



AMERICA NEPAL  
MEDICAL  
FOUNDATION  
Advancing Healthcare in Nepal

## ANMF Quarterly Board Meeting

Nov 22, 2020, Sunday

Meeting Logistics			
Meeting Date	Nov 22, 2020	Time	730 PM to 11 PM EST
Chair/Facilitator	Bhupesh Khadka/ Binod Khadka/Bishnu Sapkota	Prepared by	Bishnu Sapkota
Purpose:	Quarterly Board Meeting		
Location:	Online-ZOOM		

Participants					
Anil Suwal	P	Dixa Dhital	P	Sandesh Pandit	P
Bhupesh Khadka	P	Ganesh Chaudhary	P	Santosh Sapkota	P
Binod Dhungana	P	Julia Shepardson	P	Subodh Mallik	P
Binod Khadka	P	Kalpana Shrestha	P	Sunil Sharma	P
Bishnu Sapkota	P	Libby Wilson	P	Invited Guests-Dr. Bhupendra K. Basnet, Dr. Bhagawan Koirala	P
Chandra P. Chataut	P	Marvin Brustin	P		
Dinesh Subedi	P	Narayan Dharel	P		
Dinesh Mainali	E	Prakash Thapaliya	P		
Dick Katzman	P	Raju Century	P		

E - Excused  
P - Present  
A - Absent

## **Minutes of ANMF Board Meeting of 11/22/2020**

1. The minute of the last board meeting from 08/23/2020 was approved by the board unanimously.
2. The board acknowledged recent web ballot on the following projects-
  - **20ANMF003**-N95 Masks for Health Care Workers and High flow Nasal Oxygen Delivery (HFNO) Devices, this was approved by **17 Yes, 0 No.**
  - **20DH001**-COVID 19 Prefab building in Surkhet, Karnali Province, this was disapproved. **18 No, 0 Yes.**
  - These web ballot will be posted in ANMF website.

3. The board acknowledged that they received meeting minutes from various committees.

The board acknowledged that they received the following forms.

- Conflict of interest
- Whistleblower policy
- Record retention policy
- Some members of the board have already returned the signed forms and other members were requested to sign and return the forms to the secretary.

### **4. Secretary's Report/Updates**

- a. Following Webinars are available on ANMF Facebook and YouTube page.
  - 1) COVID-19 in Western Nepal: Challenges and Opportunities on 9/12/20
  - 2) Emotional wellbeing of Healthcare workers during COVID-19 pandemic on 8/22/20
- b. ANMF members actively participated in NRNA- 2nd Global Nepal Health Conference-Mitigating Pandemic through Health, Research, Collaboration and Action-Sep 18-22, 2020.
- c. ANMF Members actively participated at the Women's National Conference USA 2020 organized by Non-Resident Nepali Association, USA Chapter on September 26, 2020.
- d. ANMF Published -Press Release (on 10/2/20) in support of Prof Dr Govinda KC's 19th Fast. It was covered by different online media in the US and in Nepal.
- e. Alliance of Nepali Medical Diaspora has been formed under the leadership of ANMF to make concerted efforts on relief work to fight COVID-19 pandemic.
- f. Telemedicine program focused to aid COVID-19 management at Janakpur Hospital has been completed.

- g. ANMF Nepal has identified vendors and construction of an oxygen generation plant at Koshi Hospital is underway and procurement of Bronchoscope and musculoskeletal doppler ultrasound at Patan Academy of Health Science (PAHS) has started.
- h. ANMF-Nepal and Nepal Medical Association are going to organize a second seminar from November 23-25 on COVID-19 in Nepal.

**5. Non-discrimination policy:** Board unanimously approved the following agenda:

**“It is the policy of ANMF not to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, caste, color, sex, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, citizenship, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, or disability”**

**This policy will be made public in ANMF website. At one point, it needs to be added to the bylaws.**

## **6. Committee updates**

Committee chairs updated on the status, progress, and challenges regarding their respective committee. Dr Narayan Dharel from ERdC, Dr. Binod Dhungana from Collaboration Committee, Dr. Binod Khadka from Outreach Committee gave their brief updates.

Dr. Dinesh Subedi from publication committee asked members to send relevant materials that can be considered for publication in upcoming ANMF Newsletter.

## **7. Finance Updates**

Ms. Kalpana Shrestha updated the current financial status of the ANMF. ANMF added 12 new life members recently.

### Projects approved and funds on hold

1	19HFN001	Health Foundation Nepal-Mental Health Center	\$ 20,000.00
2	19NN001	NepalMed Nepal-Oxygen Plant Ampipal	\$ 23,000.00
3	20CME001	Nepal Pediatric Society-CME Ped-Critical	\$ 1580.00
4	20ANMF003	ANMF Nepal-N95 masks for HCW	\$ 17,950.00
		<b>TOTAL FUNDS ON HOLD</b>	<b>\$ 62,530.00</b>

### Funds Available as of 11/18/2020

Bank of America- (**9623- Main)	\$	95,857.12
Bank of America (**6207)	\$	16,484.53
Facebook	\$	26,023.00
PayPal	\$	10,450.17
Peoples Bank-General*** adjusted for 2 uncashed checks (Check #485 to Dept of Law \$125 and Check # 460 to Marvin Brustin \$500)	\$	5,449.17
Total Funds in bank as of 11/04/2020	<b>\$</b>	<b>154,263.99</b>
Total Funds required for Projects	\$	62,530.00
Available for projects	\$	91,733.99
Less: restricted funds for KIOCH	\$	4,700.00
<b>Unrestricted funds available</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>87,033.99</b>

### 8. Corona relief work updates and Holiday fundraiser- SAVE lives Campaign

ANMF president Dr. Bhupesh Khadka gave a brief update about ongoing corona relief works.

ANMF has already sent about \$141,000.00 so far for various projects regarding Corona Relief Works. Alliance of Nepali Medical Diaspora has been formed under leadership of ANMF to make a concerted effort on relief work to fight the pandemic. Holiday fundraiser-Save lives Campaign has already raised more than \$40000.00(Donation from Board Members and Facebook Campaign) and the fundraiser campaign is ongoing. The ANMF president is in constant communication with other medical organizations in UK and Australia to get monetary and other help to fight the pandemic in Nepal.

## 9. Project committee Updates

### **19RAHS001 – ICU at Rapti Academy of Health Sciences**

Grant amount: USD 58,010.00

Total Project Budget: USD 205,204.00

Project manager: Dr. Suresh Basnet

MOU signed date: March 1, 2020

Dr. Santosh Sapkota, PC Chair, discussed that the ventilators bought by the grant from ANMF might not have been used yet and the ICU there has not started yet. ANMF got an email reply from Dr. Sangita Bhandary from RAHS that the project will start soon. Project manager Dr. Suresh Basnet is in constant touch with RAHS.

### **19PHCT001 – Nangi Rural Healthcare Center**

PHECT Nepal is asking for grant extension due to COVID 19 related delays. Board approved to grant the extension for this project.

### **New Projects:**

#### **20ANMF005 – 2nd NMA-ANMF Joint online Training Session on COVID-19**

Grant amount requested: USD 2,017.00

Project manager: Dr. Ganesh Chaudhary & Dr. Sandesh Pandit

This project was withdrawn by the ANMF Nepal.

#### **20SF001 – Community Health Strengthening Project**

Grant amount requested: USD 15,953.11

Total Project Cost: USD 16,387.90

Project manager: Dr. Ganesh Chaudhary

Shanti Foundation's goal is to increase community access to health and education, by enhancing the community health education on targeted disease, provide free health camp on cervical cancer screening, uterine prolapse, HIV and STI test, increase capacity building of medical professional and advocacy with local government authorities, and other. Dr. Ganesh Chaudhary explained the proposed project in detail. Shanti Foundation has been a trusted and reliable organization. While PC had positive feedback about this project, members had concerns about safety of conducting health-camps during this pandemic and available current limited fund may need to be spent to fight the ongoing pandemic.

**Board Decision: Rejected the project.**

**20ANMF002-Quarantine Facilities project -ANMF Nepal withdrew this project**

**20ANMF006: Oxygen Supply and Pipeline for isolation Center at Radhe Swami Satsang Vyas**

Grant: \$66,900:00

USA Manager: Dr. Sandesh Pandit

**Background:** This project (isolation center-field hospital) is needed because Covid-19 patients are not able to find beds that that can supply 24/7 oxygen supply in the hospitals around Kathmandu. This isolation center which will provide the basic oxygen therapy which can help the covid-19 patients tremendously and likely will spare much needed and limited ICU beds in Kathmandu Valley. It is an initiation by the government, Covid Crisis Management Center (CCMC), other many different hospitals and mainly ANMF. We believe this project may be able to save lives. This will be run by the Army Hospital. ANMF-N will be in medical advisory team.

The funds requested is \$66,900 which will be used to buy 10k liters liquid oxygen tank and pipeline for 100 bedded isolation center. The cost will change if two tanks are to be kept with pipelines for 200 beds pending tax waivers. The ownership of the plant will be taken by ANMF after the isolation center comes to an end. The refilling of the liquid oxygen plant will be done by Kathmandu Metropolitan City (KMC). Dr. Bhupendra Basnet and Dr. Bhagawan Koirala from Nepal answered relevant questions board had regarding the project. The liquid oxygen plant will be transferred to KIOCH after work at the isolation center is completed.

**Board decision: Approved the project (18 Yes, 0 No). Board currently did not make any decisions regarding human resources need.**

## **10. Project Oversight Process**

PC will start working on this and make sure appropriate follow up is done for every approved project.

## **11. Hematology-oncology DM program support in Nepal (proposed by Dr. Prakash Neupane)**

### **Background:**

**A. Faculty support, National Academy of Medical Sciences for DM medical oncology program.** This is an ongoing project. Volunteer faculty are sent to NAMS for a 2-week period to teach DM and other learners. Dr. Neupane and the team are exploring e-volunteering (teaching from distance) once NAMS is ready to accept lectures. Anyone who is from Nepal and travelling there anyway and can spend 2 weeks in Kathmandu would be a great contribution for this program to train Nepali oncologists. This is done in coordination and support from health Volunteer Overseas (HVO).

**B. A second program currently in discussion.** BPKIHS Dharan has hired one of the Kathmandu program DM graduates recently with intent to develop an oncology program and initiate DM medical oncology. Dr. Neupane and the team is in discussion of how to support this program. Once it is finalized, they will start looking for volunteers. Oncologists who are from Nepal or know Nepal's health system well will be of great asset for this program as well. They are also exploring Nepali oncology nurses to support nursing oncology.

**C.** Dr. Neupane has done many Oncology consults for NAMS and on personal requests. This would be a good program to think of as ANMF Hem Onc group network matures. We can create a Hem Onc and palliative care force to support education and clinical care support.

Board was asked to acknowledge this. Fred from Website Committee will create project ID and put this in project MAP under CME section. Board discussed to create this initiative as CME project.

**Board decision: approved (as Hematology-Oncology CME project-20CME002)**

## **12. Association of Nepalese in Midwest America (ANMA) request to collaborate**

ANMF president discussed the possible need of MOU between ANMF and other organizations(partner) to have a partnership for a common goal in the upcoming days.

### **Purpose:**

- To better utilize the resources between the partner organizations
- To increase the work efficiency
- To develop and conduct the cost-effective programs
- To increase the participation and networking among organizations and their community members

### **Scope:**

- Short term and long-term programs
- Common public issues of Nepalese in Nepal and USA
- Nepali identity, Nepali culture, and values
- Collaboration, and partnership among Nepalese communities to conduct common programs and events
- Humanitarian work, Human rights, freedom, and peace in USA, Nepal and beyond.
- The MOU shall be extended to broader Nepalese community organization in USA.

**This was discussed by the board and recommended that we should work together without formalizing MOU. Board was against partnering with any other organization as this could bring future problems/issues to the organization.**

**13. Board was notified that ANMF-Nepal and NHRC reached an agreement** to help research activities in Nepal. Nepal Health Research Council (NHRC) is responsible for

promoting high quality health research in Nepal. We hope that this could open opportunities for research collaboration, training, and capacity building.

**Meeting adjourned at 11:00pm**

Date for next Board Meeting → Sunday, Feb 21, 2020, 7:30 PM-9:30 PM EST