



## North Dakota Hospital Association Board of Directors Meeting Minutes March 26, 2021

**Directors Present:** Tim Blasl, Dan Kelly, Jeff Herman\*, Andrew Lankowicz\*, Michael LeBeau\*, MD, Al Hurley\*, Nikki Johnson\*, Alan O’Neil\*, and Steve Weiser\*, MD.

**Others Present:** Melissa Hauer\*, Kelly Cermak\*, Lori Schmutz\*, John Flink\*, Elizabeth Summy\*, Troy Nelson\*, Nicole Heldstad\*, and Tyler Richter\*.

\*Participated by video conferencing

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the North Dakota Hospital Association (NDHA) was called to order at 10:03 a.m., Central time, on March 26, 2021, by Jeff Herman, Chair of the Board, at the NDHA office located at 1622 E. Interstate Avenue, Bismarck, ND. A quorum of directors was present.

Mr. Herman asked if there were any perceived or know conflicts of interest as per items listed on the agenda for this meeting. There were none.

**Agenda Approval:** Mr. Herman asked if there were any proposed changes to the meeting agenda. There were none. Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and adopted, the agenda was approved.

**Audit Review:** Nicole Heldstad and Tyler Richter from Brady Martz presented the audit report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020. Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and adopted, the audit report was approved.

**Investment Review:** an investment update given by Troy Nelson from Edward Jones. Mr. Nelson suggested changes to the investment policy to revise targets for: fixed income from 30%-50% down to 15% – 40%; equities – large cap from 25%-50% up to 35% – 60%; equities – small/midcap from 7%-17% up to 10%-25%; and equities – international from 10%-25% up to 15%-40%. Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and adopted, the investment policy changes were approved. Dan Kelly requested that Mr. Nelson give quarterly update.

### Action Items:

- a. NDHA Board Officers:
  - 1) Chair–elect - Tim Blasl, President, stated he contacted board members to see if there was interest in the Chair-elect position. Dr. Michael LeBeau, Alan O’Neil, and Al Hurley expressed

their interest. Mr. Herman opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Hurley withdrew his name from consideration. Dr. Michael LeBeau and Alan O'Neil were each nominated. There being no other nominations, the floor was closed.

2) Secretary/Treasurer - Mr. Blasl mentioned that he contacted Andy Lankowicz about continuing to serve as Secretary/Treasurer and he is willing to serve again. Mr. Herman opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Lankowicz was nominated to serve as Secretary/Treasurer. There being no other nominations, the floor was closed.

The Board recessed for 10 minutes during which time a ballot for board members to place their vote for the chair-elect and secretary/treasurer positions was emailed to each Director. The Board reconvened at 11:18 am. The ballot results were discussed. Dr. LeBeau was elected as Chair-elect and Mr. Lankowicz was elected Secretary/Treasurer.

- b. Approval of Minutes – Mr. Herman presented to the Board for approval the minutes from the September 24, 2020 meeting. Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and adopted, the minutes were approved.
- c. Financials – Kelly Cermak, Finance Manager, presented the September 2020 and December 2020 financial statements. Upon a motion duly made, seconded, and adopted, the September 2020 and December 2020 financial statements were approved.
- d. Conflict of Interest Policy & Statement - Mr. Herman mentioned the NDHA Annual Conflict of Interest Policy was included in the board material and asked each board member to review the policy, sign, and return the statement to NDHA which affirms they received a copy, read, and agree to comply with the Conflict of Interest Policy.

**Information Reports:**

- a. AHA – Elizabeth Summy, American Hospital Association (AHA) Region Six Executive, gave an update on federal advocacy and regulatory issues.
- b. Washington Update – John Flink, NDHA Federal Affairs Consultant, gave an update on what is happening in Washington, D.C. under the new administration.
- c. Legislative Session update – Mr. Blasl and Melissa Hauer, General Counsel/VP, gave a status report on the bills NDHA is tracking in the North Dakota legislative assembly. Mr. Blasl recommended that NDHA come back to the board with a plan to meet with the Governor in June regarding health care payment reform and working towards an agreement for the next budget.
- d. Air ambulance update. Ms. Hauer provided a summary of the current federal litigation challenging the North Dakota law restricting balance billing by air ambulance providers and how the 8<sup>th</sup> circuit court of appeals' recent decision striking the law down potentially triggers the contingent provision requiring prior authorization of air ambulance services.

There being no further business, the board meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. Central Time.

*Lori Schmautz*

Recording Secretary