



Date of meeting: July 31, 2024  
Beginning time: 1:33pm  
End time: 2:44pm

**PROCEEDINGS**

A meeting of the Betsy Lehman Center Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, July 31, 2024, in person.

**Board members and designees present:**

Clinton Dick (CD), representing Undersecretary of Consumer Affairs Layla R. D’Emilia  
Kiame Mahaniah (KM), representing Secretary of Health and Human Services Kate Walsh  
Lauren Peters (LP)  
Sandra Wolitzky (SW), representing Attorney General Andrea J. Campbell

**Betsy Lehman Center staff in attendance:** Barbara Fain (BF), John McInerney (JM), Janell Wilkinson (JW), Michelle Lee (ML), Charles Carter (CC), and Godwin Osei-Poku (GO).

**Approval of minutes:**

BF asked for a motion to approve the April 17<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes; motion made by CD, seconded by KM. Minutes were approved unanimously.

**Discussion:**

Updates

**Debrief on FY 2025 budget and work plan:**

BF explained that the Betsy Lehman Center (BLC) received what it asked for in its FY 2025 operating budget. However, the \$2.2 million amendment for a line item to fund nonpermanent *Roadmap to Health Care Safety* action steps was not adopted in either the House or Senate budget bills. BF noted that the Center has been considering alternative funding opportunities for Roadmap implementation (supplemental budgets, private/stakeholder funding) in advance of next year’s FY 2026 budget process.

LP asked if there was enough in the BLC budget to continue the Phase 1 contract with Pascal Metrics, the vendor selected to administer the automated adverse events monitoring pilot. BF indicated that BLC can continue to compensate Pascal for its time during the planning phase prior to securing full pilot funding.

BF reported that there are new discussions with the Patient Safety Authority in Pennsylvania that would expand the pilot to include Pennsylvania hospitals, a step that could reduce the cost

to Massachusetts.

LP and KM discussed whether MassHealth might be engaged to secure matching CMS funding to implement the Pascal technology, since a significant portion of patients in pilot hospitals would be Medicaid beneficiaries. BF and JM indicated that BLC would evaluate that opportunity.

### **Maternal Health**

GO provided an update on the BLC's maternal health research, including Levels of Maternal Care (LoMC) research and Severe Maternal Morbidity (SMM) research), supporting DPH and the Perinatal-Neonatal Quality Improvement Network of Massachusetts (**PNQIN**)

Next meeting, now scheduled for October 30th, will be rescheduled.

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by KM, seconded by CD and unanimously approved that the regular meeting adjourn at 2:44PM and that an executive session commence.