identity. However, cases originating from anonymous reports can take longer to investigate and close once it is determined that an investigation is warranted.

Next, an overview of the four main departmental goals for ethics and compliance was provided. One of the primary goals is to "foster the integrity integration of an applicable culture". Under this goal, the department has completed a new compliance guidebook, which consolidates all compliance tips into a single, accessible "one-stop shop" document for employees. The department also continuously monitors regulatory changes and their potential impact on the System. A notable achievement in this area is the revision of the Regulators Process, which is a joint effort with the Government Relations and Legal departments that has expanded into a working group, including key departments from across the System. A new tool is currently being piloted to track the activities of this committee and how information is disseminated to subject-matter experts.

Lastly, the Privacy team is actively preparing for the "Campus Transformation 2.0" initiative by delivering specialized training and participating in workgroups related to the move to the new outpatient health center. Another major goal is to maximize the effective use of data, technology, and external resources, which involves using the operational dashboard to monitor trends and adjust audit activities accordingly. The Privacy team is also leveraging the Fair Warning system to monitor for and investigate potential issues as needed.

B. Internal Audit Program Goals – R. Barre / H. Oakes (Grant Thornton)

Ms. Dumas introduced Robin Barre, Executive Director of Internal Audit Services, and Hayley Oakes from Grant Thornton to discuss internal audit activities and updates. Ms. Barre directed the Committee's attention to the Internal Audit



The MetroHealth System Board of Trustees

department's 2025 goals, which emphasize stabilizing and revitalizing the function in alignment with the newly established Global Standards issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA). The four primary goals aim to enhance the resilience and forward-looking capabilities of the function. Ms. Barre expressed optimism about achieving these goals by the end of the year and building a resilient, agile, and forward-looking function for the System.

III. Executive Session

Ms. Dumas asked for a motion to move into executive session to discuss hospital trade secrets as defined by ORC 1333.61. Mr. Moss made the motion and Dr. Walker seconded. Upon unanimous roll call vote, the Committee went into executive session to discuss such matters stated by Ms. Dumas. Members of the public were excused, and the Committee went into executive session to discuss the identified matters at 11:09 am.

Following the executive session, the meeting reconvened in open session at approximately 12:55 pm and welcomed back the public virtually and those members of the public who remained in-person.

IV. Committee Approvals

A. Approval of the MetroHealth System Internal Audit Plan

Ms. Dumas called a motion for a voice vote for the approval of the recommended additions to the 2025 Internal Audit Plan, which was given, seconded, and unanimously approved.

There being no other business to bring before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:57pm.

THE METROHEALTH SYSTEM

Sharon Dumas
Chairperson, Audit & Compliance
Committee

