



Board of Directors Regular Board Meeting
January 26, 2022
MINUTES

Present: Beth Fairfield ©, Lorraine Gauthier Stromberg, VC; Sally Burns, Jeremy Dickson, Stacey O’Sullivan, Tom Hainey, Jorge VanSlyke, CEO; Jennifer Learning, CNO; Brittany Beyak-Freamo, CFO, Dr. Sara Van Der Loo, COS

Guest: Mike McKinnon, Atikokan Progress

Regrets: Stacey Wood

Recorder: Bonnie Clairmont Approved: Feb. 23/22

	Action Req’d/Date
<p>1.1 Call to Order B. Fairfield called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.</p> <p>1.2 Declaration of Conflict of Interest - None declared.</p>	
<p>1.3 Agenda The agenda was reviewed and accepted as presented.</p> <p>MOTION: S. Burns/L. Gauthier Stromberg “That the Board approve the agenda of January 26, 2022 as presented.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-001</p>	
<p>2. Consent Agenda The Regular Board Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2021 were reviewed and accepted as presented.</p> <p>S. Burns asked about the hospital doing swabs for the public that are travelling. J. Learning responded that we can and will do. A plan has been set up to facilitate this request. It has been delayed due to the Covid Assessment Centre being swamped with Omicron testing.</p> <p>MOTION: S. O’Sullivan/T. Hainey “That the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-002</p>	
<p>3. Good News Story/Quality Improvement Highlight: J. VanSlyke reflected on how very fortunate we were with dealing with Covid-19 in our hospital. Two years ago, we had no idea what to expect or any idea of the impact, or how we could accommodate the needs. We planned for the worst, and fortunately didn’t have to implement. It was a stressful time for all. Our concern now is do we have the staff to continue offering services.</p>	
<p>4. Reports – Provided in January 26, 2022 agenda package.</p>	

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<p>4.1 Report from Board Chair: B. Fairfield shared that it was a quiet month for the chair as there were no meetings or external correspondence received since the last board meeting. She had sent an email to J. Logozzo indicating preferences for professional learning (cybersecurity, Health and Human Resources and risk management) which all board members are invited to attend. B. Fairfield extended a thank you to the AGH staff for their continued commitment and service to our community during this prolonged unprecedented time.</p> <p>4.2 Chief Executive Officer Report by J. VanSlyke:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Rainy River District Ontario Health Team:</u> Operations team now hired: J. Kabel, Executive Lead; A. Roy Communications Coordinator and S. Sinclair, IT/Digital Health Coordinator. • <u>NW Regional Integrated Care Working Group:</u> Met on January 10, 2022 to debrief on community-level emerging OHT co-design session. A North West Region expression of interest has been drafted. The working group and system partners continue to aim for full approval of the North West OHT model by March 2022. Currently there are only two OHTs in Northwestern Ontario, the All Nations OHT out of Kenora and the Rainy River District. • <u>NW Regional CEO Group:</u> Regular meetings around Covid-19 wave five challenges/protocols/directives. Key priority areas are Health and Human Resources, Health Information System Renewal, Mental Health and Addictions. Regional Pharmacy is an on-going initiative. AGH contributes to the Small Hospital Transformation Fund that covers the travel nurse expenses. • <u>Regional Health and Human Resources (HHR) Task Force:</u> HHR shortage is at every local, regional and provincial table. Work in on-going to narrow down the scope and target priorities. • <u>Small Rural and Northern Provincial Leadership Council:</u> Group met on January 24th. Discussion around advocating for over 1% increase, especially for small hospitals. Other issues discussed were physician shortage, HIS renewal cost and HHR shortage. • <u>Kenora-Rainy River Regional Lab Program:</u> Status quo from last update. Continue to prepare for succession of Medical Director; exploring a regional model that includes Thunder Bay to support the NW lab. <p><i>Pandemic Update:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closely monitoring staffing levels – currently still manageable. • All staff are rapid testing every 48 hours. Test available through Ontario Health • Booster shots are now mandatory for all employees. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition of outbreak has changed – based on evidence of transmission in the hospital. Outbreak is declared by Northwestern Health Unit. • Essential visitors only for LTC and Acute Care • Staff burn-out is an on-going issue. We are supporting time off. <p>Operational Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AGH has taken on the physician recruitment role. • Unifor bargaining has been deferred to allow hospitals to deal with 5th wave. • We have submitted an application for 22 new LTC beds to the Ministry. • We still haven't received any word on our application for four supportive addiction treatment beds. • Sent out public communication on possible service reduction or closure of ER based on staffing. • Managers are preparing for staff annual performance appraisals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>HR Staffing Changes:</u> The hospital welcomed new staff: Krys Cain, IT; Chelsey Rusnick, HR Coordinator; Tanya Ross, Admin Support, Community Counselling; Brianna Coulson, .5 payroll/Accounts payable; Counsellor at Community Counselling hired pending receipt of professional registration; Main Lobby and ECW screeners and casual housekeeper. J. VanSlyke will directly manage Community Counselling in the interim. <p><u>Chief Nursing Officer Report by J. Learning</u></p> <p><i>Nursing:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Covid Assessment Centre has been very busy doing lots of swabs for those that qualify. • Patti-Ann James was hired as an assistant to the Covid Assessment Centre and will conduct rapid antigen tests for visitors/contractors entering the Acute wing. • We have a 4th year Lakehead University student doing a four- week placement at the hospital. • Busy preparing for staff performance evaluations • Working on updating Covid policies. This is an on-going learning process. • We had a number of staff off the first part of the month which were Covid related which caused some service delays. • Teresa Hilton was hired as an assistant to CNO and is working on a number of projects. • We hope to begin Chemo here in mid-March. We are waiting on Thunder Bay to fix their chemo fan. C. Maki has been trained and will deliver chemo here. • J. Learning sits on the Small Rural Hospital Table that is working on Health Human Resources on Ontario. 	

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<p><u>Chief Financial Officer Report by B. Beyak-Freamo</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial review up to December, 2021 to be done at Finance meeting following regular board meeting. • B. Beyak-Freamo has been busy with the hiring of new staff (listed above). • Ruth Sportak became the housekeeping/laundry lead hand back in July and is doing amazing. We just hired another casual housekeeper. • Maintenance continues to be busy as ever as they deal with the recent snowfalls. • We were approved to use some of our HIRF money this year to address our sewage pump and piping concerns. RVI is doing the design on this so we can get it underway. We have three years to complete this project. • The HVAC project (ICIP) is coming along and potential contractors did a site visit on January 25th. • Stores and Procurement continue to be busy with keeping up with ordering and tracking PPE, rapid antigen tests and other Covid related purchases. We just purchased 10 additional heap filters to be distributed around the hospital. <p><u>AGH Foundation Report by B. Beyak-Freamo</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 50/50 raffle has concluded after the December draw. The total earned in revenue was approximately \$146,000. The cost to run the lottery was high so the net profit from this campaign was \$63,000. • The Christmas campaign brought in a total of \$13,690 at the end of December (a few donations also came in January). This money is going towards purchasing a Cellavision for the lab. • Other items that the Foundation has purchased for AGH this year are: ECW stove, flowers for gazebo area, shed for ECW bike, projector and screen for ECW, OTN laptop, cardiac monitor for the ER, Rehab upright bike, Rehab treadmill, GeneXpert for the lab and a tub and lift for the Extended Care Wing. • The Foundation has also committed to purchase: Cellavision (lab), Sit to Stand Trainer, platform walker, vital signs machine and weight scale for cardiac patients for the Rehab department. <p><u>Chief of Staff Report by Dr. S. Van Der Loo</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is lots of activity and we have been busy ensuring we have the needed Covid medicines on hand. There is a process in place that we are following. • The regional Chief of Staff meetings have mostly been Covid related and discussing a regional approach to physician/nursing shortages and closres of services/ERs. • T. Hainey asked about the physician status. Dr. Van Der Loo shared that we have one physician going on maternity leave, two that have recently left with no new prospects and the possibility of another physician leaving. 	

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<p><u>Director of Care, ECW Report – Reported by J. VanSlyke for S. Wood</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Residents that wanted received their 3rd vaccine (booster) • ECW is doing well handling all of the directive changes coming from the Ministry. Families are kept up to date and are accepting of changes. • Currently each resident is allowed two essential care partners to visit. • We need to hire screeners for the ECW doors to conduct rapid antigen testing for all visitors. • We have discontinued volunteers for now. • We continue to advertise for PSW staff. <p>4.3 3rd Quarter Scorecard: Deferred.</p> <p>MOTION: J. Dickson/S/ Burns “That the Board approve all reports as presented.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-003</p>	
<p>5. <u>New Business:</u> No new business to be discussed.</p> <p>6. In-Camera Session</p> <p>MOTION: S. Burns/S. O’Sullivan “That the Board moves to an in-camera session of the meeting at 5:39 pm.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-004</p> <p>7. Return to Open Session</p> <p>MOTION: S. Burns/J. Dickson “That the Board returns to open session of the meeting at 7:22 pm.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-005</p> <p>MOTION: L. Gauthier Stromberg/J. Dickson “That the In-Camera Agenda (reviewed In-Camera) of January 26, 2022 be approved as presented.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-006</p> <p>MOTION: S. O’Sullivan/J. Dickson “That the Consent Agenda (reviewed In-Camera) including the In-Camera Minutes of October 27, 2021, Special Meeting of December 1, 2021 and MAC Meeting Minutes of November 17, December 15, 2021 and January 19, 2022 be approved as presented.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-007</p> <p>Credentialing of Nurse Practitioners</p> <p>MOTION: S. Burns/T. Hainey “That Nurse Practitioners Leah Galusha and Laura Hendren be approved to work at the hospital (Emergency Department) once credentialing criteria has been met.”</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED 2022-008</p>	

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<p>Credentialing (from November 17 and December 15, 2021 Medical Advisory Committee Meeting)</p> <p>MOTION: T. Hailey/J. Dickson “That the list of professional staff, as presented, be approved for appointment and re-appointment for the remainder of the calendar year 2021 or 2022.” CARRIED 2022-009</p>	
<p>7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held via Zoom on Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 5 pm.</p>	
<p>8. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p> <p>With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm on a motion by S. O’Sullivan/T. Hailey. CARRIED 2022-010</p>	
<p>The Board and CEO returned to an in-camera meeting following the regular meeting to discuss risk reports.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Beth Fairfield, Board Chair</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Jorge VanSlyke, CEO</p>	