

Regional Health Authority B HORIZON HEALTH NETWORK

Minutes of meeting

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors held on Thursday, January 24, 2013 beginning at 4:00 p.m. at the Delta Fredericton.

Participating: W. David Ferguson (Chair), Linda Aitken, François Beaulieu, Mike Coster, Jo-Ann Fellows, Linda Forestell, Dr. Erik Klein, John McKay, Michael McCoombs, Kathleen McMullen, Jane Mitton-MacLean, Chief Candice Paul, Mary Schryer, Kay Simonds, Donald J. Peters, Dr. Tom Barry, Danica Wallace, Jeff Carter, Michael Chisholm, Jean Daigle, Gary Foley, Dr. Edouard Hendriks, Janet Hogan, Dr. Pamela Mansfield, Dr. Jim O'Brien, Nancy Roberts, Nancy Savage, Vicki Squires, Dr. John Steeves, Norma MaGee (recording)

Regrets: Luigi Rocca

i. Call to order and approval of agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 4:40 p.m. and welcomed all guests to the meeting.

MOTION:

MOVED BY MS. FELLOWS, SECONDED BY MS. SCHRYER

THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Ferguson announced the resignation of the President and Chief Executive Officer, Donald J. Peters, effective January 31, 2013. He thanked Mr. Peters for his dedication to Horizon over the past five years, and wished him well in his future endeavours.

(2) Presentation on Lyme Disease – Fredericton Area Lyme Disease Advocacy Group

Mr. Ferguson welcomed representatives from the Advocacy Group, Louise Billings and Toon Pronk, to the meeting. (Complete presentation appended to the minute book at Corporate Office for future reference.)

Mr. Pronk explained that the group had requested to make a presentation to Horizon's board in order to create more awareness of early stage Lyme Disease in the general public and with general practitioners. The support group believes that being aware of this hard to diagnose disease has the potential to save millions of dollars in health care expenses. His presentation also said that there are currently no/few doctors in New Brunswick that will treat chronic Lyme Disease. There are at least 24 people in the Fredericton area that have (or have had) chronic Lyme Disease.

Mr. Ferguson thanked the group for their informative presentation. Mr. Peters said that along with making the board aware of the issues and concerns of the advocacy group, there is a responsibility to bring the information to the attention of the physician group. Dr. Barry will provide the information to the Regional Medical Advisory Committee.

(3) Minutes of Board of Directors' meeting of October 25, 2012

MOTION:

MOVED BY M. BEAULIEU, SECONDED BY MS. SIMONDS

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 25, 2012 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

MOTION CARRIED.

(4) Business arising from the minutes

(a) Board representative to FacilicorpNB Board: Following the last board meeting, an email poll was carried out to seek nominations to the FacilicorpNB Board. Three names were put forward, with members selecting Michael Coster as the representative from Horizon's board.

MOTION:

MOVED BY MS. FORESTELL, SECONDED BY MS. MCMULLEN

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL COSTER TO THE BOARD OF FACILICORPNB, TO COMPLETE THE THREE-YEAR TERM OF DONNA MAZEROLLE. THIS TERM WILL EXPIRE AT FACILICORPNB'S ANNUAL MEETING IN 2014.

MOTION CARRIED.

(5) Committee Reports

Board of Directors' Committees

(a) Patient Safety and Quality Improvement: Ms. Forestell spoke to the information shared at the Committee's January 24 meeting regarding the Alternate Level of Care (ALC) patients in Horizon's facilities. A large portion of all acute care beds within Horizon continues to be occupied by ALC patients, and Dr. Jarrett's presentation showed that there is room for improvement in the current long term care assessment process. She also noted that the health care sector should work together with the Department of Social Development, policy makers and government to address the problem. Ms. Forestell added that the Committee will continue to discuss the issue.

Disclosure Policy: Ms. Forestell explained that the previous four health authorities had Disclosure Policies in place prior to 2008 and a standardized policy was created for Horizon. The Board was asked to approve the policy which affects employees, physicians and students.

MOTION:

MOVED BY MS. FORESTELL, SECONDED BY MR. COSTER

THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVE THE DISCLOSURE POLICY FOR HORIZON HEALTH NETWORK AS PRESENTED.

MOTION CARRIED.

Monica McNally presentation to Board: At the October 25 board meeting, Monica McNally spoke to the board regarding the care of her son while he was a patient in one of Horizon's hospitals. Her request for the board members to lobby for an independent patient advocate (i.e., ombudsman) who could be a voice for all patients in New Brunswick, separate from, and a step above, the current staff patient advocate position in hospitals, was referred to the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Committee for report back to the board. The Committee suggested that since the creation of a patient ombudsman would require an act of the Legislature, the matter should be referred to the Minister of Health.

MOTION:

MOVED BY MS. FORESTELL, SECONDED BY MR. COSTER

THAT THE BOARD SEND A LETTER TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH REFERRING THE MATTER TO HIM FOR RESOLUTION.

MOTION CARRIED.

(b) Human Resources: Ms. Simonds provided highlights from the December 13 meeting of the Human Resources Committee, including information shared from the Francophone Liaison Committee's quarterly meeting. The Committee also received an update on the Workforce Adjustment for employees in Perth; a copy of the business case for Kronos implementation; key performance indicators for September 30, 2012 which showed a decrease in the average hours of sick leave (however, it is still above the benchmark); and a draft Management Strategy for Workforce Adjustment, established to set the guidelines, principles and accountability for effective workforce management.

(c) Finance and Audit: Highlights from the Committee's December 13 meeting given by Treasurer Michael McCoombs included transition of banking services in Fredericton area to the Royal Bank of Canada, which will consolidate all of Horizon's banking with the Royal Bank of Canada. The responsibility of payroll services for employees in the laundry departments, who transferred to FacilicorpNB on April 1, 2012, transitioned to FacilicorpNB at the end of December 2012. Financial statements for October 31, 2012 showed that Horizon continues to be in a good financial position at this time. Projections to the end of March 2013 show that Horizon again expects to end the year essentially balanced. Budget planning continues for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, and Horizon expects to develop a submission to government.

Mr. Carter explained Horizon's challenges with capital equipment funding, especially with the specialized equipment associated with the provincial programs which fall under Horizon's management.

Board of Directors' Advisory Committees

(d) Regional Medical Advisory: Chief of Staff and Committee Chair, Dr. Barry, provided highlights from the Regional medical Advisory Committee's December 18, 2012 meeting.

(e) Regional Professional Advisory: Committee Chair, Danica Wallace, reported that the committee met on December 6, 2012 and received an overview of the status of the preparations for the September 2013 survey with Accreditation Canada as well as a follow up to the recommendations contained in the report from the September 2010 survey. The group also received updates regarding the implementation of the DNAR policy, Child Abuse /Neglect Policy stakeholder feedback and Consent to Treatment Policy stakeholder feedback; as well as regular annual reports being received from four professional practice councils.

(6) For information

(a) Primary Care Health Investments: Ms. Geldart explained that Horizon had received approval from the Department of Health regarding funding for the Oromocto Family Health

Team, a Community Development Worker for Harvey-McAdam, and community health needs assessments for Petitcodiac, St. Stephen, Moncton-Riverview, and Saint John.

(b) NB Trauma Program Update: This written update provided information on the progress of the New Brunswick Trauma Program at January 2013.

(7) Other business

Nil

(8) Questions from the public

Monica McNally: Mrs. McNally again spoke to the board members regarding the treatment of her son while a patient in one of Horizon's facilities, and her concerns over not being able to get her points across to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick. She asked that correspondence from the College (follow up to information provided in October 2012) be circulated to the board members for information.

(9) Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion by Mr. McCoombs at approximately 6:20 p.m.

W. David Ferguson, Chair

Donald J. Peters, Corporate Secretary