

3. CONSENT AGENDA MATTERS

3.1 Approval of Consent Agenda Items

Discussion on items within the Consent Agenda Included:

- *LMH Foundation Report*
It was noted that the Foundation is taking steps to broaden engagement, including more inclusive outreach and interest in attracting younger supporters. Discussion also referenced Foundation support for Omnicells and development of a list of smaller equipment items not captured within the capital plan for their Gala.
- *WDH Foundation Report*
Discussion focused on timelines and communication related to Foundation requests. Expectations and timelines will be incorporated into the Finance workplan. A coordinated approach is being taken to align Foundation, HIRF, and Ministry funding discussions, with further review to be brought forward to the April Resource & Audit Committee.

Moved by: M. Millar

Seconded by: S. Haines

THAT the LWHA Board of Directors approves the following Consent Agenda reports as circulated:

- LMH Foundation Report
- WDH Foundation Report
- 2025 Public Sector Salary Disclosure (PSSD)

MOTION: CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

4.1 No Business Arising from Previous Minutes

5. MATTERS REQUIRING DECISION: NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Sub-Committee Report: Governance & Ethics Committee – K. Fallis

- Board of Directors Consent Form (attached)
- 2026-2027 Board Goals & Objectives (attached)

Four Board positions are up for renewal. Kailey and Stacey confirmed they will not be seeking renewal, and Mark indicated his intention to seek renewal for an additional three-year term; one member remains undecided. It was further noted that Susan will be discontinuing her Board service at the end of this year.

A call for nominations for Board Executive positions will be issued in advance of the April meeting. While two Executive positions will be vacant, all Executive roles will be open for nomination.

Moved by: J. Weber

Seconded by: S. McLaughlin

THAT the LWHA Board of Directors receives the update from the Governance & Ethics Committee and approves the Committee minutes and recommendations.

MOTION: CARRIED

5.2 Call for Applications – Board Vacancies – K. Fallis

Moved by: S. Haines

Seconded by: M. Dey

That the Board authorize the call for applications to fill upcoming Board vacancies, and direct the Governance & Ethics committee to oversee the recruitment process and bring forward recommendations to the board.

MOTION: CARRIED

5.3 Sub-Committee Report: Quality, Patient Experience & Social Accountability Committee – S. Ash

- Quality Improvement Plan (attached)

The Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for the upcoming fiscal year was presented. The Board reviewed the QIP, including associated priorities, change ideas, and accountabilities.

Moved by: M. Dey

Seconded by: M. Miller

THAT the LWHA Board of Directors approves the 2026-2027 Quality Improvement plan.

MOTION: CARRIED

Moved by: M. Foxton

Seconded by: S. McLaughlin

THT the LWHA Board of Directors receives the update from the Quality, Patient Experience & Social Accountability Committee, and approves the Committee minutes and recommendations.

MOTION: CARRIED

5.4 Sub-Committee Report: Resource & Audit Committee – M. Miller

- Capital Purchase Briefing Note

As part of the update, a capital purchase briefing note was presented regarding replacement of the WDH server, which has exceeded end of life.

Financial considerations related to lease revenues and cost recovery continue to be reviewed and will be brought forward at a future meeting.

Moved by: M. Foxton

Seconded by: G. Topic

THAT the LWHA Board of Directors receives the update from the Resource & Audit Committee and approves the recommendations.

MOTION: CARRIED

6. MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

6.1 **Board Meeting Evaluation – S. Ash**

Board meeting effectiveness and member participation were discussed. Not all members feel comfortable contributing, and the importance of fostering an environment where all voices are welcomed was emphasized. Members were reminded to raise concerns or request additional information where needed to support informed decision-making.

Suggestions included encouraging discussion by reflecting questions back to the group rather than responding directly and supporting members in understanding the context behind questions raised. A mix of experienced and new members, combined with a high volume of changes over the past year, may contribute to uncertainty and hesitancy to participate.

Discussion also highlighted the need for:

- additional time for questions and reflection during meetings;
- clearer context and supporting information for decision-making items;
- continued use of surveys to support feedback from those less comfortable speaking in meetings.

The current Board structure remains new and evolving, with further review planned at the upcoming Board Retreat.

7. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

7.1 **Senior Team Report – J. Leslie, R. Scheeringa**

The VP of Clinical Services and Quality/CNE provided an update, highlighting ongoing challenges related to emergency department closures. While overall staffing levels remain stable, coverage gaps persist due to limited uptake of last-minute shifts. The complexity of staffing across the inpatient and emergency departments, including differing skill requirements and limited flexibility to share staff across sites due to collective agreement constraints, was noted. Work is underway to explore scheduling adjustments, redistribution of resources, and regional and cross-site collaboration opportunities to support more reliable 24/7 coverage. Discussion also highlighted challenges related to nurse escort requirements for emergency transfers, particularly for acute stroke patients. Current practices place significant pressure on staffing as nurses may be out of the department for extended periods. Work is underway with Huron Perth hospitals and EMS to develop a framework to guide when a nurse escort is clinically required, with the goal of reducing unnecessary strain on hospital resources.

The VP of Human Resources noted continued progress on recruitment and workforce-related initiatives, including enhancements to interview processes and ongoing advancement of EIDA-R priorities.

7.2 **LMH Chief of Staff Report – Dr. Suggitt**

Report moved in camera due to confidential personnel considerations.

7.3 **WDH Chief of Staff Report – Dr. Vander Klippe**

The WDH Chief of Staff provided an update, highlighting recent emergency department closures and expressing appreciation for consistent physician coverage. Discussion included concerns related to electronic documentation and the potential for reduced quality with the loss of traditional review processes, with AI-supported tools identified as a possible future solution.

Stacey Ash, Chair

Esther Millar, Secretary