



**Grand River Community Health Centre
Meeting of the Board of Directors
MINUTES**

**Tuesday, April 4, 2023
5:00 p.m. Board Meeting
Community Room C and Zoom**

GRCHC Board of Directors: R. Bryan, Trudi Collins, Melissa Cummings, Sonia Hayer, Roger Ma, Ryan Martens, Jeanette Pickett Pierce, Jennifer Pelchat, France Vaillancourt, Edward Vance, Andrew Worotniuk

Regrets:

Staff: Peter Szota, Carrie Innes Olah (recording secretary)

Chair: Jenn Pelchat

Guests: Kim Meier, BBNOHT, and Jazzlyn McDonald, student

Item	Time	Topic	Presenter	Action
1. Welcome & Call to Order				
1.1	5:03 pm	Call to Order – recognition of a quorum	J. Pelchat	RECORD
1.2	5:03 pm	Land Acknowledgment Statement	P. Szota	RECORD
2. Chair's Remarks				
2.1	5:03 pm	Approval of the Agenda MOTION: To approve the amended agenda of the April 4, 2023, Board of Directors' meeting. (R. Bryan/ E. Vance) Change item 7.2 to Board Recruitment Move item 7.2- In-Camera Standing Item to its own section- Section 8 Move item 3.2- Approval of In-Camera Minutes- March 7, 2023, Section 8- In-Camera Standing Item	J. Pelchat	RECORD
2.2	5:07 pm	Declaration of Conflict of Interest None	J. Pelchat	RECORD
2.3	5:50 pm	Ontario Health Request To Sign Off Multi-Sector Service Accountability Agreement. GRCHC is required to sign the MSSA agreement in order to receive its funding. GRCHC submitted a budget that reflected the operating costs of the organization but it was rejected, as it did not balance. The organization then submitted a balanced budget that results in an operational deficit. This budget was approved and is reflected in the MSSA. The operational deficiency of approximately \$160,000 annually is the result of higher operating costs associated with the move of the organization to 363 Colborne Street in 2012. The additional costs have been flagged to the Ministry many times over the years. Messaging from the Ministry/OH was that they would review the additional costs associated with the building. No review was ever completed. Staff recommended that GRCHC should try to engage a higher level of administration within Ontario Health to pursue the promised funding. The Board agreed.	P. Szota	RECORD

3. Minutes of the Last Meeting				
3.1	5:08 pm	Approval of Minutes – March 7, 2023 (attached) MOTION: To approve the minutes of the March 7, 2023, 2022/23 Board of Directors' meeting. (J. Pickett Pierce/ R. Bryan)	J. Pelchat	RECORD
4. Board Education				
4.1	5:09 pm	Digital Health (attached) Welcome to K. Meier, Digital Health Lead, Brantford Brant Norfolk Ontario Health Team who provided a high level summary of the digital health landscape in the BBNOHT highlighting what's out there, what GRCHC has done well and what's coming in relation to digital health. S. Hayer joined the meeting at 5:11 pm. R. Ma joined the meeting at 5:12 pm. K. Meier left the meeting at 5:50 pm.	K. Meier	RECORD
5. Reports				
5.1	5:58 pm	Programs and QA Committee Report for April 4, 2023 (attached) MOTION: To approve the report of the April 4, 2023 Programs and QA Committee, ratifying all actions/decisions (S. Hayer/ E. Vance)	T. Collins	RECORD
5.2	6:02 pm	Alliance Board Liaison Update- Standing Item An email regarding the Health Equity Charter Self-Assessment was received by both S. Hayer and T. Collins. The email will be shared with Directors who are interested. Discussion regarding the Board Equity training provided by Alliance took place. Staff will confirm with Alliance who has completed the training. Staff will send the access information for this training to the Board. The Annual Alliance Conference will take place June 6-7, 2023. Staff will send out the program information to the Board. Directors are to indicate their interest to staff for registration.	T. Collins/ S. Hayer	RECORD
5.3	6:05 pm	Executive Director's Report April 2023(attached) 6:05 pm MOTION: TO approve the April 2023 Executive Director's Report. (R. Bryan/E. Vance) There was a discussion regarding GRCHC securing counseling services with a sister agency. The government provided funding to support these mental health services which was able to bolster this service for GRCHC clients.	P. Szota	RECORD

		There was a question regarding the recent provincial budget and the discontinuation of certain services for the uninsured and how that will impact GRCHC. It is uncertain at this time; staff will follow up on this.		
6. Business Arising from the Minutes				
7. New Business				
7.1	6:12 pm	<p>Open Petition on Sustainability for Safer Supply and Harm Reduction Programs (attached) Link to an open letter on Sustainability for Safer Supply and Harm Reduction Programs https://www.nss-aps.ca/open-letter-sustainability</p> <p>GRCHC has been asked to sign this letter. Staff recommends that the organization sign the letter.</p> <p>Discussion regarding the non-medical model for safer supply. This model removes the medical involvement and instead involves groups made up of people who access and use drugs together. These groups test the drugs prior to using them to ensure they know what is in the drugs. These groups reduce barriers to accessing safer drugs and are often led by people who use drugs. There is a group in Vancouver that is doing this.</p> <p>Do these groups have any linkage to treatment services? The groups leave this up to the individuals to seek treatment. Discussion regarding what financing could look like and how it could be used to develop a framework of oversight to these groups. It was suggested that providing financing to these groups does not mean purchasing drugs but more likely purchasing drug testing kits and harm reduction supplies. This non-medical model is likely years away.</p> <p>A. Worotniuk indicated that he might have a conflict of interest and will abstain from voting on the motion.</p> <p>MOTION: To approve GRCHC signing the Open Petition on Sustainability for Safer Supply and Harm Reduction Programs (S. Hayer/ J. Pickett Pierce)</p> <p>R. Bryan, R. Martens, and A. Worotniuk abstained from voting.</p>	P. Szota	RECORD
7.2	6:32 pm	<p>Board Recruitment MOTION: THAT the members elect Wanda Mersereau to the GRCHC Board of Directors for a 1.5-year that ends in September 2024. Jeanette/Sonia</p> <p>A brief review of her resume was provided and it was confirmed that her references were favourable.</p> <p>J. McDonald left the meeting at 6:37 pm.</p>	P. Szota	RECORD
8. In-Camera				
8.1	6:38 pm	In-Camera- Standing Item	J. Pelchat	RECORD

		<p>MOTION: To move in camera to discuss 8.1- In Camera Session (E. Vance/R. Bryan)</p> <p>The committee moved in camera at 6:38 pm</p> <p>MOTION: To move out of camera. (E. Vance/R. Bryan)</p> <p>The committee moved out of camera at 7:00 pm.</p> <p>The committee returned from in camera discussion with the following: MOTION: To approve the recommendations (in camera minutes) for item 8.1- In-Camera. (R. Bryan/ J. Pickett Pierce)</p>		
9. Meeting Adjournment				
9.1	7:00 pm	<p>FYI Items- Ray- 7:01 no longer employed with Sangquin</p> <p>R. Bryan shared that he is no longer employed at Sangquin Health Centre. He now working at Indwell in St. Thomas at a residential facility in supportive housing.</p>	J. Pelchat	RECORD
9.2	7:01 pm	<p>Meeting adjourned Next board meeting: Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 5:00 pm</p>	J. Pelchat	RECORD