Geraldton District Hospital

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Board of Directors

Held in the GFHT Boardroom & via Zoom; Tuesday, June 28th, 2022 at 5:30 pm

**Present:** Dorene Boulanger Terry Popowich Ralph Humphreys (V) Kathryn Legault Patricia Dufour Eric Pietsch

Manon Michon Dr. Ryan Zufelt (V) Darryl Galusha Ian McPherson Pauline Violette Brigitte Ouellet

Jena Goulet (recorder)

**Regrets:** Sanna Humphreys Victor Tschajka Bobby Jo Chenier

Mike Davis

**1. Opening:**

● The meeting opened at 5:36 pm by D. Boulanger, Chair.

**2. Approval of Agenda:**

● D. Boulanger asked if there were any amendments to the agenda.

● Nothing noted.

**It was moved by M. Michon and seconded by E. Pietsch that the agenda of the June 28th, 2022 Annual General Meeting of the Geraldton District Hospital be approved as presented.**

**Carried.**

**3. Approval of Minutes – June 29th, 2021:**

● D. Boulanger asked the members if there were any errors or omissions to the AGM minutes of June 29th, 2021.

● Nothing noted.

**It was moved by T. Popowich and seconded by K. Legault that the minutes of the June 29th, 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Geraldton District Hospital be approved as presented.**

**Carried.**

**4. Reports:**

1. **Report of the Board Chair:**

● D. Boulanger read her report to the Board of Directors.

● No questions or concerns were raised.

1. **Report of the Chief Executive Officer:**

● D. Galusha highlighted key sections of his Report for the Board members for possible discussion.

● The number of reported medication errors and reported falls have increased. D. Galusha expressed a rise in reports is a positive occurrence as it shows that the staff feel safe and comfortable to report their errors. If there is a significant increase to these reports, investigation may be necessary.

● GDH completed its Accreditation with a score of 98.98% as the Hospital only missed 15 standards. The surveyors were impressed with the morale of the GDH staff.

● D. Galusha shared his personal experience with GDH’s Rehabilitation Department. He stated that the team are working well together to improve services, implement new programs and upgrade the Department.

● D. Galusha informed the Board members that GDH’s Homecare Program requires more staff to meet the needs of the community.

● GDH saw the Hospital receive a 1% increase to our base budget in addition to a 1% enhancement. These funds are being invested into human resources in order to help fill the vacant staff positions.

● The Social Worker’s office has been relocated to the Emergency Department. Her services will be easily accessible when help is required with any mental health patients.

● GDH is collaborating with the OPP in creating a Crisis Call Diversion Program*.* The Program will have a Mental Health & Addictions (Crisis) Worker employed by the Hospital but based out of the local OPP office. When assigned to a call, the Crisis Worker will accompany the OPP Officer and can provide support and assist in preliminary de-escalation of the situation. The Program will start with one employee for off-hours and expand once a good foundation has been set.

● D. Galusha highlighted the Hospital’s ON2 Oxygen Concentrator.

● The Nurse Practitioner position that has been integrated in the Emergency Department, to assess CTAS 3, 4 and 5 patients, has greatly improved services and provided relief for the ED Physicians. This model is also being adapted by other hospitals across North Western Ontario in response to physician shortages.

● The number of Emergency Department visits and the number of transfers have both increased since the last fiscal year.

● HCAC continues to hold quarterly meetings. Even when quorum is not met, roundtable discussion still take place in order to keep all members well informed.

● GDH is working to find a balance between the senior nursing staff and the junior nursing staff. GDH has experienced a lot of newer nursing staff being hired in the last 2 years.

● The formation of the North Western Ontario Health Team continues to move forward.

***Dr. Zufelt joined the meeting via Zoom at 5:54 pm.***

● D. Galusha expressed his appreciation for the Board of Directors, medical staff and the rest of the team.

● Further discussion occurred regarding intoxicated individuals in the Emergency Department. Stimulant drug abuse is becoming a significant problem in Greenstone and is resulting in aggressive patients presenting at the Hospital who require multiple staff members to help restrain them when they become violent. This has added a considerable strain on GDH’s physicians, nurses, social work and the mental health & addictions worker.

1. **Report of the Chief of Staff:**

● There continues to be a lack of physician availability across North Western Ontario. These issues need to be addressed at the local, regional and provincial levels.

● Physician coverage has been found for the few days GDH was preparing for a stoppage of emergency services.

● The Nurse Practitioner position in the Emergency Department is an asset to the Hospital as the NP has helped decrease wait times and eased much of the stress on physicians.

● Dr. Zufelt provided the following information regarding the Physicians:

● Dr. Marquardt has not renewed his contract and is no longer working at GDH,

● Dr. Desruisseaux is currently pregnant and plans to decrease her workload in the fall

and start her maternity leave in December,

● Dr. Hargassner is also licensed to work as a physician in Quebec and is currently

considering moving his practice to the province,

● Dr. Huynh will be leaving GDH at the end of 2022,

● Dr. Laine has begun to decrease his availability at the Clinic,

● D. Dimova has no interest in increasing her availability, and

● Dr. Zufelt will be planning his leave from GDH summer 2023.

● Dr. Zufelt thanked D. Galusha, the nursing staff, the Nurse Practitioner and the Board of Directors for their continued support.

1. **Report of the Geraldton District Hospital Auxiliary:**

● R. Humphreys summarized the Auxiliary Report on S. Humphreys’ behalf.

● The Auxiliary Committee continues to do what they can to improve morale for the patients and residents of GDH.

1. **Report of the Treasurer:**

● The Geraldton District Hospital finished the year with a surplus from operations of $378,419.

● The surplus funds will be utilized to recruit and retain medical professionals, including Nurse Practitioners and Physicians to help maintain Emergency Department coverage.

● Increased funding from the MOH for the COVID-19 Pandemic totaled $864,423 which covered the incurred expenses and equipment required to treat COVID-19 patients.

● R. Humphreys expressed that GDH has an excellent team who are fiscally responsible and he is thankful for its hardworking and dedicated staff.

**It was moved by P. Dufour and seconded by M. Michon that the five Reports presented at the Geraldton District Hospital AGM held on June 28th, 2022 be accepted as presented.**

**Carried.**

**5. Financial Statements Review and Sign-off, Year Ended March 31st, 2022:**

● R. Humphreys stated the audit was thoroughly completed and that management agreed to address any areas of concerns that were brought forward by the auditors.

● D. Boulanger and D. Galusha signed off on the financial statements.

**It was moved by E. Pietsch and seconded by M. Michon to adopt the 2021/2022 Financial Statements presented at the June 29th, 2021 Geraldton District Hospital AGM as received.**

**Carried.**

**6. Appointment of Auditors:**

● B. Maranzan has been instructed to begin the RFQ process immediately.

**It was moved by T. Popowich and seconded by K. Legault that the Board of Directors of the Geraldton District Hospital move to issue a tender for appointment of an external auditor with subsequent Board approval in September 2022 for the FY2022/23 year.**

**Carried.**

**7. Election of Directors**

● D. Boulanger reviewed the summary of nominations.

**It was moved by P. Dufour and seconded by M. Michon that the Corporation ratifies the acclamation of:**

**Executive Positions:**

* **Dorene Boulanger as Board Chair**
* **Terry Popowich as Vice Board Chair**
* **Ralph Humphreys as Board Treasurer**

**Reappointments:**

* **Dorene Boulanger as Board Director reappointed for her third 3-year term**
* **Ralph Humphreys as Board Director reappointed for his third 3-year term**
* **Sanna Humphreys reappointed for a 1-year term as Auxiliary Representative**

**New Directors:**

* **Eric Pietsch as a new Board Member for his first 3-year term**
* **Greenstone Gold Mines will be appointing a member of their Staff as the GDH Board of Directors’ Industry Representative for their 1-year term. Representative to be identified at a later date.**

**to the GDH Board of Directors for FY2022/2023.**

**Carried.**

**8. Adjournment:**

**With no further business to discuss, it was moved by M. Michon and seconded by T. Popowich that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 6:20 pm.**

**Carried.**