

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
BOARD OF PENNSYLVANIA RURAL HEALTH REDESIGN CENTER AUTHORITY
SEVENTH OFFICIAL BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 2020
CONFERENCE CALL
1:00PM-2:00PM

Meeting Minutes of Public Session

Call to Order:

Meghna Patel, Deputy Secretary of Health Innovation on behalf of Secretary Levine, RHRCA-Chairwoman. Ms. Patel called the meeting to order and requested Board Members, Department Staff and Members of the Public introduce themselves and their organization affiliation. Secretary Levine was unable to join due to conflicting obligations.

Board Introductions:

Commonwealth Representatives:

1. Secretary Rachel Levine from PA Department of Health (DOH);
2. Meghna Patel represented as the Chairwoman on behalf of Secretary Rachel Levine from PA Department of Health (DOH);
3. Dr. Doug Jacobs, Chief Innovation Officer from PA Department of Human Services (DHS);
4. Mike Humphreys, Commissioner, PA Insurance Department (PID);

Payer Representatives:

1. Sean Burns, VP Reimbursement and Network Infrastructure, Highmark;
2. Raymond Prushnok, AVP Program Development, UPMC;
3. John Bulger, CMO, Geisinger;
4. Glenn D. Pomerantz, SVP, Gateway;
5. Mike Sweeney, VP, UPMC;
6. Sarah MacDerment, Actuarial Director, Geisinger;
7. Kristen Ryan, Business Project Program Manager of Value Based Solutions, Aetna;

Payer's Absentees:

1. Linda Darga, Sr Director, Network Management VBS, Aetna;

Hospital Representatives (1 additional representative pending confirmation):

1. Jack Sisk, CFO, Punxsutawney Area Hospital;
2. Sara Adornato, CEO, Barnes-Kasson County Hospital;
3. Kate Slatt, Vice President of Innovative Payment and Care Delivery, The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania;
4. James Pettinato, Chief Clinician Director of Patient Care Services, Wayne Memorial Hospital;
5. Loren Stone, CEO, Endless Mountains Health Systems;

Hospital's Absentees:

1. Tammy Anderer, CAO, Geisinger Jersey Shore Hospital;
2. John Lewis, CEO, Armstrong County Memorial Hospital;

National Recognized Experts:

1. Donna Kinzer, Global Budget Expert, DK Healthcare Consulting;
2. Brock Slabach, SVP-National Rural Health Association;

Department Staff

1. Gary Zegiestowsky, ED, RHRC;
2. Janice Walters, COO, RHRC;
3. Emily Roussel, Executive Assistant Health Innovation Deputate, DoH;
4. Sarah Boateng, Executive Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Health;
5. Jennifer Torres Del Valle, Grant Manager, RHRC;
6. Diana Carpenter, Clinical Program Manager, RHRC;

Members of the Public:

- Ben Dannels, Associate, Greenlee Partners;
- Joan Bradbury, Government Relations Sr Associate, DeBrunner & Associates;
- Tom Aubel, Senior Director of Medical Payment Strategy and Policy, UPMC;
- Dan Simmons, Senior VP and CFO, Mon Valley Hospital;
- Linda Sabick, Associate Professor, Health Policy and Management, University of Pittsburgh;
- Erin O'Dea, Research Analyst, PA House of Representatives;
- Aaron Richardson, Qualitative Researcher, University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine;
- Kimberley Rak, Medical Anthropologist at Department of Critical Care Medicine, University of Pittsburgh;

Opening Remarks- by Ms. Patel on behalf of Dr. Levine, RHRCA-Chair:

- Ms. Patel took roll and commented that there is an executive meeting immediately following this one and board members should have received an invite.

October 21st, 2020 Board Minutes Approval-by Ms. Patel on behalf of Dr. Levine, RHRCA-Chair:

- Ms. Patel asked for Board members to review the minutes sent out to see if they had any edits or questions
- There were two minor corrections with titles. Dr. Bulger and Sarah MacDerment asked that CFO be removed from their titles as they are in error. These corrections will be made.

Mr. Sisk motioned the approval of the minutes and Ms. Slatt seconded. There were no objections or abstentions and the motion was passed

- **RHRCA Organization Formation Update-** Ms. Patel yielded the floor to the RHRCA-ED Mr. Zegiestowsky who reported the following updates:
 - An Employer Identification Number (EIN) for the Authority was obtained in July 13, 2020 from the IRS
 - The .gov domain was obtained on September 8, 2020
 - DOH completed submission of CMMI continuation application for Performance Year 3 on Friday, September 11, 2020
 - The CMMI Notice of Award for PARHM Year 2 Non-Competing Continuation Application was received on October 21, 2020
 - Based on the CMMI Notice of Award, a revised budget for Performance Year 3 is required to be submitted by November 20, 2020
 - The process to build out the RHRCA organization to meet requirements for approval as an organization by CMMI continues
 - Target completion of this for submission of RHRCA application to CMMI is being re-evaluated

 - **Transformation Planning: Joint Goals for Payers and Providers-** Ms. Patel thanked Mr. Zegiestowsky and then yielded the floor to the RHRCA-COO Ms. Walters for the following discussion:
 - Ms. Walters reviewed that two proposed goals had been discussed and approved during the Executive session to be added to Transformation Plans being updated by the PARHM's thirteen participating hospitals. The goals centered around hospitals working collaboratively with payers. The proposed goals are:
 - In an effort to improve communication, reduce the overall cost of care and improve patient outcomes, develop and implement a joint strategy by June 2021 that identifies patients with high utilization at participant rural hospitals that reside within the rural geographic regions.
 - To enhance communication between payers and providers, by June 2021 develop a frequent payer / provider forum to allow for exchange of information to address barriers and burdens in care delivery and select a joint improvement opportunity.
 - Ms. Patel asked if the board had any questions or comments and then requested a motion to approve the Transformation Planning: Joint Goals for Payers and Providers.
- Mr. Pomerantz motioned the approval of the Transformation Planning: Joint Goals for Payers and Providers and Mr. Slabach seconded. There were no objections and the motion was passed.*
- **COVID-19 Policy Position for Global Budget Methodology-** Ms. Patel again yielded the floor to the RHRCA-COO Ms. Walters for the following discussion:
 - Ms. Walters reviewed the COVID-19 Policy, which had the following four points:

1. Payers provide additional payments to hospitals through February at a minimum. Additional payments for subsequent statements through July's statement period will be left up to the discretion of the plans with reassessment of policy at that time (anticipated December time period)
2. For 2021 budgets, forgo the prospective unplanned volume shift adjustment due to the COVID-19 volume dissipation.
3. Consider new Planned Service Lines for 2021 on an ad hoc basis for Medicare for those where there is documented increases in costs and utilization assurance to ensure overpayments are not made to the hospitals. Hospitals should still identify PSL's on their transformation plans.
4. No additional methodology changes are recommended at this point given the current attestation requirements of hospitals for CARES Act funding and the Medicare trend data until such time as more complete data can be obtained.

- Ms. Patel asked if the board had any questions or comments and then requested a motion to approve the COVID-19 Policy Position for Global Budget Methodology.

Mr. Pomerantz motioned the approval of the COVID-19 Policy Position for Global Budget Methodology and Mr. Slabach seconded. There were no objections and the motion was passed.

- **Review and Approval of 30-Day Unpanned Volume Shift (UVS) Extension-** Ms. Patel again yielded the floor to the RHRCA-COO Ms. Walters for the following discussion:
- Ms. Walters reviewed the following proposed policy modifications:
 - Program leadership is requesting an additional 30 days to finalize the Unplanned Volume Shift (UVS) adjustments for those hospitals where data is suspect.
- Ms. Patel asked if the board had any questions or comments and then requested a motion to approve the 30-Day UVS Extension.

Mr. Stone motioned the approval of the 30-Day UVS Extension and Mr. Sisk seconded. There were no objections and the motion was passed.

Opportunity Public Comment:

- Ms. Patel opened a section for public comment and invited the members of the public to bring forth their comments. No comments were provided by public members.

Lastly, Ms. Patel announced that an Executive Session will be conducted today following the public meeting. Only RHRCA-Board Members are invited to attend.

Ms. Patel asked if ED, Gary Zegiestowsky, or Board Vice Chairman, Glenn Pomerantz, had any closing comments, they did not.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm. Ms. Kinzer motioned the conclusion of the meeting and Ms. MacDerment seconded. There were no objections or abstentions and the motion was passed unanimously.