



Bucks CMS  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, January 27, 2021  
Online Zoom Meeting  
6:30 pm

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**MINUTES**

Board Members Attending – Drs. Robert Mirsky, Jerome Burke, John Gallagher, Judith Gallagher-Braun, Jerry Burke, David Damsker, Marilyn Heine, Karl Helmsold, Bindukumar Kansupada, Richard Leshner, Daniel Latta, David Pao

Staff – Jason Harbonic, Executive Director

Item	Discussion	Action Taken or Planned
<b>Welcome, Introductions, and Call to Order</b>		Dr. Mirsky, President, called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.
<b>COVID Update</b>	Dr. Damsker provided a COVID update which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The availability of vaccine provider sign-up</li><li>• The number of vaccine doses currently being distributed</li><li>• State-administered vaccine distribution</li><li>• Only two private physician practices have signed up as vaccine providers so far in Bucks County</li><li>• Physicians should still sign up to administer vaccines in spite of the lack of supply and the need to now administer second doses</li><li>• Johnson &amp; Johnson vaccine may be</li></ul>	

	<p>approved within weeks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expect adequate vaccine supply by June</li> <li>• Overall COVID cases are dropping in Bucks</li> <li>• People are signing up at multiple vaccine sites</li> <li>• Bucks County vaccine supply is being sent to the center at Woods School for administration until at least February 19th</li> </ul> <p>The Board expressed some frustrations in finding vaccine information and resources and said that he state likely shouldn't have progressed to the next level given the overall lack of vaccine supply</p>	
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	December 16, 2020 Board Minutes	Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.
<b>Membership Report</b>	The membership report was reviewed. Overall the number of members is lower than the same point in 2019.	
<b>Treasurer's Report</b>	The BCMS investments are growing and doing well.	
<b>Introductions</b>	The group introduced themselves and welcomed Dr. Latta as a new board member.	
<b>Committee Updates</b>	<p>Bylaws Committee – The draft revisions were included in the board packet. The committee will give a final review and sign off on them before sending to the board for their approval. Then the members will need to vote on the revisions.</p> <p>Nominating Committee – Dr. Latta has joined the board, affiliated with Grand View Health. President-Elect should be from Upper Bucks County. The committee plans to meet soon.</p> <p>Finance Committee – The group approved the \$2,500 payment to BCHIP. The BCMS president has the option to make other charitable donations.</p>	

	Magazine Committee – Dr. Burke asked the group to consider submitting an article to the magazine, primarily more medical content, with consideration that readership includes lay people.	
<b>Programs</b>	<p>There was a discussion of the physician wellness webinars held in 2020 and potential for a future event.</p> <p>The Annual Membership Brunch will likely be held virtually and will recognize the 2020 and 2021 award recipients (50, 40, 25, &amp; 10 anniversary years). The brunch can be scheduled after the Board approves the bylaws to allow members adequate notice of the meeting and bylaws review.</p>	
<b>President’s Remarks</b>	Dr. Mirsky welcomed Dr. Leshner to the presidency and wished him well. He expressed his hope for a better year than the pandemic year of 2020.	
<b>Installation of New President</b>	<p>Dr. Leshner thanked Dr. Mirsky. He then outlined his three goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be a resource for COVID information</li> <li>• State and national advocacy issues</li> <li>• Being seen as a professional not a provider <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bring in younger members</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Legislative Update</b>	<p>Dr. Heine will send a written advocacy update. She provided a brief verbal update on the last federal COVID-19 relief package of the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress that included several key provisions for physicians including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures to mitigate the “budget neutrality” cut in Medicare reimbursement with increase in E/M related reimbursement beginning in 2021</li> <li>• Continuation of the moratorium on the 2% Medicare sequester through the end of March 2021</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surprise billing provisions include independent dispute resolution where the arbiter is not allowed to consider Medicare, Medicaid, or other public payers; there will be much work on regulations before the law is implemented in 2022 and determination of where the federal law ends and state laws begin</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment</b>		The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.

**Upcoming Bucks CMS Board Meeting**

Bucks CMS Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 10, 2021  
6:30 p.m., Virtual Zoom Meeting

Submitted by: Marilyn Heine, MD, Secretary and Jason Harbonic, Executive Director