

PathWest Board Communiqué

This communiqué highlights key discussions and considerations from the February 2022 Board meeting.

Member attendance:

Ms. Angie Paskevicius (Chair)

Prof. Christobel Saunders – *via VC*

Mr. Kevin Taylor – *via VC*

Mr. Robert McPhee – *via VC*

Prof. Tarun Weeramanthri – *via VC*

Prof. Gelareh Farshid – *via VC*

Dr. Kim Hames – *via VC*

Ms. Samantha Elder – *via VC*

Apologies:

Ms. Michele Dolin

In attendance

Mr. Adrian Bautista (A/Chief Executive)

Ms. Analiese Sidhu

Mr. Paul Schneider

Mr. Mike Smith

Ms. Nicola Chisholm

Prof. Miles Beaman

Dr. David Speers

Mr. Aus Molan

Ms. Fiona Collins

February 2022 Board Meeting

The February Board meeting was held at the QEII Medical Campus in the Harry Perkins Building and via MS Teams on Thursday, 3 February 2022. Given the current and ongoing COVID-19 situation, it was decided that all Board and Committee meetings going forward will predominately be held virtually for the safety of staff and Board members.

Key matters for discussion:

COVID-19

The Board heard from Dr David Speers and Mr. Paul Schneider regarding COVID-19 with Paul providing an update on PathWest's activities to ensure preparedness for COVID-19, and Dr Speers updated the Board on the current Omicron variant.

PathWest in conjunction with WA Health as a whole, has developed planning that protects the health and wellbeing of staff and to maintain business as usual services for the WA Community. The Board was impressed with the development of the 100-day plan, the overarching plan of actions developed to prepare the wider PathWest service for the border opening, continuation of services and living with COVID-19 (LWC).

As we all know COVID-19 continues to evolve, which creates complexities with providing the most up to date information to staff once available. I would like to commend the PathWest Executive and the PathWest COVID-19 Control Group for their actions in keeping our staff informed of important information as soon as it is available.

Laboratory Information System

Ms Analiese Sidhu, A/Executive Director Corporate Services; Ms Fiona Collins, A/Service Manager; and Mike Smith, Project Manager provided an update to the Board regarding changes and enhancements to the Laboratory Information System (LIS) following the discussions at the December 2021 Board meeting. It was pleasing to see the amount of work that has progressed since the December meeting in which the Board was informed of the backlog of tasks associated with the LIS, and development of a critical issues list.

The Board would like to acknowledge the positive engagement from the disciplines, teams and all involved in the progress of this work.

Committee updates:

Finance Committee / Risk and Audit Committee

- Coming into 2022, the Board reviewed its current Committee structure and have decided to amalgamate two of its Committees. The Board will combine the Finance Committee and the Risk and Audit Committee to form the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee.
- Ms Michele Dolin will Chair the newly combined Committee and be joined by Committee members Ms Samantha Elder and Mr Kevin Taylor.
- The Board Secretariat is in the process of drafting the Terms of Reference, the Committee meeting and reporting cycle for 2022. It is anticipated that this Committee will commence in March 2022 and meet bi-monthly.

A message from the Board Chair

Some of you will notice that we now have only 9 Directors, instead of the usual 10 Directors on the Board. Dr Sue Van Leeuwen resigned from the Board at the end of December last year. Sue's valuable contribution to the Board and in particular her Chair role of the People and Culture Committee will be missed. The Board is currently in the process of recruiting a new Director to fill this vacancy. Kim Hames has agreed to step up and Chair the People and Culture Committee in Sue's absence.

We are also hopeful that an announcement will be made very soon about the new Chief Executive. The Board understands how important it is to confirm this arrangement particularly in a time of considerable change and uncertainty.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled Board meeting will be held via MS Teams and at QEII Medical Campus on Thursday, 3 March 2022.



Ms. Angie Paskevicius
Chair, PathWest Board
22 February 2022



Angie Paskevicius



Tarun Weeramanthri



Gelareh Farshid



Kevin Taylor



Michele Dolin



Christobel Saunders



Rob McPhee



Samantha Elder



Kim Hames