

**Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District  
Board Meeting**

DATE: 19 October 2022 TIME: 4.00pm – 6.30 pm

VENUE: ICET West Block, Nepean Hospital

**MINUTES**

**Attendees:** (P) Present (A) Apology (Ab) Absent

<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>			
The Hon. Peter Collins, AM QC (Chair)	P	Mr Murray Austin	P
Associate Professor Stephen Fuller	P	Mr Robert Lagaida	P
Dr Nhi Nguyen	A	Dr Antonio Rombola	A
Ms Pamela Rutledge, AM	P	Dr Peta Seaton, AM	P
Professor Ian Seppelt	P	Mr Stan Grant	A
<b>NBMLHD EXECUTIVE &amp; STAFF</b>			
Ms Kay Hyman, Chief Executive	P	Mr Brett Williams, Director Hospital Services	P
Ms Jacqui Clark, Director People & Culture (via TEAMS)	P	Ms Kim Maddock, A/Director Nursing & Midwifery	P
Mr Luke Bellman, A/Director Finance & Corporate Services	P	Dr Karen Arblaster, Director Allied Health, Research & Strategic Partnerships	P
Ms Vanessa Clements, Director Planning, Redevelopment & PMO	P	Ms Debbie Wyburd, Director Clinical Governance (via TEAMS)	P
Mr Paul Grocott, Director Corporate Communications	P	Ms Cathy Crowe, Director Community & Integration	P
Prof Mohamed Khadra, Director Strategy & Innovation (via TEAMS)	P		
<b>MEDICAL STAFF COUNCIL &amp; JUNIOR MEDICAL STAFF REPRESENTATIVES</b>			
Dr Eddy Fischer, Chair, Nepean Medical Staff Council (via TEAMS)	P	Dr Stavros Prineas, Chair Blue Mountains Medical Staff Council	A
Dr Daniel Pellen, Mental Health Medical Staff Council	A	Dr Andrew Ling, Deputy Chair Blue Mountains Medical Staff Council	P
<b>WENTWORTH HEALTHCARE LIMITED (Primary Health Network)</b>			
Ms Lizz Reay (via TEAMS)	P		

## **1. OPENING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**

The Chair opened the meeting with an Acknowledgement to Country. Apologies were noted.

## **2. Wentworth Healthcare Limited (Primary Health Network)**

Ms Reay provided a report on behalf of Nepean Blue Mountains Primary Health Network. Members noted the following:

- It is anticipated that the Department of Health will be announcing a substantial investment toward medical workforce initiatives in the Federal budget for 2022/23. The strategy is designed to provide a skilled primary health workforce capable of delivering Australia's National Health Plan. Ms Reay highlighted that there are expected to be a number of strategies to address the shortage of the General Practitioner workforce.
- Urgent Care Centre update - work continues at both Federal and State level.

## **3. Nepean Foundation**

The Chair welcomed the Nepean Foundation representatives - Mr Joseph Grassi, Chair and Mr Gregory Allchin, Treasurer.

Mr Grassi provided the Chair's report:

- OZWAC (Australian Women & Children's Research Foundation) will be joining the Nepean Foundation. On Thursday, 8 December the Nepean Foundation will host an event at the Lakeside Restaurant. The focus of the event will be the collaboration between OZWAC and the Nepean Foundation. Guest Speaker will be Ms Rebecca Griffin, Board of Trustee Member of the Astronaut Scholarship Foundation.
- Nepean Foundation Strategic Workshop will be held on Thursday, 23 February 2023
- Mr Richard Fox has been appointed as a new Director. Mr Fox, President of the Penrith Chamber of Commerce.

Mr Allchin provided the Treasurer's report:

- A new tap and go machine will be installed in the NICU, Nepean Hospital for those community members who wish to donate to OZWAC via the Nepean Foundation.
- Penrith Valley Rotary and all other local Rotary clubs have joined together to support Dr Michael Dowd's "finger traction" project.

Mr Allchin reported that the Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday, 13 October. The AGM has established a Governance Committee that will look for areas of governance improvement. Mr Allchin reported that the Nepean Foundation financial statements have been audited to ensure appropriate policies and procedures are in place. NBMLHD will be providing an office space and meeting room for Nepean Foundation use.

## **4. Feedback from Medical Staff Council**

The Chair welcomed the Medical Staff Council representatives to the meeting and asked for their respective reports.

#### 4.1 Nepean Medical Staff Council

Dr Fischer advised that regular meetings continue with the Director of Hospital Services and Chief Executive. No issues of concern to raise.

#### 4.2 Blue Mountains Springwood Medical Staff Council

Dr Ling, Deputy Chair reported on behalf of the Blue Mountains & Springwood Medical Staff Council. Members were advised of:

- Ongoing recruitment issues
- After Hours cover in the Close Observation Unit
- Update on the media coverage for One Hospital in the Blue Mountains

#### 4.3 Mental Health Medical Staff Council

Nil report.

### **5. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

The Chair asked members to advise any changes to the conflicts of interest register. Nil changes were received.

### **6. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Minutes of the meeting on Wednesday, 21 September 2022 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Dr Seaton  
Seconded: Mr Lagaida

**Action: Endorsed by the NBMLHD Board.**

### **7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

The Chair reported on his attendance at the Greater Western Sydney Future Health Forum held at the William Inglis Hotel in Warwick Farm earlier in the day. The Chair highlighted the importance of this connection between the three LHDs - South Western Sydney LHD, Western Sydney LHD and Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District.

The Chair stated that the Forum was facilitated by Western Sydney Dialogue who are collaborating with the three Districts with regard to the future of health in Western Sydney.

Members noted that there is more work to be done but the Forum was a great start, attended by approximately 150 participants, including the Secretary NSW Health and Dr Kerry Chant, who both gave informative addresses, with Dr Chant's address focussing on NSW Health's response to COVID-19.

## 8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT

Members noted the Chief Executive's report for the month of October 2022. The Chief Executive advised that the report will be taken as read and highlighted the following:

### ***Healthy People & Communities***

#### Greater Western Sydney Future Health Forum

The Chief Executive brought attention to the attendance at the Greater Western Sydney Future Health Forum. Members were advised that the Secretary, NSW Health had one slide in her presentation that stated in the last 10 years NSW Health has contributed 75% of its budget to South Western Sydney LHD, Western Sydney LHD and Nepean Blue Mountains LHD. The Chief Executive acknowledged that all three Districts have received a large proportion of Health funding.

#### COVID-19 Update

The Chief Executive acknowledged that COVID-19 continues across the State and there continues to be deaths each day. Members were advised of changes which commenced on 12 October. One of those changes being that all clinical staff will remain in masks for the foreseeable future. Members were advised that prior to COVID-19 most of the workforce were not regularly required to wear masks.

#### Hawkesbury District Health Service – Community Board of Advice

The Chief Executive reported on the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Community Board of Advice will be hosting their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday, 23 November. Ms Pamela Rutledge AM agreed to attend the event and represent NBMLHD Board.

### ***Exceptional Patient and Consumer Experiences and Outcomes***

#### NSW Health Review of Nepean Hospital Patient Flow

Members were provided with a summary of recommendations and actions from the NSW Health team's review of our Emergency Treatment Performance.

### ***Talented, Happy and Engaged Workforce***

#### Nepean Hospital NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association Dispute

The Chief Executive reported on the recent NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association activity. Members that Ms Shaye Candish has been appointed as the new General Secretary of the NSW Nurses and Midwives' Association.

## ***Responsible Governance and Financial Management***

### Year to Date (YTD) September Result

Mr Bellman provided members with an update on the YTD result for the District. Members noted that the first quarter has seen significant increase in overtime and sick leave. Utility costs have also increased substantially. Usage within the new tower was in line with expectations but price increases, with the wholesale cost doubling, were impacting year to date results and year end forecast.

The Chair noted an increase in sick leave was to be expected given that the “soldier on” mentality was no longer encouraged. Members queried whether Local Health Districts and if they are experiencing the same issues. The Chief Executive advised that on regular teleconference with other LHDs and Ministry of Health, high levels of sick leave had been frequently reported.

### Lithgow Community Private update

The Chief Executive provided members with an update on the Lithgow Community Private negotiations.

## ***Nepean Hospital and Integrated Ambulatory Services Redevelopment Report***

### Stage 1: Delay to Migration

The Chief Executive advised to ensure patient and staff safety and well-being it has been necessary to delay in the move of Emergency, Satellite Imaging and Cardiology into the Nepean Tower. This is because of difficulty recruiting Radiographers. The Chief Executive advised new graduate Radiographers have been recruited but cannot commence work until they are registered with Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency and have received their Radiation User Licence.

### St John of God Healthcare – Hawkesbury District Health Service

The Chief Executive provided an update on the contract negotiations with St John of God Healthcare.

## **Section B – Appendices**

1. Nepean Patient Flow  
For information.

## **Section C**

1. NBMLHD KPIs by Directorate  
For information.
2. NBMLHD Emergency Department – Elective Surgery and Hub Performance – September 2022  
For information.

3. NSW Ministry of Health League Table – August 2022  
For information.
4. Corporate Communications Board Report - September 2022  
For information.

## **9. WORK, HEALTH & SAFETY**

8.1 Board Members' Advice to NBMLHD Executive  
Nil Report

8.2 NBMLHD Executives' Advice to Board  
Nil Report

## **10. ACTION SHEET**

10.1 Recruitment of Medical Staff at Blue Mountains Hospital  
The Chief Executive reported that a meeting has been set.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE IN**

11.1 CM22/55661 Letter of response regarding continued support and ongoing work by Nepean Foundation for Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District

*The Chair advised that the 'correspondence in' is for noting.*

## **12. CORRESPONDENCE OUT**

12.1 CM22/53081 Letter to Director Internal Audit on his retirement from NSW Health

12.2 CM55/52770 Board response in relation to Ms O Grant

*The Chair advised that the 'correspondence out' is for noting.*

## **13. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

13.1 Aboriginal Health

Members were advised that the next Aboriginal Health Committee meeting is scheduled on 10 November 2022.

13.2 Audit & Risk Committee

Mr Lagaida reported that the Audit & Risk Committee quadrant report is attached for information.

13.3 Finance & Performance

Mr Lagaida reported that the Finance & Performance Committee meeting was held on Monday, 17 October 2022. Reports have been uploaded to the NBMLHD Board portal. Mr

Lagaida highlighted that the 2021/22 financial statements were provided to the NSW Audit Office. Mr Lagaida acknowledged the work of the Director of Finance and team to achieve the good audit result.

#### 13.4 Health Care Quality Committee (HCQC)

Nil report.

##### 13.4.1 CM22/28193 Health Care Quality Committee - Terms of Reference

The Chair reported that the attached Terms of Reference are for endorsement by the Board.

**Action: Endorsed by the Board.**

#### 13.5 Medical & Dental Staff Appointments Advisory Committee

Members noted the attached minutes are for noting.

Ms Rutledge asked a summary of appointments and overview of the MDAAC process.

**Action: Information as requested to be provided at December Board meeting.**

#### 13.6 Integrated Care Joint Board

Ms Rutledge reported that the Integrated Care Joint Board Committee meeting will be held on 7 December.

##### 13.6.1 Integrated Care Joint Board – Sub Committee report

Ms Crowe provided members with an update from the Integrated Care Joint Board Committee. For information.

#### 13.7 Research

Mr Austin reported that the next Research Committee meeting will be held on 8 December.

#### 13.8 Strategy & Planning Committee

Prof Fuller reported that the next Strategy & Planning Committee meeting will be held on 28 November.

#### 12.9 Workforce & Culture

Ms Rutledge reported that the next Workforce & Culture Committee meeting will be held on 25 October.

##### 12.10 Work, Health & Safety

Mr Austin reported that the next Work, Health & Safety Committee meeting is scheduled on 25 October 2022.

## **14. BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Nil.

## **15. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

The meeting closed at 5.33 pm.

## 16. NEXT MEETING

**Date:** Wednesday, 16 November 2022  
**Time:** 4.00pm – 6.30pm  
**Venue:** to be advised.

*Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health Board Minutes 19 October 2022.*



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*The Hon. Peter Collins, AM, KC.*

Date: 16 /11 /2022