

Louisiana Cancer Research Center  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Was held virtually via Zoom  
On January 28, 2021, 3pm

The following members of the Board of Directors were present:

**Dr. Lee Hamm**, Senior Vice President and Dean, TUHSC, Chairman  
**Dr. Steve Nelson**, Dean, LSUHSC, Vice Chairman  
**Ms. Barbara Goodson**, Deputy Commissioner of Administration, Secretary/Treasurer  
**Dr. Gene D'Amour**, Special Assistant to the President, Xavier University  
**Mr. Terrence Ginn**, Deputy Commissioner for Finance & Administration, BOR  
**Mr. Walter Leger, Jr.**, Senior Partner, Leger & Shaw Attorneys and Counselors  
**Dr. Lucio Miele**, Dept Head, Genetics, Director for Inter-Institutional Programs, Cancer Center, LSUHSC  
**Ms. Pamela Ryan**  
**Dr. Oliver Sartor**, Medical Director, Tulane Cancer Center, Assistant Dean for Oncology  
**Dr. Leonardo Seoane**, Senior Vice President & Chief Academic Officer, Ochsner Health  
**Ms. Carroll Suggs**

The following members of the Board of Directors were not present:

**Mr. Arthur Cooper**, Senior Director, Special Projects, Louisiana Economic Development

Also present were:

Mr. Sven Davisson, Chief Administrative Officer, LCRC  
Ms. Deborah Reeder, Chief Financial Officer, LCRC  
Mr. Paige Sensenbrenner, LCRC Legal Counsel  
Dr. Prescott Deininger, Director, Tulane Cancer Center  
Mr. Ryan Graffagnini, Controller, LCRC  
Mr. Vinson Alford, Business Manager, LCRC  
Dr. Patrice Delafontaine, TUHSC, Executive Dean  
Mr. Richard Granen, Business Manager, LSUHSC Cancer Center  
Ms. Keadren Green, Business Manager, Tulane Cancer Center  
Ms. Shawna Shields, Associate Director, Tobacco Free Living  
Ms. Shelina Davis, CEO, Louisiana Public Health Institute  
Dr. Michael Celestin, Director, Louisiana Tobacco Control Initiative  
Ms. Barbara Landrum, Coordinator of Grants & Development  
Ms. Ellen Palmintier, TU, Director, State & Federal Relations

**Dr. Hamm** called the meeting to order. The roll was called and there was a quorum.

**Dr. Hamm** requested approval of the minutes from the December 17, 2021 Board meeting.

A motion was made by **Dr. Miele** and seconded by **Ms. Ryan**.  
RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2021 Board meeting.

**Dr. Hamm** called for the Finance Committee Report.

Mr. Graffagnini gave the Report. He reported the Budget to Actuals for appropriations and supplemental reserves for Cancer Research and Cessation. Mr. Graffagnini reported on each component's utilization percentage and availability. He also stated that the remaining percentages were consistent with previous years' reports. Mr. Graffagnini stated that components with higher remaining balances will likely "catch up" by fiscal year end as it has

in the past. **Ms. Goodson** inquired about the timing of payment from Harrah's and asked when the LCRC should expect the funds. Mr. Graffagnini responded that the Harrah's payment was received in August of 2020. **Ms. Goodson** said that she believed the LCRC may be able to obtain the payment earlier this fiscal year.

**Dr. Hamm** called for discussion of the Section 125 - P.O.P. Resolution.

Ms. Reeder explained that the resolution is adopted by the Board annually. She explained that the Premium Only Plan allows LCRC employees to have insurance premiums deducted from their paychecks on a pre-tax basis.

A motion was made by **Dr. Sartor** and seconded by **Dr. Nelson**.

RESOLVED with all in favor, to approve the adoption of the Section 125 - Premium Only Plan for 2021.

**Dr. Hamm** called for the TFL update.

Ms. Davis discussed the departure of Ms. Tonia Moore from the TFL program. Ms. Davis stated that the open position has been posted and that she is filling the position temporarily. **Dr. Sartor** asked how the TFL Director position will be advertised. Ms. Davis stated that LPHI has a process for recruiting that involves sharing the position with numerous sources outside of the LPHI organization. **Ms. Suggs** asked why Louisiana's program was issued a failing grade, nationally by the American Lung Association. Ms. Davis explained that Louisiana is typically ranked 49th or 50th, nationally. She stated that this failing grade was attributable to Louisiana's low tobacco tax and lack of statewide laws related to tobacco. Dr. Celestin added that Louisiana's grade for "smoke free air" was a C due to Louisiana's smoke-free laws, but Louisiana was issued an F with regard to tax laws related to tobacco. He stated that "cessation access" earned a D partly due to workplace contact. He also stated that working with legislators would be the key to improving these grades. Ms. Shields stated that the subject of e-cigarettes revolves around lawsuits and that legislators have not passed legislation related to e-cigarettes and flavored tobacco. **Ms. Suggs** asked Ms. Davis and Dr. Celestin if they were inquiring about smokers that suffer from Covid-19. Ms. Davis responded that 30% of Covid-19 patients are smokers. Mr. Davisson stated that cessation was not covered by some insurance plans and asked if it was possible to work with state and private insurers to establish coverage related to cessation. Dr. Celestin stated that TCI was working with Medicaid and the state regarding value added definitions.

**Dr. Hamm** called for the CAO Report.

Mr. Davisson provided the following updates:

TFL: Mr. Davisson and Dr. Trapido have been working on a TFL contract renewal options; Mr. Davisson intends to provide the board with more details when they are available.

Parking: The parking barrier arms are down and the new pay-to-park system is in a test phase. The parking contractor will begin to charge for parking contracts beginning March 1, 2021 subsequent to the approval of the parking policy.

New landscaping: New landscaping has been added to the front of the building in an effort to improve the look of the LCRC.

Movie Production: More film companies have been filming in and around the LCRC building. This type of activity is making use of the clinic space while earning additional revenue.

**Dr. Sartor** asked if the LCRC has a contract with a parking contractor. Mr. Davisson stated that there is a parking contract and that the contractor/manager is working to facilitate work in the garage, along with the collection of fees. **Dr. Sartor** asked if that contract was the result of a competitive bid. Ms. Reeder said that a competitive bid was done, initially. Platinum Parking produced the lowest bid to meet LCRC needs at the time. They are currently engaged under a small scale agreement. LCRC will assess its needs once the Parking Plan is fully implemented and operational for a period of time. At that time, a formal bid process will be considered.

**Dr. Hamm** called for old business.

Mr. Davisson provided an update on the Director search. He stated that the RFP for an executive search firm yielded 11 responses, and the number of responses is approximately triple the number of responses from the first executive search firm RFP release. He stated the list of finalists currently consists of 4 larger search firms and 1 boutique search firm. The fees range from approximately \$80k to \$218k. Two firms offered a fixed rate price.

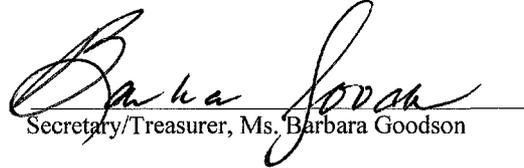
Mr. Davisson provided an update on the MOU. He stated that Mr. Sensenbrenner was asked to review the MOU. Mr. Sensenbrenner stated that he believes the MOU is good, hits high points, sets points of authority, and requires that each institution apply for grants. He also stated that any outside party would view LCRC's functioning as that of a consortium.

A motion was made by **Dr. D'Amour** and seconded by **Dr. Nelson**.  
RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the MOU and authorize **Ms. Goodson** to sign on behalf of the LCRC

**Dr. Hamm** called for new business. There was none.

**Dr. Hamm** called for an Executive Session.

The meeting was called back to order. With no further discussion or business, the meeting adjourned.

  
Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Barbara Goodson