

“Caring for Our Community Like Family”

**UW Medicine**

VALLEY  
MEDICAL CENTER

**Valley Board of Trustees**

MINUTES

May 14, 2020

**Board Members Present**

REMOTE: Erin Aboudara, Carol Barber, Lisa Brandenburg, Bernie Dochnahl, Janet Evans, Jim Griggs, Gary Kohlwes, Lawton Montgomery, Vicki Orrico, Julia Patterson, Donna Russell (Chair)

**Board Members Absent**

Shamso Issak, Todd Starkey

**Others Present**

IN PERSON: Theresa Braungardt, Jeannine Grinnell, Mike Hori, MD, Katina Maier, Wayne Manuel, Matt Mulder, MD, Jamie Park, MD, Kalen Privatsky, Rich Roodman, David Smith

REMOTE: Liz Nolan

**Recorder**

Kathryn Holland (Remote)

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Donna Russell called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

**2. VOICE OF THE PATIENT**

David Smith shared two non-COVID patient testimonials regarding their experiences at Valley. The first story expressed sincere thanks for the care received during a 9-hour emergency room visit. Treatment for injuries sustained during a fall included a concussion, head lacerations, back injury and broken knee. The care team were congratulated for their wonderful attitude and great compassion in spite of a heavy ED workload during the COVID-19 virus. The second story told of the compassionate and professional care experienced by a breast cancer patient.

**3. CONSENT AGENDA AND ACTION ITEMS**

**MOTION:** Bernie Dochnahl moved to approve the consent agenda and Gary Kohlwes seconded the motion. The items moved for adoption were:

- Minutes of April 20, 2020
- Financial Vouchers/Warrants/Pay Apps dated April 30, 2020
- Surplus Property Resolution No. 099

The motion carried, 11-0.

## 4. BOARD EDUCATION

### **COVID Update**

Dr. Mike Hori, Infection Control Medical Director at Valley, provided an update regarding COVID-19. The number of admissions with COVID peaked in late March early April and are currently lower with 17 patients. COVID admissions range between one to four patients per day. Reconfiguration of the hospital for streamlined operations and handling of COVID patients is complete and will remain for the time being. Consolidation of PPE and policies have been maximized. Dr. Hori shared a slide indicating that South King County continues to be a hot spot for COVID which extends from Auburn to Kent and into Renton and includes high-density housing and skilled nursing facilities. He reported that a study released from the University of Toronto selected 144 places on earth representing a variety of latitudes, temperatures, and humidity settings and found these variables to have no effect on the spread of the virus. Ultimately, climatic conditions had little to no influence on spreading the virus. Restriction of mass gatherings and maintaining social distancing measures have a greater impact of reducing the spread of the virus than many other variables.

RT-PCR testing remains the Gold Standard for testing the COVID virus. Currently, 5,159 tests have been performed at Valley's mobile care unit. Serology blood testing is now available throughout the University system including Valley as well as Antigen testing. Treatments such as Remdesivir, protective universal masking, PPE supplies, screening for staff, community outreach efforts and Valley's recovery strategy were discussed. (Reference the full presentation in Boardvantage).

### **CHNA Update**

Liz Nolan, Vice President of Marketing, presented the 2020 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) report. All data polls and information gathering has been completed for Part 1 of 2. The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act through the IRS Section 501(r) regulations direct nonprofit hospitals to conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment and develop an Implementation Strategy every three years. Managed by an independent third party, data were collected from a variety of local, county and state sources such as the Department of Health, King County Public Health, Washington Department of Commerce, CDC and U.S. Census, to name a few, which was used in identifying community health needs. Information related to COVID was not part of this assessment.

The top five priority needs in the service area included access to healthcare, disease prevention, chronic disease management, mental health, and physical or sexual abuse. The population of the VMC service area is just under 600,000 residents, an increase of 7.9% from the last report. Diversity and languages spoken in the home and by school districts was discussed, along with social and economic factors and poverty thresholds. Sheltered, unsheltered and the chronically homelessness was reviewed as well as educational attainment, a key driver of health. The leading causes of death in King County remain unchanged with cancer and heart disease followed by Alzheimer's disease, unintentional injury and stroke. Established benchmark comparisons for Valley Medical Center's health and social indicators was assessed with Healthy People 2020 objectives.

Over the next three months, focus will center around stakeholder planning and meeting with a variety of groups to develop implementation strategies. Once complete, these implementation strategies will first be reviewed with the Executive Team, then shared with the Board of Trustees at the Board Retreat in the Fall. Final results of the CHNA will be posted on the Valley website.

**MOTION:** Jim Griggs moved to accept the CHNA report as presented and grant approval for staff to proceed with development of implementation strategies. Bernie Dochnahl seconded the motion. Motion carried 11-0.

## 5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **Executive Committee**

Donna Russell reported that the May 12 Compensation Committee meeting extended beyond the planned timeframe and thus the Executive Committee was not held in May. The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled June 9, 2020.

### **Compensation Committee**

Ms. Russell reported that in lieu of reviewing the regular FY21 Board Pillar Goals, the committee refocused on alternative options created in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Recognizing the environment has changed, the committee reevaluated the at-risk incentive goals to align with over 500 new COVID goals. The committee wishes to recognize the extraordinary efforts taken by management in response to the virus. A final decision was not made and discussions continue. The at-risk incentive is normally awarded annually in October following an external financial audit but due to the COVID crisis, award of the FY20 at-risk incentive will be predicated on Valley's financial viability later in the year. An Executive Session was held during this meeting to discuss personnel issues and no action was taken.

### **Finance, Facilities & Audit Committee -- Financial Implications COVID-19**

Jim Griggs reported activities from the May 5 FF&A Committee meeting. The committee approved the Award of Bid to Dutton Electric for the North Substation upgrade and the Call for Bid of the VMC Diagnostic and Treatment Phase III & IV. The committee also agreed with Jeannine Grinnell's strategy to pursue a possible line of credit in case such a need arises in the future.

**MOTION:** Bernie Dochnahl moved to approve the Award of Bid to Dutton Electric for the North Substation wiring project and Vicki Orrico seconded the motion. Motion carried 11-0.

**MOTION:** Bernie Dochnahl moved to approve the Call for Bid for the VMC Diagnostic and Treatment Phase III & IV and Vicki Orrico seconded the motion. Motion carried 11-0.

The May 14 FF&A Committee received a report from Jeannine Grinnell regarding the COVID-related financial losses for April including receipt of CARES Act relief funds. Days cash was at 92 days at the end of April but is expected to drop in May and June before beginning to rise again in July.

### **Joint Conference Committee**

Bernie Dochnahl reported that May credentialing was reviewed and approved without incident. The dashboard was reviewed for quality and it was noted many of the metrics were not tracked

due to the pandemic. The committee received a report from Ken Kenyon, Vice President of Pharmacy Services, regarding drug shortages, and Sheila Lukito, Medication Safety Officer, reported on medication safety. Dr. Jamie Park and Dr. Mike Hori provided the committee with an update regarding current COVID activities.

## 5. INFORMATION REPORTS

### **UW Medicine Update**

Lisa Brandenburg reported regarding the UW Medicine response to the COVID-19 virus and efforts being made to ensure patients and employees are safe while emphasizing to non-COVID patients that it is safe to return to the hospital for routine care. In adherence to Governor Inslee's proclamation, elective surgeries will begin on May 18. She also discussed Dr. Ramsey's recent communication regarding the adverse financial impact of COVID across the UW Medicine system with a projected loss of approximately \$500M before stimulus and recovery funds are calculated. Expense reductions are being implemented along with temporary unpaid furloughs while volumes are down. Destination One go live has been changed to January 30, 2021, and status will remain red until the project demonstrates successful execution of the first round of integrated testing in late May. Across UW Medicine, the Executive Team is taking salary decreases until the end of the year due to the COVID crisis.

### **Administrative Update**

Rich Roodman mentioned his communication of May 11 released in conjunction with Dr. Ramsey's letter regarding the COVID economic impact. Suggestions were also requested from staff for cost saving recommendations. Various items reported in the May Operational Update were highlighted including the development of processes for testing, isolating and treating all patients with suspected and confirmed COVID symptoms along with the development of new COVID units on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floors of the hospital; hospitalist lead, Dr. Shahina Banthanvasi was guest speaker at the PNW Chapter meeting of the Society of Hospital Medicine; the Office of the Patient Experience team members were redeployed to the Command Center Support Team and Employee Health since March 2; and agreements were reached with SEIU, UFCW and OPEIU on Workforce Mobilization during the COVID pandemic. Nurses week was celebrated "virtually" with a video produced by Theresa Braungardt and staff submitted photos of all teams working together.

Katina Maier explained various efforts made to support staff during the pandemic including the continuation of benefits while on unpaid census, access to all paid accrued benefit time, vacation time, sick time, and catastrophic sick time, premium pay for nurses to switch shifts, to work in other areas, and travel to locations outside their normal vicinities. Also, during the initial stages of the pandemic, Valley temporarily set up a childcare unit following school closures.

### **Chair of the Board**

Donna Russell thanked the Board for their hard work over the past few months to "virtually" attend committee meetings and board meetings. In lieu of the June Board Education Retreat, she hoped to present a guest speaker with a creative way of providing leadership during uncertain times if the Board can have an in-person meeting in June as opposed to a remote meeting. Ms. Russell reminded the Board that new officers will be onboarded July 1. There is

no meeting in July and the Board Retreat is scheduled for September 1, 2020.

**6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

None

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Holland  
Assistant to the Valley Board  
Valley Medical Center

*All reports and presentations reviewed by this committee were in draft format, unless otherwise noted in these minutes.*