The MetroHealth System Board of Trustees

BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, May 27, 2026
3:00pm - 5:30pm
MetroHealth Board Room (K107) / Virtual

Meeting Minutes

Trustees: Artis Arnold, III-I, James Campbell, M.D.-I, John Corlett-I, Ronald Dziedzicki-I, Dolores (Lola) Garcia-I, Gail Long-I, Nancy Mendez-I, John Moss-I, Michael Summers-I, E. Harry Walker, M.D.-I[1]

Staff: Christine Alexander-Rager, M.D.-I, James Bicak-I, Kate Brown-I, Robert (Doug) Bruce, M.D.-I, John Chae, M.D.-R, Cindy Gallespie-I, Joseph Golob, M.D.-I, Dr. Candy Mori-I, Kate Nagel-I, Sarah Partington-I, Allison Poulios-I, Jeff Rooney-I, Tamiyka Rose-I, Aparna Roy, M.D.-I, Deborah Southerington-I, David Stepnick, M.D.-I, Joseph Tagliaferro, M.D.-I, James Wellons-I[1]

Invited Guests: None

Other Guests: Guests not personally invited to the meeting by the Board Chair are not listed as they are members of the public and some were not appropriately identified.

Dr. Walker called the meeting to order at 3:05pm, 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.)

At the onset of the meeting, Dr. Walker introduced and welcomed newly appointed members to the Board, Dr. James Campbell and Gail Long. Remarks were made acknowledging the experience and prior contributions of the new members, including professional and community engagement, and expressing confidence in their future contributions to Board deliberations and governance.

I. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Walker requested a motion to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2026 meeting as presented, which was given, seconded, and approved by unanimous vote. RESOLUTION NO. 19748

[1] I-In-person, R-Remote

II. Mission Moment

Dr. Walker invited Dr. Alexander-Rager to present the Mission Moment video, focused on the experience of a patient undergoing significant physical and emotional trauma following the loss of mobility. The narrative described the patient's initial feelings of despair and loss of purpose, followed by a transformative interaction with a peer support specialist who had experienced a similar life event. Through shared lived experience and empathetic engagement, the peer supporter was able to provide emotional reassurance, foster hope, and encourage active participation in recovery. The patient described a shift from hopelessness to a renewed sense of possibility, illustrating the broader role of peer support services in enhancing overall patient outcomes.

III. Committee Reports

A. Strategy Committee – A. Arnold

Strategy Committee Chair, Mr. Arnold, reported that the Committee held a virtual meeting on May 13, 2026. During the meeting, the Committee approved minutes from its February meeting and discussed proposed revisions to the Strategy Committee Charter, which have been forwarded to the Governance Committee for further review. The Committee then entered executive session, during which discussions included updates on primary care marketing, a refresh of the MetroHealth 2030 strategic plan, and government relations initiatives, including trauma-related efforts.

B. Quality, Safety & Experience Committee – R. Dziedzicki

Quality, Safety & Experience Committee Chair, Mr. Dziedzicki, reported that the Committee met earlier in the day. The meeting began with a patient experience story, followed by a review of the antibiotic stewardship program in compliance with regulatory requirements. Presentations were provided regarding ongoing initiatives aimed at improving quality of care, reducing costs, and enhancing patient outcomes. An annual nursing quality update was also presented, addressing both nurse-sensitive and non-nurse-sensitive indicators and their impact on patient care. The Committee subsequently entered executive session, where it reviewed the annual quality update, supplemental payment programs tied to performance, system goal performance metrics, and progress toward a "Quality First" initiative. Additional updates were received concerning recent regulatory surveys and pending legal matters. The Committee returned to open session and adjourned with no additional business.

C. Finance Committee – J. Moss

Finance Committee Chair, Mr. Moss reported on the Finance Committee meeting held earlier in the day. The Committee reviewed financial performance for April 2026. Mr. Moss reported that while certain patient volume metrics, including discharges, observation cases, emergency and outpatient visits were below budget, overall financial performance reflected improvement due to supplemental funding. Specifically, the System reported a positive income relative to a budgeted loss and a favorable variance compared to the prior year. The Committee also spent a portion of its meeting in executive session discussing supplemental payment matters.

IV. President and CEO's Report – C. Alexander-Rager, MD

Dr. Alexander-Rager presented brief highlights from the written President and CEO's report. Dr. Alexander-Rager welcomed the newly appointed Board members and noted that the Board was at full membership. The President & CEO's report highlighted recent financial improvements and a corresponding decision to implement wage adjustments for employees, reflecting reinvestment in the workforce. Additional remarks included notice of forthcoming updates regarding the Outpatient Health Center opening timeline and a summary of a recent meeting with Secretary Kennedy along with other hospital CEO's to discuss healthcare delivery models emphasizing prevention and value-based care.

V. Medical Staff Report

Dr. Walker introduced Dr. Joseph Tagliaferro to present the medical staff report. The Medical Staff report included updates on the ongoing election for President-Elect of the Medical Staff, with results to be announced in June 2026, for a term beginning July 1, 2026. The Board was informed of planned adjustments to Medical Staff meeting scheduling to improve attendance and engagement. Dr. Tagliaferro also noted the forthcoming results of a physician burnout survey, which would be shared with the Board upon receipt. Dr. Walker requested a motion to approve the Medical Staff Providers Appointments, Actions and Reappointments for April 2026, which was given, seconded and unanimously approved. RESOLUTION NO. 19749

VI. Executive Session

Dr. Walker asked for a motion to move into executive session to discuss hospital trade secrets as defined by ORC 1333.61; and to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion, or compensation of a public employee, or the investigation of charges or complaints against a public official, and to conference with the public body's attorney to discuss disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court as defined by ORC 121.22(G). Mr. Mendez made a motion and Mr. Moss 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, and the Board went into executive session to discuss the identified matters at approximately 3:21pm.

Return to Open Meeting

Following the executive session, the meeting reconvened in open session at approximately 4:13 pm and welcomed back the public virtually and those members of the public who remained in-person.

With no further business to bring before the Board, the meeting adjourned at approximately 4:14pm.

NEXT MEETING: **Wednesday, June 24, 2026 – 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm**
MetroHealth Board Room (K107) and Virtual

Respectfully Submitted,

E. Harry Walker, MD, Chairperson
Board of Trustees

I, the undersigned Corporate Secretary of The MetroHealth System, hereby certify that the foregoing is the text of the minutes adopted by the Board of Trustees of The MetroHealth System at a meeting held on June 24, 2026 , at which a quorum was present.

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James A. Wellons, Esq.
Corporate Secretary