



**The Board of Directors of University Hospital**

Public Meeting  
March 27th, 2024  
10:00 a.m.

Via Zoom  
University Hospital  
Newark, New Jersey

**Present Virtually:** David Molowa, MD, Vice Chair; Robert L. Johnson, MD, FAAP; Keith H. Green, BS; Heather Howard, JD; Cecile A. Feldman, DMD; Mark Lattouf, MD; Steven Landers, MD; Ms. Ketlen Alsbrook

**Present In-Person:** Tanya L. Freeman, Esq., Chair; Mr. Joseph Baumann

**Excused:** Mary O'Dowd, MPH; Brian L. Strom, MD, MPH

**MINUTES**

**I. Opening Statement and Roll Call**

Chairwoman Freeman welcomed all in attendance, called the meeting to order and asked McKenzie Wilson Esq., Corporate Secretary, to read University Hospital's statement of compliance with the Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act and the New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act and call the roll. With a quorum of members present, the meeting convened at 10:01 a.m.

**II. Patient Safety Story**

Mr. Ed Jimenez, President & CEO, provided a patient safety story about the dedication and hard work of all the staff at University Hospital. He explained that the talent of the University Hospital staff overcomes the adversities that they face every day. The hospital had recently experienced a pretty serious water leak that was affecting the pharmacy on B-Level of the hospital. Mr. Jimenez explained that because of the pharmacy staff's ability to adapt, they were able to work around this issue and not a single patient's medications were affected during this time.

**III. Review and Approval of Board Meeting Minutes of September 28, 2023**

Chairwoman Freeman called for a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2024, meeting. Mr. Green motioned for approval of the meeting minutes; the motion was approved by a vote of the members.

**IV. Discussion Items and Reports**

**A. Service Line Spotlight: Emergency Medicine**



Dr. Lewis Nelson, Chief of Service for the University Hospital Emergency Department, provided a service line spotlight on the current actions taking place in the Emergency Department at University Hospital. Dr. Nelson summarized the current volume trends in the Emergency Department, which sees over 100, 000 patients a year. He then went on to explain the current plans for renovations and expansions to the University Hospital Emergency Department, which will expand the Emergency Department by roughly 12 beds. Dr. Nelson then went on to explain who accounts for his staff, which is a mix of residents, fellows, medical students, and nurses.

**B. FY23 Audited Financial Statements – Presented by KPMG**

Ms. Maria Tiso & Mr. Ryan Santonacita, of KPMG, spoke on the Audited Financial statements from KPMG regarding the FY2023 audit. They highlighted the deliverables that KPMG states that University Hospital has meet, as well as their other required communications and next steps that are being taken to fully complete the FY23 audit. They also thanked the Board and University as a whole for the work and cooperation that they have received throughout the years, since this would be the last time the KPMG would be doing the Audited Financials for University Hospital.

**C. Network Infrastructure Modernization Project Request- Mr. Paul Contino**

Mr. Paul Contino, Chief Information Officer, provided a presentation on the second phase of the Network Infrastructure Modernization Project at University Hospital. Mr. Contino highlighted that this project had been brought to the committee's attention in the past and was going to be funded through the approved state FY24 appropriation. He then went on to highlight the request for the second phase of the project, which includes the approval of \$2,531,545 for the installation and configuration of the hardware and network software as well as Project Management for this project. Mr. Contino then highlighted the need for this request, which was done by explaining how the current equipment that was being used was out of date and past its warranty.

**V. Public Comment**

Ms. Tanya Freeman opened the meeting up to the public for the public comment period. There were public comments made regarding, external funding for the hospital, concerns with the Emergency Department, consolidation of the medical school, and concerns surrounding community engagement.

**VI. Proposed Actions**

Ms. McKenzie Wilson presented the following action items and corresponding resolutions, all of which were previously reviewed and recommended for approval in Committees.

*A. Resolution 2024-0327-228: Approval of Medical Executive Committee Recommendations of March 11th, 2024*

*B. Resolution 2024-0327-229: UH-P24-005- Forms Management*





*C. Resolution 2024-0327-230: Network Infrastructure Modernization Project*

*D. Resolution 2024-0327-231: Adoption of Fiscal Year 2023 external Audited Financial Statements*

Then Chairwoman Freeman accepted a motion, duly seconded, to approve the resolutions. The motion was approved by unanimous vote of the members.

**VII. Report of the President and Chief Executive Officer**

Mr. Ed Jimenez started off his presentation by addressing some issues that had been brought to the attention of the board by members of the public who had provided a comment at the last board meeting. Mr. Jimenez then provided a presentation on multiple topics that are currently going on at University Hospital. Mr. Jimenez led off the presentation by providing an update of the current timelines for union negotiations with the different unions and University Hospital. Then he went on to discuss a current situation surrounding the FY25 budget request to the state. He explained that while the initial budget allotment was not great, the way the process works there is still time to have additional funds added to University Hospital's allotment for FY25.

Mr. Jimenez then went on to highlight the continued improvement of the University Hospital EMS team. Then he provided information on the current employment trends regarding open vacancies throughout the hospital. One area that Mr. Jimenez wanted to congratulate was the continued effort in nurse recruiting. The hospital has had a 78% improvement in nursing vacancies being filled over the last 10 months.

Mr. Jimenez then closed his presentation by discussing the status of University Hospital's relationships with neighboring medical institutions, as well as highlighting some recent events that had happened at University Hospital including, the press coverage of University Hospital's newly acquired mobile mammography unit and highlighting the upcoming "Toast & Tribute" event that was being put on by the University Hospital foundation.

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, upon motion, duly seconded, the members voted to adjourn the public meeting of the Board of Directors of University Hospital at approximately 11:33 AM. The next Meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for May 22, 2024, at 10:00 AM.



#### CERTIFICATION

I, McKenzie Wilson, Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary of University Hospital, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the Minutes of the Public Session of the University Hospital Board of Directors meeting conducted on March 27, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Wilson", positioned above a horizontal line.

McKenzie Wilson, Esq.  
Chief Legal Officer and Corporate Secretary