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Date of meeting: July 30, 2025

Beginning time: 1:31pm

End time: 2:34pm

### **PROCEEDINGS**

The Annual Meeting of the Betsy Lehman Center Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, July 30, 2025, at 501 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116

# **Board members and designees present:**

Joanne Marqusee (JM), representing Secretary of Health and Human Services Kiame Mahaniah Lauren Peters (LP)

Sandra Wolitzky (SW), representing Attorney General Andrea J. Campbell

Betsy Lehman Center staff in attendance: Barbara Fain (BF), Janell Wilkinson (JW), M.E. Malone (M.E.M), Julia Prentice (JP) and Vicky Zang (VZ)

# **Approval of minutes:**

BF asked for a motion to approve the January 15th meeting minutes; motion made by JM, seconded by LP. Minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Discussion:**

### **Staff Transitions**

BF informed the Board the Deputy Director is retiring, and the position will be changed to a Chief of Staff role. Additionally, the Policy Director role is currently vacant and the Senior Finance and Operations Manager role has been eliminated.

### FY 2026 Budget

BF provided the Board with a FY26 budget update. The Betsy Lehman Center was given an increase in its maintenance budget of \$120,000. An additional \$500,000 was earmarked in the budget for implementation of action steps in the *Roadmap to Health Care Safety for Massachusetts*.

MEM informed the Board that BLC has also requested a PAC of remaining FY25 funds of between \$300,00 and \$395,000 to finance the *Roadmap* work in FY26.

BF confirmed that BLC is exploring additional funding options to meet the costs of the initial *Roadmap* action steps, particularly the automated adverse event monitoring (AAEM) hospital pilot.

#### FY 2026 Work Plan

### Hospital Pilot

BF indicated that BLC's hospital pilot of AAEM remains a top priority, but depends on raising at least an additional \$500,000 beyond the earmark to cover the first six months starting in January 2026. Board members discussed alternative funding strategies.

## Health Care Safety Education Initiative

BF informed the Board that BLC contracted with a vendor to develop a foundational patient safety curriculum for health care providers across the state's continuum of care. The work is underway, and an initial round of e-learning training curriculum should be complete this fiscal year.

## • Interagency Initiatives

BF noted that BLC is developing proposals in response to requests by the Department of Public Health for the development of resources to support safety improvement in Ambulatory Surgery Centers and long-term care settings. Executing on the proposed plans will likely require additional staff resources. JM mentioned that safety in home health care is also on DPH's radar. JM and LP suggested that BLC reach out to the Executive Office of Aging and Independence and MassHealth as plans develop.

# Adjournment

LP made a motion to adjourn, JM seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 and an Executive Session commenced.