MEDICAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (MUHA) BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING MINUTES
MAY 15, 2026

The MUHA Board of Trustees convened on May 15, 2026, with the following members present: Charles Schulze, Chairman; Dr. Melvin Brown, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Terri Barnes; Dr. Fritz Butehorn; Dr. Guy Castles; Dr. Richard Christian; Dr. Paul Davis; Mrs. Barbara Johnson-Williams; Dr. James Lemon; Dr. Murrell Smith; Mr. Tom Stephenson; and Dr. Bart Witherspoon.

Item 1. Call to Order.

There being a quorum present, Chairman Charles Schulze called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Colcock Hall Boardroom located at 19 Bee Street, Charleston, South Carolina.

Item 2. Roll Call for the MUHA and MUSC Board of Trustees.

Ms. Katherine Haltiwanger, Board Secretary, called the roll and stated that "in compliance with FOIA, the notice of meetings and agendas were furnished to all news media and persons requesting notification."

Item 3. Date of Next Meeting.

Ms. Katherine Haltiwanger, Board Secretary, announced that a special-called meeting will be held on June 19, 2026, in Columbia, South Carolina, and the date of the next regular meeting is August 14, 2026.

Item 4. Approval of Minutes.

Chairman Charles Schulze called for a motion to approve the minutes of April 8 and 10, 2026.

Board Action: Vice Chairman Melvin Brown made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

GENERAL INFORMATIONAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Item 5. General Informational Report of the President.

President David Cole called on Dr. Patrick Cawley, CEO, MUSC Health, who introduced Dr. Eric Wallen, Chairman, Department of Urology. Dr. Wallen outlined the Department's mission to become a national leader in urologic care through collaboration, innovation, multidisciplinary practice, and scholarly excellence. He emphasized the Department's guiding principles of integrity, accountability, and quality across patient care, research, and education. Current priorities center on strategic growth in faculty, residency, and fellowship programs, expansion of clinical services, and development of new facilities and technologies. A key focus is strengthening research infrastructure, enhancing productivity, and building partnerships particularly with the Hollings Cancer Center while also expanding philanthropy and statewide clinical impact.

The Department currently includes 17 faculty (with additional hires planned), advanced practice providers, residents, and fellows across multiple subspecialties. Education remains a major strength, with recent residency expansion, simulation and robotic training advancements, and strong recruitment pipelines from medical students through fellowship. Alumni placement demonstrates success across top institutions and community practices, while internal recruitment into MUSC-affiliated sites continues to grow. Research efforts have undergone significant restructuring, resulting in new clinical trials, increased investigator-initiated studies, and a goal of offering clinical trials across all stages of urologic cancers.

Dr. Wallen highlighted innovative programs such as single-port robotic surgery, same-day prostatectomy, focal therapy for prostate cancer, and advanced minimally invasive treatments for benign conditions. Expansion efforts include specialized hires in pediatric urology, oncology, reconstruction, and pelvic health, as well as outreach clinics and regional cancer collaborations. Operational metrics show steady ambulatory growth, strong patient satisfaction, and improved access to care. Strategic efforts are directed toward increasing statewide market share, enhancing access, and investing in facilities, workforce, and technology.

Collaborative initiatives with state agencies and health systems aim to reduce prostate cancer mortality through improved screening and public health outreach. Looking ahead, the Department plans to elevate its research profile, expand fellowship programs, adopt cutting-edge technologies (such as advanced robotics and emerging therapies), and establish destination programs in key specialty areas. Overall, the presentation conveyed a trajectory of growth, innovation, and increasing regional and national prominence for MUSC Health Urology.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 6. Other Business.

None.

AUTHORITY OPERATIONS AND QUALITY COMMITTEE: DR. MURRELL SMITH, CHAIRMAN

Item 7. MUSC Health Status Report.

Dr. Patrick Cawley, CEO, MUSC Health, presented the MUSC Health Status report highlighting two primary areas: the “Kids Eat Free” program and FY2026 strategic goal performance. The Kids Eat Free program, now entering its 11th year, is a USDA-sponsored summer initiative that provides free lunches to children 18 and under across MUSC Health facilities; no application is required. The program has served nearly 70,000 meals over its first decade and continues to expand geographically with recent additions in the Pee Dee (2024) and Orangeburg, Catawba, and Midlands regions (2025). In 2025 alone, more than 16,000 meals were distributed across all divisions, demonstrating continued community impact and growth.

Dr. Cawley reviewed MUSC Health’s strategic objectives and FY2026 performance goals, which align with its long-term 2030 strategic intent focused on excellence across people, service, quality and safety, finance, growth, and innovation. Year-to-date FY2026 key strategic objectives results indicate strong performance in several areas, including operating margin (5.61% exceeding target), physician recruitment (15.30% exceeding maximum goal), and college net clinical revenue growth (20.20% exceeding maximum goal). However, some areas are tracking below target, including oncology clinical trial enrollment, employee engagement, student recommendation rates, and certain academic growth metrics. Annual health system goals are set using a five-point performance scale ranging from below prior-year performance to substantially exceeding goals. Overall, the update reflects positive financial and operational performance with continued focus on improvement opportunities in quality, engagement, and academic outcomes.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 8. External Affairs Update.

Mark Sweatman, Vice President for External Affairs, gave an update on legislative activities. Mr. Sweatman reported that the General Assembly adjourned its regular session on May 14, with the state appropriations bill still unresolved due to differences between the House and Senate that are expected to be addressed in conference committee in the coming weeks. Immediately following adjournment, the Governor called the General Assembly back into session to address congressional redistricting after the Senate failed to secure the required vote to advance a plan. The House has begun reviewing proposed district maps and is expected to take up the measure for second and third readings early in the week, with the Senate to follow, where significant debate and the potential for a filibuster remain. Timing is critical due to election-related deadlines tied to potential August primaries. Mr. Sweatman commented that despite the incomplete appropriations bill, the capital reserve fund bill has been finalized and is awaiting the Governor's signature, including $175 million in funding for MUSC's new cancer hospital, reflecting successful collaboration and sustained advocacy efforts. Other legislative priorities, including medical malpractice reform and physician covenant legislation, were reported as not advancing this session. Mr. Sweatman indicated that a more comprehensive legislative summary will be provided once the session fully concludes.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 9. Other Committee Business.

None.

MUHA AND MUSC PHYSICAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE: MRS. TERRI BARNES, CHAIR

Item 10. MUHA Lease for Approval.

Bill Martin, Enterprise Chief Real Estate Officer, presented for approval, a new lease for 10,412 square feet of clinical and administrative office space located at 231 Kelley Street in Lake City for a One MUSC Healthcare Career Success Center and MUSC Therapeutic Services – Physical Therapy and Occupational Therapy Clinic. The lease term is five (5) years totaling $650,505.02.

Board Action: Mrs. Terri Barnes made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 11. MUHA Professional Selection(s) for Approval.

Tom Crawford, Chief Operating Officer, MUSC Health, requested approval to select M.B. Kahn Construction Co., Inc., as the Construction Manager at Risk for the Rutledge Tower Decant – West Campus Expansion project.

Board Action: Mrs. Terri Barnes made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 12. MUSC Professional Services Selection(s) for Approval.

Dave Attard, Enterprise Chief Facilities Officer, requested approval to select the following firms for electrical engineering indefinite quantity contracts:

- RMF Engineering, Inc.
- DWG Inc., Consulting Engineers
- GWA, Inc.

Board Action: Mrs. Terri Barnes made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 13. Charleston Campus Power Distribution Center Project for Approval.

Dave Attard, Enterprise Chief Facilities Officer, requested approval of the Charleston Campus Power Distribution Center Project at a total estimated cost not to exceed $30,000,000.

Board Action: Mrs. Terri Barnes made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 14. Other Committee Business.

None.

MUHA AND MUSC AUDIT, COMPLIANCE, AND RISK COMMITTEE: MR. TOM STEPHENSON, CHAIRMAN

Item 15. Other Committee Business.

None.

OTHER BUSINESS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Item 16. Approval of Consent Agenda.

Chairman Charles Schulze called for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Board Action: Vice Chairman Melvin Brown made a motion to approve; the motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 17. Executive Session.

Vice Chairman Melvin Brown made a motion to move into closed session to discuss negotiations of contracts related to the development of clinical services and possible purchase or sale of real property; strategy and trade secrets; development of information security personnel or devices; personnel matters; and legal advice on matters covered by the attorney/client privilege.

Board Action: The motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried. The Board of Trustees moved into closed session following the conclusion of regular business.

Item 18. New Business for the Board of Trustees.

None.

Item 19. Report from the Chairman.

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

AUTHORITY OPERATIONS AND QUALITY COMMITTEE: DR. MURRELL SMITH, CHAIRMAN

Item 20. MUSC Health – Charleston Division Appointments, Reappointments, and Changes in Privileges.

MUSC Health – Charleston Division appointments, reappointments, and changes in privileges for March 2026 were presented for approval.

Board Action: Dr. Murrell Smith made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 21. MUSC Health – Regional Health Network Appointments, Reappointments, and Changes in Privileges.

MUSC Health – Regional Health Network appointments, reappointments, and changes in privileges for March 2026 were presented for approval.

Board Action: Dr. Murrell Smith made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 22. Revised MUSC Health and Regional Health Network Standardized Delineation of Privileges.

Revised MUSC Health and Regional Health Network standardized delineation of privileges were presented for approval.

Board Action: Dr. Murrell Smith made a motion to approve; his motion was seconded, voted on, and unanimously carried.

Item 23. MUSC Health – Charleston Division Medical Executive Committee Minutes.

MUSC Health – Charleston Division Medical Executive Committee minutes from February and March 2026 were provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 24. **MUSC Health Regional Health Network Unified Medical Executive Committee Minutes.**

MUSC Health Regional Health Network Unified Medical Executive Committee minutes from January, February, and March 2026 were provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 25. **Contracts and Agreements.**

A list of contracts and agreements since March 2026 was provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

MUHA AND MUSC PHYSICAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE: MRS. TERRI BARNES, CHAIR

Item 26. **MUHA FY2026 Active Projects >$250,000.**

A list of MUHA FY2026 active projects greater than $250,000 was provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 27. **MUSC FY2026 Active Projects >$250,000.**

A list of MUSC FY2026 active projects greater than $250,000 was provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 28. **MUSC Professional Services and Construction Contracts Awarded.**

A list of MUSC professional services and construction contracts awarded since February 2026 was provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

Item 29. **MUSC Community Physicians Leases.**

MUSC Community Physicians' leases were provided for information.

Board Action: Received as information.

There being no further business, the meeting of the MUHA Board of Trustees was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine S. Haltiwanger
Board Secretary