

# Bartlett Regional Hospital

## Minutes

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 26, 2018 – 5:30 p.m.

Robert F. Valliant Boardroom

**CALL TO ORDER** – The Board of Director’s meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Lance Stevens, Board President

#### ATTENDANCE

Lance Stevens, President	Bob Urata, MD, Secretary	Mark Johnson
Rosemary Hagevig, Vice-President	Brenda Knapp	Lindy Jones, MD
Marshal Kendziorek	Kenny Solomon-Gross	Deb Johnston

#### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Chuck Bill, CEO	Kevin Benson, CFO	Megan Costello, CBJ Law
Dallas Hargrave, HR Director	Bradley Grigg, CBHO	Don Schneider, MD, COS
Rose Lawhorne, Assistant CCO	Audrey Rasmussen, Director of CCU	
Michelle Hale, CBJ Liaison	Anita Moffitt, Executive Assistant	
Elizabeth Jenkins, KTOO Reporter		

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA** – *Ms. Hagevig made a MOTION to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Johnson seconded and it was approved.*

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**ECRI ROBOTICS REPORT** – Marc Schlessinger from the ECRI Institute, provided an overview of the assessment for robotic assisted laparoscopic surgical (RALS) needs they conducted for BRH. Intuit Surgical (da Vinci robotics supplier) projects a 3.3 year return on investment (ROI), ECRI projects a 5.5 year ROI on equipment that only has a 7 year life span. Pricing and comparisons for the da Vinci Xi and the X were discussed as were RALS possible surgical procedures and volumes, staffing, recruitment and training needs. Current surgical volumes would support a robotics program however, BRH currently only has two surgeons trained in robotics surgery and there is no certainty of their future at BRH. Staff turnover rate in the OR is significant and a true safety concern. A stable employee group, possibly including a surgical PA trained in robotics must be maintained. Surgical outcomes for robotic surgery and open surgery are the same but advantages of robotic surgery were noted. The initial capital cost of a robotics program would be approximately \$2.5 Million. Creation of a multi-disciplinary surgical robotics steering committee meeting is recommended as is developing multiple pathways for attaining privileges for each RALS. Board members posed multiple questions regarding training requirements, proficiency vs. competency, advantages and disadvantages, higher costs of RALS procedures, staffing needs, increased anesthesia times and vendor support via surgery observations.

**BOARD EDUCATION** – Audrey Rasmussen, CCU Director, presented the goals and action plan to obtain the Beacon Award for Excellence awarded by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses (AACN). The Beacon award was created to recognize individual units that distinguish themselves by improving every facet of patient care. Dr. Urata complimented Ms. Rasmussen and her team for their hard work and dedication to excellent care.

**CONSENT AGENDA** – *Mr. Kendziorek made a MOTION to approve the consent agenda as presented. Ms. Knapp seconded the motion and it was approved.*

**TITLE 40** – Mr. Bill reported the proposed changes to Title 40.15.60 were presented to the Medical Staff at the March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Medical Staff had no comments. *Ms. Knapp made a MOTION to move Title 40 changes to the Assembly for approval. Mr. Kendziorek seconded.* Dr. Urata objected. He reiterated that the Medical Staff's concern is that the hospital is going to hire more physicians and drive private practitioners out. *Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed 8 to 1 with Dr. Urata being only member opposed.*

**NEW BUSINESS** – *Ms. Hagevig made a MOTION to approve the Quality Committee Management Plans and Evaluations action items listed on the agenda. Dr. Urata seconded and it was approved.* Mr. Kendziorek noted that these items are very informative and well presented. He expressed his appreciation to the Quality Department for all of the hard work put into them. Ms. Knapp encouraged all board members and staff to attend the Quality Committee meetings if available to do so.

**Medical Staff Report** – Dr. Schneider reported that the March 5<sup>th</sup> Medical Staff meeting was very quick. There was not a lot of new or alarming issues.

**Executive Session** – *Mr. Kendziorek made a MOTION to go into executive session to discuss the credentialing report, patient safety dashboard, Siddon v BRH litigation strategy and Estate of Adams litigation strategy. All of which are confidential by nature and protected by law. Mr. Solomon-Gross seconded and motion approved.* Mr. Bill requested the reversal of order of items C (Siddon litigation) and D (Adams litigation) to allow Drs. Schneider and Urata to stay for discussion of the Adams litigation strategy but recuse themselves for the Siddon litigation strategy. The committee entered executive session at 6:33 pm and returned to regular session at 7:00 pm.

*Mr. Kendziorek made a MOTION to approve the credentialing report as presented. Ms. Knapp seconded and it was approved.*

*Mr. Kendziorek made a MOTION to move forward with the Siddon matter as presented by the CBJ attorney. Ms. Knapp seconded. Dr. Urata abstained and the motion was approved.*

**CEO Report** – Mr. Bill reported that he commented at the State Budget hearing on Friday night on the impact of the Governor's budget on healthcare throughout the state and more particularly on Bartlett. The House Budget Committee presented, prior to the commentary, a history of funding of state services in AK, the timeline, budget cuts vs the PFD and then dove into that with more detail. What he took away from the meeting was that there is a big change from the house about not accepting the governor's budget and looking at how the PFD could be used to reduce the impact of that. They spoke about being able to

eliminate the majority, if not all of the cuts presented from the governor's budget by reducing the pfd. The general consensus from the public is that they are willing to give up the pfd or pay state taxes to avoid cuts in services. Mr. Bill has not had an opportunity to testify on the Senate side yet.

Mr. Bill reported that he will be in Washington DC to attend the annual American Hospital Association (AHA) meeting from April 6<sup>th</sup> through 10<sup>th</sup>. He will have an opportunity to meet with our legislators to primarily talk about continuing the Rural Demonstration Project. He also noted that we have received a public records request from Blood Bank of Alaska (BBA) for a copy of our contract with Bloodworks Northwest. It was noted that BBA has still not provided pricing information as requested multiple times. Mr. Solomon-Gross asked that Mr. Bill talk to BBA about entering into a contract for platelets only. A date is to be determined for the quarterly Joint Conference meeting with the medical staff.

### **STRATEGIC DISCUSSION**

Robotics – Ms. Hagevig discussed the public image of the hospital and does not want to send the message that BRH does not want to technologically advance. Mr. Johnson stated that RALS can affect our recruitment efforts and should be kept under consideration. Mr. Kendziorek supports RALS for BRH but expressed concerns of the high turnover of support staff in the OR. Mr. Bill noted that the OR Director is also concerned about staffing and raised the issue of the cost of recruiting and training staff. He does not feel that a 5.5 year ROI is accurate when looking at the big picture. Senior Leadership recommends that discussions continue as we recruit to stabilize potential staff and let the tentative situation with finances and State Medicaid sort themselves out before we commit. Dr. Jones expressed concerns about the need for a core group of trained technicians available for both robotics care as well as complex surgical cases, the number of cases only sufficient for physicians to be competent but not proficient in RALS and the significant higher cost to patients for robotic procedures that have the same outcome as non RALS procedures. Ms. Johnston requested national data on retention of robotics trained physicians and staff. Since we are not ready to take action yet, this discussion is to be put on hold. A steering committee will be formed to gather information and help guide future discussions. Dr. Urata stressed the importance of readiness when implementing a new program and supports waiting. Mr. Stevens noted that Central Peninsula just brought their program on line and suggested we wait to see how successful they are and learn from them. Mr. Bill suggested another option might be to form an affiliation with Virginia Mason or somewhere to bring up a robotic surgical team to Juneau on a regularly scheduled basis. Board will resume discussions at a later date.

Mr. Bill reported that Dr. Kopstein has a part time employment contract under review by his attorney. He has applied for his Alaska license and may be able to begin providing services here by June. Surgical equipment needs have yet to be identified.

**PRESIDENT REPORT** – Mr. Stevens reported that the Joint Session with the Assembly went very well and thanked everyone for attending. He also reported that he and Mr. Bill are working on a document that reviews the past 5 years. This document will be presented at next month's Board meeting.

**BOARD CALENDAR** – The April Board calendar was reviewed. It was decided that a 7:00 am Planning Committee will be held on Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**BOARD COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS** – None

**ADJOURNMENT** – 7:45 p.m.