

**April 22, 2021**

**TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES  
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

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The Trillium Health Resources Governing Board met on Thursday, April 22, 2021, at 4:00 p.m. via WebEx.

**Members Present:** Gary Bass, David Clegg, Mary Ann Furniss, Tracey Johnson, Charles Jordan, Ron Lowe, Jim Madson, Janice Nichols, Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Emmie Taylor and Lea Wolf.

**Members Absent:** Jimmy Farrington and Wayne Petteway.

**Staff Present:** Bland Baker, Cindy Ehlers, Joy Futrell, Richard Leissner, Mike Lewis, Michelle Martin, Dave Peterson, Dr. Michael Smith, Leza Wainwright, Dennis Williams and Rita Joyner, Clerk.

**Guests:** None

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Furniss called the April 22, 2021 meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**II. OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Joyner administered the Oath of Office to Commissioner Charles Jordan from Pasquotank County. Commissioner Jordan was appointed by the Northern Regional Advisory Board to complete Commissioner Ernestine Bazemore's term on the board expiring 6/30/21.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA**

Ms. Furniss called for a motion to approve the consent agenda to include the following items:

- February 25, 2021 Governing Board minutes
- Policy Revisions for Approval
  - Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement (QAPI) Plan
  - Human Rights

Mr. Lowe moved to approve the consent agenda items. The motion, seconded by Ms. Nichols, was unanimously approved.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Ms. Furniss called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Mr. Lowe so moved. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Jordan was unanimously approved.

**VI. BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS**

None

**VII. CONVENE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Ms. Furniss entertained a motion to recess the Governing Board meeting in order for the Finance Committee meeting to convene. Ms. Nichols so moved. The motion, seconded by Mr. Clegg was unanimously approved.

**VIII. DRAFT BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2021 - 2022**

Ms. Futrell reviewed the draft budget and stated that it was being presented to give the board an idea of where we are in the budget planning process, but that no action was needed at this time. The final budget will be recommended to the board for approval at the June board meeting. The proposed budget for adoption will be presented to the board by June 1, 2021, along with the budget message, a business plan which will summarize the budget.

Ms. Futrell reported that we currently have a \$616 million dollar budget and the proposed budget for July 1 is \$577 million. The primary reason for the reduction is that one-time funds have been removed from the budget and will be put back in during the year when allocations are received from the Department (DHHS).

Ms. Futrell highlighted a few of the revenues in the draft budget. She explained that the final budget might reflect that a little more fund balance is needed once Executive takes a final look at the resources that will be needed next fiscal year in preparation to be a Tailored Plan.

Medicaid Waiver Service and Administrative Funds in the draft budget are based on the rates we currently have. Draft rates from Medicaid for next fiscal year have been received, but have not been finalized. This will most likely be changed on the final proposed budget.

**IX. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Wainwright discussed the following items from her written report to the board.

**Ms. Slater's Complaint at the Last Board Meeting**

Ms. Wainwright reported that Onslow County Assistant County Manager Sheri Slater's public comments at the February Board meeting were treated as a formal complaint and investigated as such. It was found that EMS arrived first and clearly handled the emergency situation, but it was not correct that Mobile Crisis had refused to go. It was RHA's Mobile Crisis team in Wilmington that had been called and coming from Wilmington, they arrived after EMS.

Ms. Slater also expressed concerns that Trillium had not awarded a co-responder grant to Onslow County. She acknowledged that what Onslow County wanted to do did not fit within the parameters of the Trillium RFP, which was to co-locate behavioral health clinicians with either law enforcement or DSS. Onslow wishes to co-locate behavioral health clinicians in EMS and Trillium already provides some funding for this and is working with EMS and county leadership, outside of the RFP process, to increase that funding so they can try to achieve their desired outcomes, but not under the umbrella of the co-responder RFP.

**Changes at DHHS**

Ms. Wainwright reported that on Thursday, April 15, Secretary Mandy Cohen announced a re-organization of DHHS, to be effective July 1, 2021. The reorganization is in response to lessons learned through the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Wainwright reviewed the changes within the Department as a result of the re-organization.

**Tailored Plan Preparation**

Trillium continues to move forward with our implementation plan for the Tailored Plan. Ms. Wainwright explained that we were reminded by the Department that while they are in their "silent period" we should not be discussing our plans to become a Tailored Plan, and since she feels it is critical that the board understands where we are on our plans, we will be going into closed session to have that conversation.

**The Harbor**

The new administration at New Hanover Regional Medical Center has said they would take control of the property effective May 1. The Harbor had located another property and were in the process of trying to raise money to upfit the property and will continue to do that, but the best case scenario is that The Harbor will be closed for about two years.

**Rita Joyner**

Ms. Wainwright announced that Ms. Joyner has decided to retire. Her retirement will be effective June 30, so she will be with us through the last meeting of the fiscal year.

**X. CFAC REPORT**

Ms. Furniss, Southern Region CFAC designee and Mr. Lowe, Northern Region CFAC chair, gave reports on behalf of their respective committees.

**XI. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Ms. Furniss expressed her appreciation for all of the hard work that was done on the RFA and the work that is being done now on the Tailored Plan.

She announced that she will be having knee surgery on May 10<sup>th</sup>. She plans to participate in the June meeting, but depending on her circumstances, may have to ask Dr. Robinson to chair the meeting.

**XII. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS A PENDING CONTRACT**

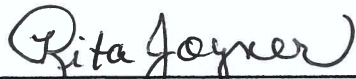
Ms. Furniss entertained a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(1), to discuss confidential contractual issues. Commissioner Johnson so moved. Mr. Madson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Ms. Wainwright asked that Senior Executive staff be allowed to remain in the closed session. Ms. Furniss entertained a motion as such. Ms. Nichols so moved. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, was unanimously approved.

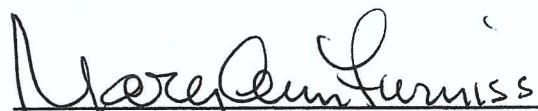
**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

With there being no other business, Ms. Furniss called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Madson so moved. Mr. Lowe seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.



Rita Joyner, Clerk to the Board

  
Mary Ann Furniss, Governing Board Chair