

Louisiana Cancer Research Center
Board of Directors Meeting
A Hybrid Meeting was held.
On February 23, 3pm

The following members of the Board of Directors were in attendance:

Dr. Lee Hamm, Senior Vice President & Dean-School of Medicine, TUHSC, Chairman (via phone)
Dr. Richard DiCarlo, Interim Dean -School of Medicine, LSUHSC, Vice-Chairman
Ms. Barbara Goodson, Deputy Commissioner of Administration, Secretary/Treasurer
Mr. Arthur Cooper, Senior Director, Special Projects, Louisiana Economic Development
Dr. Gene D'Amour, Special Assistant to the President, Xavier University
Mr. Walter Leger, Jr., Senior Partner, Leger & Shaw Attorneys and Counselors
Mr. Darren Mire, Member, Board of Regents; Director of Valuation, Orleans Parish Assessor's Office
Dr. Valentine Nfonsam, Department Head for Surgery -School of Medicine, LSUHSC
Ms. Pamela Ryan
Ms. Carroll Suggs

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

Dr. Brian Moore, Director, Ochsner Cancer Institute
Dr. Oliver Sartor, Medical Director, Tulane Cancer Center, Assistant Dean for Oncology

Also present were:

Dr. Joe W. Ramos, Director & Chief Executive Officer, LCRC
Mr. Sven Davisson, Chief Administrative Officer, LCRC
Ms. Deborah Reeder, Chief Financial Officer, LCRC
Mr. Paige Sensenbrenner, Legal Counsel, LCRC
Mr. Ryan Graffagnini, Controller, LCRC
Dr. Prescott Deininger, Director, Tulane Cancer Center
Dr. Thomas Wiese, Professor, Xavier University
Dr. Patrice Delafontaine, Executive Dean, TUHSC
Ms. Stephanie Wiebke, Business Manager, Xavier University
Ms. Keadren Green, Business Manager, Tulane Cancer Center
Ms. Barbara Landrum, Business Manager, LSUHSC Cancer Center
Ms. Shelina Davis, CEO, Louisiana Public Health Institute
Dr. Michael Celestin, Director, Louisiana Tobacco Control Initiative
Dr. Earl Benjamin-Robinson, Director, Tobacco Free Living
Ms. Melinda Parks, CFO, Louisiana Public Health Institute
Ms. Shawna Shields, Associate Director, Tobacco-Free Living

Dr. DiCarlo chaired the meeting as requested by Chairman Hamm.

Dr. DiCarlo requested approval of the minutes of the November 17, 2022, Board meeting.

A motion was made by **Mr. Mire** and seconded by **Ms. Goodson**
RESOLVED, with all in favor, to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2022, Board meeting.

Dr. DiCarlo called for the Finance Committee Report.

Mr. Graffagnini provided the finance update. He reported the Budget to Actuals with variances for the research and cessation budget components. A complete report is included in the board material.

Ms. Reeder reported on – the Section 125 - P.O.P. Resolution which requires a Board action. She reminded the Board that to keep LCRC’s Section 123 premium-only-plan (POP) active, the Board is required to adopt a resolution to approve the plan annually. She explained that the POP allows LCRC employees to have health related insurance premiums deducted from their paychecks on a tax-free basis. Ms. Reeder added there have been no changes to the plan in recent years.

A motion was made by **Ms. Goodson** and seconded by **Mr. Mire**.
RESOLVED with all in favor, to approve the adoption of the Section 125 - Premium Only Plan for 2023.

Dr. DiCarlo called for the Director/CEO Presentation.

Dr. Ramos provided an update on recent activities. He reported on administrative changes that have been made. Dr. Ramos reported LCRC program membership has been launched. He presented LCRC’s Senior Leadership Team. Dr. Ramos discussed LCRC’s four program areas that were developed based on funding. He presented the leadership team for LCRC’s new education and training program. He announced there will be an eight-week summer course in Cancer Research offered to undergraduates. Applications are being accepted now on the LCRC website. Dr. Ramos presented the new office of Community Outreach and Engagement. He went over the purpose and introduced the leadership team. Dr. Ramos announced the members of LCRC’s newly formed External Advisory Committee (EAC). He added there will be a visit on July 13th and asked the Board to put a hold on their calendars for that day. Dr. Ramos proposed that at future board meetings, researchers will be invited to give brief updates. A copy of the presentation is on file.

Dr. DiCarlo called for any new business. There was none.

Dr. DiCarlo called for any new business. There was none.

With no further discussion or business, the meeting adjourned.


Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Barbara Goodson