



For Immediate Release

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BMH Moving Forward to Improve Healthcare Delivery: Trustees in Final Stages of New Hospital Decision

Butler, PA - (October 6, 2006) - At its regular meeting yesterday, the Butler Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees made the decision to move into its final review of viable options for constructing a new healthcare system for the residents of Butler County.

The board recognized recent advancement in the delivery of healthcare and made plans to incorporate a review of these new delivery methods before announcing a final construction decision. Also under review are an updated review of BMH financial capacity and current construction and information technology costs.

To assist with its final review, the board approved the retention of a construction manager. BMH will begin working immediately with the construction manager as it considers how to best integrate recent advances in healthcare delivery with its current construction options.

Completion of this research is expected to last approximately ninety days. After which, trustees expect to make their final decision public.

In January 2005, the trustees determined that there were 12 possible properties where BMH could construct a new facility. BMH then spent approximately 18 months looking at the viability of each site by reviewing sanitary sewer analysis, water analysis, transportation and roadway access, land development/zoning, and ability for future development.

By mid-2006, it became clear that three of these properties were viable options and needed additional research, including: land acquisition, detailed cost analysis, architectural ideas and preliminary planning.

“We are getting very close,” said Bill Bessor, chairman of the BMH board. “Once we’ve completed our final review, we’re looking forward to sharing the decision with everyone. Anyone who relies on BMH can be assured they’ll get the best possible health care for generations to come.”

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