This meeting of the University Healthcare System Committee was held via teleconference\(^1\) on Wednesday, March 10, 2021, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

Trustee Stuart C. King, chair of the committee, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ramón Cepeda; Ms. Tami Craig Schilling; Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Dr. Stuart C. King; Ms. Sarah Phalen; Mr. Ali Mirza, student trustee, Urbana. Mr. Donald J. Edwards, chair of the Board; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; and Mr. Austin Verthein, student trustee, Springfield, attended the meeting as guests.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever, treasurer; President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Barbara J. Wilson, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Robert J. Jones, chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Michael D. Amiridis, chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Karen M. Whitney, interim chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Dr. Joseph T. Walsh, interim vice president for

\(^1\) Per Governor J. B. Pritzker’s Executive Order 2021-04
economic development and innovation; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Ms. Kirsten Ruby, interim director for University relations; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Attached is a listing of other staff members and some members of the media in attendance at this meeting.

Dr. King welcomed everyone to the meeting, and the secretary introduced others in attendance.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 12:32 p.m., Dr. King stated: “A motion is now in order to hold an executive session to consider pending, probable, or imminent litigation against, affecting, or on behalf of the University.”

On motion of Dr. King, seconded by Mr. Estrada, this motion was approved by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Estrada, Dr. King, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Mirza; No, none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Material redacted pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.06d)

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

With no other comments or questions, the executive session adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

2 Per 5 ILCS 120/7(e), all votes are conducted by roll call.
REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 12:57 p.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance.

Dr. King requested a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held January 10, 2021. On motion of Mr. Estrada, seconded by Mr. Mirza, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Estrada, Dr. King, Mr. Mirza, Ms. Phalen; No, none.

OPENING REMARKS

Dr. King asked Dr. Robert A. Barish, vice chancellor for health affairs, Chicago, to make some opening remarks. Dr. Barish recognized Ms. Craig Schilling and Ms. Phalen, who recently joined the committee. He gave an overview of UI Health and described aspects of the academic health enterprise at Chicago. Dr. Barish then commented on the COVID-19 pandemic and said that the hospital admitted its first patient with COVID-19 one year ago, in March 2020. He remarked on the efforts of hospital staff over the past year, treating 1,165 patients with COVID-19, processing COVID-19 tests, and administering 51,500 vaccines. Dr. Barish said UI Health met challenges due to the pandemic and excelled, adapting to changing needs over the past year. Dr. King thanked Dr. Barish for his comments.
Dr. King introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board’s agenda for its meeting on March 11, 2021. All recommended items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

Purchase Recommendations

Dr. King asked Mr. Michael B. Zenn, chief executive officer, University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, to report on purchase recommendations. Mr. Zenn reported on the recommended purchase of Intuitive Surgical robotic accessories and ancillary supplies for the UI Hospital and Clinics, Chicago. He referred to an increase in robotic surgery and said the volume is expected to increase at the hospital. Mr. Zenn told the committee this is a sole source purchase and is exempt from the requirements of the Procurement Code, including the establishment of Business Enterprise Program (BEP) goals.

Mr. Zenn then discussed the recommended purchases of GE Discovery Molecular Imaging PET/CT imaging equipment and a Siemens 3T Magnatom Vida MRI Scanner for the new Outpatient Surgery Center and Specialty Clinics (OSC) at the University of Illinois Chicago. He said these are both part of the approved medical equipment budget and require delivery this year in accordance with the project’s construction schedule. He told the committee these are exempt from competitive selection procedures in accordance with the Illinois Procurement Code.
Mr. Estrada asked if manufacturers from Illinois are an option for these purchases. Mr. Zenn explained that there are very few manufacturers of this equipment, and none resides in Illinois. Mr. Zenn commented that UI Health is on the forefront of robotic surgery. Committee members discussed purchases that are exempt from Illinois Procurement Code procedures, and Mr. Laurence Appel, chief financial officer, University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, explained that medical equipment is exempt from Illinois Procurement Code requirements. Mr. Zenn and Mr. Appel provided information about the process and cost and said they are confident in recommending these purchases. Discussion followed regarding the life of imaging equipment, and Dr. Barish remarked on anticipated increased need for PET/CT and MRI equipment due to the expansion of the Cancer Center.

There was no objection to this item being forwarded to the full Board for voting.

REPORTS

Hospital and Clinics Chief Executive Officer Report

At 1:20 p.m., Dr. King asked Mr. Zenn to give the hospital and clinics chief executive officer report (materials on file with the secretary). Before beginning the presentation, Mr. Zenn commented on the impact of COVID-19 over the past year, particularly on those in health care, and remarked on the need to focus on recovery for those most affected. He referred to an Emotional Well Being and Recovery Town Hall hosted earlier
that day by Dr. Terry Vanden Hoek, chief medical officer, and Dr. Anand Kumar, head of the Department of Psychiatry at Chicago. Mr. Zenn commented on the vaccine initiative and its success, and he gave examples of the many positive comments that were received regarding UI Health’s vaccine distribution. Dr. Susan Bleasdale, chief quality officer, University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, reported on the impact of vaccine distribution, the majority of which were administered at the Credit Union 1 Arena, and said that 40,000 total vaccines were administered as of February 25, 2021. She said that as of that morning, 51,000 doses had been given, with 22,000 people fully vaccinated. Dr. Bleasdale described additional approved vaccination sites and said more sites may be designated through the Protect Chicago Plus program. She reported on plans to administer vaccinations through Mile Square Health Center and said additional dates and locations may be identified going forward. Dr. Bleasdale then gave an update on COVID-19 and said that as of February 25, 2021, 20 patients positive for COVID-19 were admitted in the hospital, and she reported on the UI Health overall testing positivity rate of less than 4 percent. She said this is consistent with the trend in the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Mr. Estrada commended the work of UI Health for their efforts to administer COVID-19 vaccines in the community.

Mr. Zenn then reported on activity and financial performance for the six months ending December 2020 and summarized trends seen during this period. He presented year-over-year volume changes, described sources of non-operating revenue, and showed days of cash on hand.
Dr. Bleasdale discussed quality and safety and reported on central line associated blood stream infections, noting that the rate increase is associated with treating patients with COVID-19. She said these metrics would be used to calculate performance scores for 2021-2022. Dr. Bleasdale told the committee that exemptions due to COVID-19 are in place for the first and second quarters, and that advocacy groups are working on exemptions for the third and fourth quarters. She noted additional information on quality and patient safety is available in the dashboard report made available to the committee.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. King asked if there was any old business to discuss. He announced that the next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2021, at 12:30 p.m., at a location to be determined.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Dr. King asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Estrada, the meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m. by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Estrada, Dr. King, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Mirza; No, none.
Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT  
Secretary

STUART C. KING, MD, MBA  
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE  
Special Assistant to the Secretary