

The Mid-Shore Regional Council (MSRC) Executive Board held a meeting with Dr. Mohan Suntha on August 6, 2024. The meeting was held at the MSRC office in Easton, MD.

Attendees were:

Mid-Shore Regional Council

- Walter Chase – Chairman
- Ricky Travers – First Vice-Chairman (Dorchester County Council)
- Chuck Callahan – Second Vice-Chairman (Talbot County Council President)
- James Redman – Secretary (Private sector/private citizen)
- Kurt Fuchs – Treasurer (Maryland Farm Bureau representative)
- Johnny Mautz – Maryland State Senator (General Assembly representative)
- Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio – At-large member (Private business representative)
- Bill Christopher – At-large member (Private business representative)
- Scott Warner – Executive Director

The only member who cannot attend due to a scheduling conflict is:

- Frank Bartz – Third Vice Chairman (Caroline County Commissioner)

University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS)

- Dr. Mohan Suntha (President and CEO, UMMS)
- Kristin Jones Bryce (Senior Vice President and Chief External Affairs Officer)
- Kara Bowman Borcz (Chief of Staff)
- Ken Kozel (President and CEO, Shore Regional Health System)

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Concerns at Cambridge Freestanding Medical Facility
- Shore Regional Medical Center timeline
- Emergency Room wait times at Easton hospital
- Residency program and professional development
- Mobile Integrated Community Health

The meeting started at 9:32 a.m.

Dr. Suntha provided an overview of the UMMS and their commitment to building the Shore Regional Medical Center. He stated:

- UMMS is a \$5.2 billion system
- UMMS provides 25% of the healthcare in the state
- \$100 million commitment from the Governor of Maryland for the project
- Shore Regional Health has to raise \$50 million
- This project is the #1 capital project of the UMMS
- The official start of the project is now.
- The opening of the Medical Center will be Summer 2028.

The meeting included a discussion that touched on all the above discussion items.

Dr. Suntha stated that in further meetings with the MSRC that he would like Dr. Jarrell and Mr. Hayman to attend and talk about the UM Baltimore commitment to the project and the Eastern Shore.

Mr. Kozel stated there has been a \$150 million investment into Shore Regional Health since 2010.

Of the \$300 million construction project, at least 25% will be awarded to MBE.

Overall contractor is joint venture between Whiting-Turner and Mahogany.

During the discussion concerning the Cambridge Freestanding Medical Facility, the starting of a pilot program last week (August 1, 2024) to reroute patients from Easton to Chestertown or Cambridge was explained. Included in this discussion was utilizing the Cambridge observation beds. The pilot includes 12-hour monitoring rather than 24-hour monitoring.

Dr. Suntha offered to share the observation data with the MSRC on a quarterly-bases.

June 1, 2024, a new emergency department physician was hired.

The group agreed that they should meet quarterly. Mr. Kozel and Mr. Warner will handle the date, time, and location.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:42 p.m.