



# BETSY LEHMAN CENTER

for Patient Safety

Approval on 7/30/2025

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Date of meeting: January 15, 2025

Beginning time: 1:04pm

End time: 1:20pm

## PROCEEDINGS

A meeting of the Betsy Lehman Center Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, via zoom

### 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), M.E. Malone (M.E.M)

### Approval of minutes:

BF asked for a motion to approve the July 31st meeting minutes; motion made by LP, seconded by SW. Minutes were approved unanimously.

### Discussion:

Updates

### Budget for FY26

BF informed the board that BLC had submitted its FY 2026 budget request to A&F seeking an approximately \$650,000 increase to its operating budget for increased operational expenses to cover the cost of payroll and overhead. The Center also requested a separate line item of \$2.3 million in nonpermanent funding to cover a hospital pilot of automated adverse event monitoring.

BF informed the Board that BLC is currently working on its budget submission to the House & Senate Ways and Means Committees. The request will essentially be the same as the request to A&F, perhaps with a slight increase in the maintenance budget.

### Annual Report

BF provided a high-level overview of the Annual Report that the Betsy Lehman Center will release to the Governor and Legislature on January 29<sup>th</sup> at a Legislative forum co- sponsored by

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Barbara Fain

**BOARD MEMBERS**  
Andrea J. Campbell  
Attorney General

Kate Walsh  
Secretary  
of Health and  
Human Services

Layla R. D'Emilia  
Undersecretary  
of Consumer Affairs  
and Business Regulation

Lauren Peters  
Executive Director,  
Center for Health  
Information and Analysis

Representative John Lawn and Senator Cindy Friedman at the State House. The goal for the forum is to increase visibility around health care safety issues and the need for increased state investment in patient safety.

### **Expendable Trust**

BF explained that in several legislative sessions, BLC has been trying to secure technical amendments to its enabling statute to make its expendable trust permanent. A&F, has authorized the trust in the past, the current authorization set to run out in April 2025. A&F has notified the Center that it will renew its Trust authorization to allow the BLC to continue to accept federal and grant funding consistent with its statutory mandate.

### **Adjournment**

LP made a motion to adjourn, SW seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 1:20.