

Board Brief summarizes the board meetings of BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS). It is shared with BCEHS agencies, government, media and other stakeholders to keep them informed about the activities of BCEHS.

- Board briefs are available online at: www.bcehs.ca/about/accountability/board-meetings
- Media contact: BCEHS Communications at 250-953-3651

Summary of the June 18, 2015 Board Meeting

The BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) board has six scheduled open board meetings per year. BCEHS is committed to holding open board meetings outside the Lower Mainland. The June 18, 2015 meeting was held in Abbotsford.

Question & Answer / Public Presentation Period

In the spirit of its commitment to public accessibility, the board of BCEHS provides opportunities for the public to schedule presentations and to ask questions of the board prior to the beginning of every open board meeting.

Mr. Wynne Powell welcomed Larry Watkinson, District of Mission Fire Chief, who submitted three questions to the Board regarding: (i) minimum BCEHS staffing and ambulance service committed to the District of Mission; (ii) improving emergency patient care; and (iii) potential for treat-and-release. The questions were answered by Mr. Wynne Powell, Ms. Linda Lupini and Ms. Jodi Jensen. Mr. Powell thanked Chief Watkinson for his attendance and for bringing these questions to the Board members' attention.

Business Meeting

Operation Research & Health Study

Mr. Peter Thorpe provided an overview of a recent Operation Research and Health ORH Study. Key points of the presentation were:

- Data for modelling based on past activity modelled with demand increases to 2020
- Ability to look at different options for service delivery
- Ability to leverage analysis for review of rural service delivery (aeromedical, inter-facility transfers)
- Ability to consider and review First Responder information
- Multiple stakeholders engaged and supporting review including health authorities, physicians & municipalities

Emergency Response by the Corporation of Delta

The Corporation of Delta recently authorized Delta Firefighters to provide services to the Emergency Medical Assistants level, without the consent of BCEHS. BCEHS management outlined its concerns for patient safety and its efforts to work cooperatively with Delta on the matter.

BCEHS had been contemplating a pilot project with Delta whereby such activities would be permitted in a controlled manner pursuant to a contractual agreement between BCEHS and Delta. That pilot project was not undertaken because a number of matters which needed to be addressed remained incomplete and because BCEHS management had determined a better approach was to work with all interested Lower Mainland municipalities to ensure such an extension of service levels is done in a coordinated and consistent regional manner.

BCEHS is now working with Metro Vancouver municipalities to discuss expanded services by first responders in a coordinated and consistent manner. Delta has been repeatedly invited to participate in the working group but has declined.

BCEHS is of the view that the conduct of Delta in this regard is not lawful because the Emergency Health Services Act does not permit such services to be rendered without BCEHS consent. The Board passed a resolution authorizing legal action to restrain the Corporation of Delta from providing the extended services without the consent of BCEHS. The Board also asked management to draft a letter requesting again that Delta meet with BCEHS to resolve the matter cooperatively.

Board Committee Reports

Quality & Access Committee

Mr. Ritchie reported that they are tracking progress on all areas involved in the Accreditation Canada process that will take place in the Fall 2015.

The committee reviewed the latest data on emergency managed service call processing for ambulance calls. The committee wants to see all targets being met and is encouraged to see the demand analysis study as it fits in with longer term expectations.

Governance and Human Resources Committee

The committee conducted the annual review of six Board Terms of Reference for the Board Chair, President and CEO, the Board of Directors, Director, Officers of the Board, and Governance & HR Committee.

It was moved and seconded that the updated BCEHS Board Terms of Reference with the noted changes be approved.

Finance Committee

Mr. Manning reported that BCEHS is continuing with the project to design a new combined facility for two Metro Ambulance Stations. The facility design is substantially complete and the construction cost estimates are being finalized. The lease documentation continues to be prepared with involvement of Legal and Risk Management.

Audit Committee

Ms. Rafferty brought two items for approval.

It was moved and seconded that the Financial Statements for the year ended March 31, 2015 for BC Emergency Health Services be approved.

It was moved and seconded that the reappointment of Price Waterhouse Coopers, LLP as auditor of BC Emergency Health Services for the 2015/16 fiscal year be approved.

Research Committee

No report.

Next meeting

August 27, 2015 in Vancouver