

**“Caring for Our Community Like Family”**



**Valley Board of Trustees**  
**MINUTES**  
June 21, 2021

**Board Members Present**

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

**Board Members Absent**

Shamso Issak, Lawton Montgomery, Todd Starkey

**Others Present**

IN PERSON: Jeannine Grinnell

REMOTE: Theresa Braungardt, Wayne Manuel, Matt Mulder, MD, Kalen Privatsky, David Smith

Visitors: Katina Maier, Liz Nolan

External Visitors: Jim Gauss

**Recorder**

Erica Duston

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Board Chair, Vicki Orrico, called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

**II. VOICE OF THE PATIENT**

Dr. Matt Mulder shared a story from the ED that highlighted the collaboration between Valley and UW Medicine to help a high-risk patient receive a specific type of transfusion treatment for COVID-19.

**III. BOARD INTRODUCTION**

**Rita Miller, Ph.D.**

The Board took turns introducing themselves to our new commissioner and board trustee, Dr. Rita Miller, who was appointed by the Board of Commissioners last week to fill the vacant Commissioner position 2, as Commissioner Janet Evans moved out of the area. Dr. Miller has a Master's Degree in Library Science, a Master's Degree in Nursing, and a Ph.D. in Education. In 2004, Dr. Miller took a position to create an accelerated baccalaureate nursing program for Idaho State University in Boise, Idaho. She has since retired.

**IV. CONSENT AGENDA AND ACTION ITEMS**

**MOTION:** Erin Aboudara moved to approve the consent agenda. Bernie Dochnahl seconded the motion. The items moved for adoption were:

- Minutes, April 19, 2021
- Minutes, April 29, 2021 – Special BOT Meeting
- Minutes, May 17, 2021
- Financial Bills/Warrants/Vouchers
- Surplus Property Resolution No. 0115
- Approval of the Executive Committee Charter
- Approval of the JCC Charter

The motion carried, 10-0.

#### **V. COVID-19 UPDATE**

Dr. Matt Mulder stated that COVID-19 cases are down substantially with fourteen active COVID-19 cases in the UW Medicine system, and five of those cases at Valley. PPE policies remain in place at Valley. All pre-op patients at Valley are being tested for COVID-19 (nasal swab) regardless of if they were vaccinated. Half of King County's population has not been vaccinated and our goal is to get the higher-risk groups vaccinated by our outreach efforts. Valley's formal vaccine clinic is closing on July 21, but the vaccine will remain available throughout the clinic system. Valley administered vaccines to more than 43,000 people.

#### **VI. BOARD EDUCATION**

##### **Outreach in a Pandemic-Recuperating World**

Liz Nolan presented an executive summary of the grassroots outreach taking place to develop partnerships and rebuild our engagement with the community in a post-COVID world. Valley is providing education and resources, general health support, and events and activities, always through an EDI lens. Other events are focused on the CHNA high-priority areas. Valley is cultivating outreach is through social media channels, Community News, ad campaigns, DocTalks, health and wellness education, support groups, MyChart, and a membership program. Liz will come back at a later date later this year or early next year with a more comprehensive look at the outreach happening throughout the organization.

#### **VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Please see the Committee Reports in OnBoard.

#### **VIII. INFORMATION REPORTS**

##### **UW Medicine Update**

Lisa Brandenburg reported that UW Medicine continues to limit the volume of patient visitors at the hospital. UW Medicine received an A grade in hospital safety from LeapFrog. The joint-venture between Valley and Proliance had a major accreditation milestone.

##### **CEO Organizational Update**

Jeannine Grinnell described the various ways Valley celebrated Pride Month. On June 1<sup>st</sup>, Valley raised a 'Progress Pride' flag on the hospital's south tower that contained the original rainbow stripes in addition to arrows in colors that represent marginalized populations where forward movement is occurring, but progress still needs to be made. In honor of Juneteenth, Valley will display the Juneteenth flag adjacent to the Pride flag through Juneteenth weekend.

Ms. Grinnell shared the terms of repayment announced for the 403(b) Employer Contribution/Match. Valley will restore 50% of all suspended employer 403(b) contributions to employees upon reaching 100 days cash on hand (DCOH) (excluding bond funds or COVID

assistance/ stimulus funds that have not been recognized) OR 122 DCOH (including COVID assistance/ stimulus funds but excluding bond funds). Currently we are at 75 DCOH. Valley will restore the remaining 50% of all suspended employer 403(b) contributions to then-current VMC employees conditioned upon reaching 108 DCOH (excluding bond funds or COVID assistance/stimulus) OR 130 DCOH (including COVID assistance/stimulus but excluding bond funds). If neither of these targets have been reached by December 31, 2024, Valley will restore all suspended employer 403(b) contributions to employees that had not yet been restored.

At the time Valley makes its final restoration of suspended employer 403(b) contributions, whether based on reaching the second DCOH target or based upon reaching December 31, 2024, Valley will also contribute, as interest, an additional 6% of all suspended employer 403(b) contributions to then-current Valley employees. If an employee retires (with 30 days advanced written notice) before 100% of the suspended employer 403(b) contributions have been paid, Valley will repay those funds.

UW Medicine's contracts with Kaiser expired on May 31, 2021. Effective June 1, 2021, Kaiser Permanente patients will see a disruption in their access to services at UW Medicine hospitals, including Valley, as well as services provided by UWP providers at Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. UW Medicine and Kaiser Permanente have been unable to reach a contract extension. In negotiations with Kaiser in 2018 and 2019, UW Medicine took reductions in reimbursement from Kaiser Permanente for their patients treated in our facilities. The next year, rates were flat. For this coming year we proposed a modest rate increase to keep pace with inflation. Kaiser has not been willing to negotiate with our team and wants us to take an even deeper cut in reimbursement for services. UW Medicine reached out to more than 30,000 affected patients in mid-May to alert them to this change in coverage. We continue to proactively communicate with patients to ensure they are aware of any changes.

Ms. Grinnell provided an update on the first phase of the Compass Go Live launch that includes Supply Chain and Finance (General Ledger/Financial Reporting/Accounts Payable). The launch was delayed by one day (June 2<sup>nd</sup>) and is up and running but not yet fully "normalized." We continue to leave the Command Center in place as we continue to stabilize processes and escalate and address issues. Compass is the largest implementation at Valley, in scale and scope, since EPIC in 2013.

### **Chair of the Board**

Vick Orrico restated details of the board retreat to be held on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt in Renton. Board member Bernie Dochnal has joined the CEO Search Committee, replacing Tim Dellit of UW Medicine. Katina Maier is joining the CEO Search Committee to assist as needed.

### **IX. EYES AND EARS OF THE COMMUNITY**

None to report.

### **X. OLD/NEW BUSINESS**

None to report.

### **XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board recessed into Executive Session at 3:04 p.m. for approximately 90 minutes to discuss specific matters relating to Personnel Issues that are exempt from the Open Public Meetings Act in accordance with RCW 42.30.110(g). No action was taken following the Executive Session.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Duston  
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.*