

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Volume 14, Issue 4

December 2020

The Board of Directors held a meeting on December 3, 2020.

2020~2021 Operating Results

The Board of Directors reviewed the Financial Statements for the period ending October 31, 2020. The operating deficit remains at \$1 million year-to-date, and the biggest concern is the revenue shortfall. It is projected that, with a combination of increased volumes over the next five months and Ministry funding, the year will end with a \$78,000 surplus which will be applied towards the working capital debt. In terms of liquidity, the current ratio is excellent at 85%. To date, the Ministry has reimbursed \$4.9 million of the \$5.8 million incremental expenses incurred due to the pandemic, and it is expected that the balance will also be reimbursed.

Cyber Security

The Board of Directors received a presentation providing a high level overview at the different dimensions that contribute to Cornwall Community Hospital's cyber security strategy. The presentation included information on effective cyber security planning, defining critical data, identifying risks and threats, defense and response preparation, staff education and reminders, and the recent cyber security awareness campaign.

COVID-19 Preparedness and Recovery

With the increase in COVID prevalence across the province, Cornwall Hospital remains consumed with managing through this pandemic. Provincial and regional directions are again beginning to change and continue to evolve. This is difficult for everyone across the hospital. While the Hospital has been fortunate not to have high volumes of sick COVID patients, the environment is stressful.

The visitors working group, as well as the Hospital's Incident Command Centre, has spent a great deal of time on the visitor framework. It is a challenge to balance the needs and benefits to patients and patient care against the risks of transmission and the impact on patient and staff safety. The visitor framework comes from work with our regional partner hospitals and aims to provide greater regional alignment in terms of restrictions. While all hospitals in the region may not have the same restrictions at any given time, they will have the same approach to assessing the risks and determining the level of restrictions. The level of restriction is driven primarily by COVID prevalence in the local community and hospital.

The Hospital remains hopeful that it will be able to address the backlog of patient cases in our clinics, diagnostic imaging and operating rooms in a timely manner. The time spent planning and the execution of our ramp up of activity has resulted in positive outcomes. The Hospital has successfully recruited a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technologist to fill a vacancy and this will have a very significant impact on those long wait times.

Corporate Scorecard

The Board reviewed results of the 2020-2021 Corporate Scorecard to Quarter 2.

Patient Portal ~ MyChartTM

The MyChartTM Patient Portal corporate project is progressing very well with a go-live date planned for the end of March 2021.

The project has three components: technical infrastructure, stakeholder engagement and communication planning. The infrastructure has been built and health record documents identified. The stakeholder engagement plan has been finalized and engagement is underway and is scheduled to be completed by January 2021. Stakeholders include physicians (hospital and community), patient advisory, staff, patient registration, privacy representatives, etc. The communication plan has been finalized and includes awareness strategies, education on the purpose and use, managing expectations and continuing education. The communication plan will be rolled out in January 2021.

Virtual On-Line Screening

Currently, COVID-19 screening is a manual paper-based process, which has several challenges including the need for human and financial resources, crowding and delays and traceability. In an effort to address these challenges, the Hospital is in the process of implementing an online self-screening tool for staff and physicians as well as for patients and visitors. It is expected that the tool will go-live for employees by mid-December, followed by patients and visitors in January 2021.

Trillium Gift of Life Network

Earlier this month, Cornwall Hospital was recognized by Trillium Gift of Life Network, Ontario's organ and tissue donation and transplantation agency, for its efforts to integrate organ and tissue donation into quality end-of-life care. The Hospital has received the Conversion Rate award in a virtual ceremony. This is the second year that Cornwall Hospital has received this award. The Conversion Rate measures the percentage of potential organ donors that became actual organ donors.

Recognition

The Board recognized the following individuals:

Ms. Joy Cella, Medical Affairs Coordinator, for her diligence coordinating the appointment and annual reappointment credentialing activities for Board-appointed professional staff at Cornwall Community Hospital;

Ms. Rhonda Obiero, Director of Dietary Services, for her contributions to the food and nutritional program at Cornwall Community Hospital.

Board Committees

The Board of Directors appointed the following members as board committee officers for 2020-2021:

- Ms. Josée Payette as Chair and Mr. Michael Pescod as Vice-Chair of the Governance Committee;
- Ms. Yvonne Bakker as Chair and Ms. Rhiannon St. Pierre as Vice-Chair of the Ethics Committee.

Policies

The Board approved amendments to the following policies:

- CM 05-075 Public Communications
- HR 30-670 Reassignment of Staff;
- HR 30-035 Recruitment.

Terms of Reference

The Board approved terms of reference for the Sterile Processing Committee.