

MIDCENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD

Minutes of the MidCentral District Health Board meeting held on 16 December 2008 at 10.10 am at MidCentral District Health Board Offices, Board Room, Gate 2B, Heretaunga Street, Palmerston North

PRESENT

Ian Wilson (Chair)
Diane Anderson
Lindsay Burnell
Graeme Campbell
Ann Chapman
Jack Drummond

Dennis Emery
Jim Jefferies
Stephen Paewai
Barbara Robson
Ormond Stock

IN ATTENDANCE

Murray Georgel, Chief Executive Officer
Stuart Wilson, General Manager, Corporate Services
Lareen Cooper, General Manager, MidCentral Health
Mike Grant, General Manager, Funding Division
Jill Matthews, Principal Administration Officer
Dennis Geddis, Communications Officer

Public (1)
Media (1)

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

3. CONFLICT AND/OR REGISTER OF INTERESTS UPDATE

3.1 Amendments to the Register of Interests

There were no amendments to the Register of Interests. The Board noted that an updated copy of the Register had been issued to all members.

3.2 Declaration of Conflicts in Relation to Today's Business

No conflicts were identified.

4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Minutes

It was resolved:

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 18 November 2008 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

4.2 Matters Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. BOARD COMMITTEES

5.1 Funding Audit Sub-Committee

It was resolved:

that the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Funding Audit Sub-Committee held on 18 November 2008 be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

5.2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5.3 Hospital Advisory Committee

It was resolved:

that the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Hospital Advisory Committee held on 2 December 2008 be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

5.4 Matters Arising

5.4.1 Financial Position

The term "right-sizing" was questioned. It was considered by some members that "rationing" may be more appropriate from an external viewpoint.

5.4.2 Quality Update

A member referred to the request for information about the use and cost of language line and sign language interpreter service, and expressed an interest in the level of unmet need in this regard. That is, the number of requests for interpreter services that could not be fulfilled.

5.4.3 Workforce Development Strategy Update

The General Manager, MidCentral Health advised she would report back on the success of the Medical Director's recent UK recruitment efforts.

5.5 Community & Public Health Advisory Committee

The Committee Chair advised she would be seeking a correction to the minutes in respect of the Workforce Development Strategy – Dental Therapists. The concern was not the lack of

refresher training opportunities for dental therapists, but that fact scholarships were being offered when there were no placements.

It was resolved:

that the unconfirmed minutes of the meeting of the Community and Public Health Advisory Committee held on 2 December 2008 be received and the recommendations contained therein approved.

5.6 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

6. STRATEGIC ISSUES

6.1 District Strategic Plan

Management advised that the national strategic planning guidelines had not yet been issued. It was understood the initial delays related to the Ministry of Health's long term systems framework and aligning the guidelines to these.

The growing importance of a regional strategic planning position was discussed, particularly the difficulties this may present given the lack of alignment to accountability arrangements which were district, and not regionally, based. Management advised that this issue had been brought to the Ministry of Health's attention.

It was resolved:

that the report be received.

6.2 District Annual Plan 2009/10

Management advised that the funding envelope for 2009/10 had not yet been issued.

It was resolved:

that the report be received.

6.3 District Annual Plan 2008/09: Corporate and Governance Initiatives

Management confirmed that the update against Item 77, Review Strategic Plan by November 2009 was incorrect. The "public engagement/consultation" was not on track for completion by March 2009. This would take place during 2009 following a Board decision regarding this. The current workshop process underway was an information-gathering exercise to determine the DHB's progress against the current District Strategic Plan and was not public engagement/consultation.

The CEO advised that work was ongoing to ensure DHBs' information systems were linked. This could be done two ways, being use of the same system, or, development of systems to the same standard. The latter approach appeared to be being taken. Mr Georgel further advised that MidCentral DHB was working with five, possibly six, other DHBs regarding the replacement patient management system.

It was resolved:

that the report be received.

6.4 Manawhenua Hauora

It was resolved:

that the minutes be received.

6.5 Alliance with Whanganui DHB

The CEO advised that the Ministry of Health had provided feedback on the proposed letter of application to the Minister of Health. This was now to be finalised in conjunction with Whanganui DHB and issued.

The meeting with representatives from southernAlliance was discussed, and members who attended advised that this had been very useful, both in terms of learning more about their experience, and, getting a better shared understanding with Whanganui DHB.

It was resolved:

that the report be received.

7. OPERATIONS REPORTS

7.1 CEO's Report

7.1.1 Government's 100 Day Action Plan

The Government's 100 day action plan was noted, particularly the six items in respect of the health portfolio.

7.1.2 DHBNZ Update

The potential impact of the change in the national health information strategy was raised, particularly the distributed electronic health record. Management advised that the impact was not considered to be significant. MDHB's systems should be sufficiently flexible to accommodate any changes.

7.1.3 Procurement

Management advised that no feedback (formal or informal) had been received from the Office of the Auditor-General regarding their recent audit of MDHB's procurement systems. Their draft report was due in the new year.

7.1.4 Financial Position

The Board noted the consolidated financial result as at the end of October was adverse to budget by \$1.3m. Management advised that as discussed at the Hospital Advisory and the Community & Public Health Advisory Committees, further deterioration would occur unless planning actions and service enhancements were halted. This action had been taken, and included:

- reprioritising capital expenditure
- placing on hold planned service enhancements and developments
- placing on hold site redevelopment planning
- a proposal to close Enable New Zealand's warehouse in Lower Hutt
- placing a hold on some staff appointments
- postponing various initiatives, such as the Quality Improvement Committee's projects

Further financial management plans would be developed following the Board's workshop of 16 December. Management confirmed that capital expenditure was being reprioritised, and that urgent items would continue to be processed.

It was noted that the cost of the new Herceptin policy was expected to be cost neutral for DHBs.

7.1.5 Debt

A tranche of debt (\$7m) was due to be repaid in December, or rolled over. The Group Audit Committee Chair advised that following discussions by the Committee, this debt was to be rolled over. Associated interest rates averaged 4.8%. The Committee considered this was a prudent action as it retained access to borrowings, and the risk of interest rates on deposits falling below borrowing rates was considered low.

7.1.6 Cash Flow

Members noted that cash flow was "lumpy" but this was not problematic as long as the year-end budget position was achieved.

It was resolved:

that the report be received.

8. GOVERNANCE ISSUES

8.1 2008/09 Work Programme

It was resolved:

that the updated work programme for 2008/09 be noted.

8.2 Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service Project: Reporting Arrangements

The CEO tabled Appendix A to this report which had been omitted from the agenda. This set out the Ministry of Health's reporting requirements in respect of this project.

It was resolved:

that reporting against the Child & Adolescent Oral Health Project be to the DHB's Hospital Advisory Committee as follows:

- *2008/09 – March and June 2009*
- *2009/10 onward until project completion: quarterly updates August, November, February and May*

and that upon project completion, a post event audit report be provided to the Hospital Audit Sub-Committee.

9. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

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10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 17 February 2009, MidCentral District Health Board Offices, Board Room, Gate 2B, Heretaunga Street, Palmerston North

11. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

It was resolved:

that the public be excluded from this meeting in accordance with the Official Information Act 1992, section 9 for the following items for the reasons stated:

| <i>Item</i> | <i>Reason</i> | <i>Ref</i> |
|---|--|------------|
| <i>"In Committee" Minutes of the Previous Meeting</i> | <i>For reasons stated in the previous agenda</i> | |
| <i>"In Committee" minutes of Committee Meeting</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Hospital Advisory Committee, 2 December 2008</i><i>Community & Public Health Advisory Committee, 2 December 2008</i> | <i>For the reasons set out in the Committee's order paper of 2.12.08 meeting held with the public present</i> <i>For the reasons set out in the Committee's order paper of 2.12.08 meeting held with the public present</i> | |

Confirmed this 17th day of February 2009.

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Chairman