

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
BOARD OF PENNSYLVANIA RURAL HEALTH REDESIGN CENTER AUTHORITY
TENTH OFFICIAL BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 2021
CONFERENCE CALL
10:00AM-11:00AM

Meeting Minutes of Public Session

Call to Order:

Meghna Patel, Deputy Secretary of Health Innovation on behalf of Secretary Beam, 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.

Board Introductions:

Commonwealth Representatives:

1. Meghna Patel represented as the Chairwoman on behalf of Secretary Alison Beam from PA Department of Health (DOH);
2. Secretary of Health Alison Beam from PA Department of Health (DOH);
3. Keara Klinepeter, Executive Deputy Secretary, PA Department of Health;
4. Michael Chmielewski, Policy Specialist, PA Department of Human Services (DHS) (on behalf of Dr. Jacob Douglas, Chief Innovation Officer from DHS);
5. Jessica Altman, Commissioner, Pennsylvania Insurance Department (PID);

Commonwealth's Absentees:

1. Mike Humphreys, Commissioner, PID;
2. Dr. Doug Jacobs, Chief Innovation Officer from DHS; (represented by Michael Chmielewski, Policy Specialist, DHS);

Payer Representatives:

1. Sean Burns, VP Reimbursement and Network Infrastructure, Highmark;
2. Raymond Prushnok, AVP Program Development, UPMC;
3. Doug Doyle, Senior Director of Provider Contracting, Gateway (for Glenn Pomerantz, VP, Gateway);
4. Mike Sweeney, VP, UPMC;
5. Megan Barbour, Policy Director, PID;
6. Megan Richards, Senior Network Director, Aetna; (replacing Andrew Richard, Sr. Director Accountable Care Solutions, Aetna);
7. Sarah Macderment, Actuarial Director, Geisinger;
8. Tom Aubel, Senior Director of Medical Payment Strategy and Policy, UPMC;

Payer's Absentees:

1. Glenn D. Pomerantz, SVP, Gateway (represented by Doug Doyle, Senior Director of Provider Contracting, Gateway);

2. John Bulger, CMO, Geisinger;
3. Linda Darga, Sr Director, Network Management VBS, Aetna;
4. Kristen Ryan, Business Project Program Manager of Value Based Solutions, Aetna;

Hospital Representatives (1 additional representative pending confirmation):

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

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, RHRO;
2. Janice Walters, COO, RHRO;
3. Keith B. Fickel, Legal Counsel DOH
4. Diana Carpenter, Clinical Program Manager, RHRO;

Department's Absentees:

1. Emily Roussel, Executive Assistant Health Innovation Deputate, DoH;

Members of the Public:

- Ben Dannels, Associate, Greenlee Partners;
- Ted Mowatt, VP/Lobbyist, Wanner Associates;

Opening Remarks- by Ms. Patel on behalf of Alison Beam, 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.
- Ms. Patel stated that this is the 10th board meeting and great progress is being made. She thanked everyone for their efforts.
- Ms. Patel informed the group that Dr. Rachel Levine was nominated to serve in President Biden's administration as the Assistant Secretary of Health at the Department of Human Services. In addition, Sarah Boateng also transitioned from her role as Executive Deputy Secretary to Washington, to serve as her Chief of Staff.
- Governor Wolf nominated Alison Beam to replace Dr. Levine and Keara Klinepeter replaced Sarah Boateng as Executive Deputy Secretary.

- Ms. Patel congratulated all of the aforementioned individuals for their accomplishments and turned the floor over to newly appointed Secretary of Health Alison Beam
- Ms. Beam commented about how vital payment reform and the PARHM is to rural communities in Pennsylvania.
- Ms. Beam extended her gratitude to all those making the project a reality.
- Although the Commonwealth's current priorities center around the COVID-19 vaccine, rural health is still an integral part of the Commonwealth's focus.
- Ms. Beam then yielded the floor to the newly nominated Executive Secretary Keara Klinepeter.
- Ms. Klinepeter reiterated that rural care is crucial to the health of the state and that Pennsylvania has the opportunity to be a leader with the implementation of the PARHM.
- The floor was then yielded back to Ms. Patel.

December 16th, 2020 Board Minutes Approval-by Ms. Patel on behalf of Alison Beam, RHRCA-Chair:

- Ms. Patel asked for Board members to review the minutes sent out to see if they had any edits or questions

Mr. Pettinato motioned the approval of the minutes and Mr. Burns 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:
 - By the end of 2020, five new hospitals were added to the PARHM, making the total number of eighteen hospitals.
 - The new PY3 hospitals are Clarion, Bradford, Highlands, Indiana and Meadville.
 - The fourth year of the PARHM will focus on recruitment with thirty hospitals being the goal (an addition of twelve to the current eighteen).
 - The transfer of RHRCA employees from InGenesis was effective on February 1st in addition to the employee benefit plans (medical, dental, vision) also becoming effective on February 1st.
 - Short and Long Term Disability are slated to start on March 1st.
 - Quotes are almost finalized for the RHRCA and RHRCO involving insurance coverage.
- **Proposed Policy Adjustment**- Mr. Zegiestowsky then yielded the floor to the RHRCA-COO Ms. Walters for the following discussion:
 - Based on previous discussions concerning the treatment of float payments, a policy statement addition was proposed.
 - The policy statement addition reads: "For PY1, exclude the float payment from the annual reconciliation and allow it to carry forward. This policy will be reviewed prior to finalizing the annual reconciliation for PY2."
 - Ms. Walters asked if there were any questions concerning the proposed statement and hearing none, turned the floor back to Ms. Patel for a vote.

- Ms. Patel asked if the board had comments and then requested a motion to approve the Proposed Policy Adjustment.

Ms. Kinzer motioned the approval of the Proposed Policy Adjustment and Mr. Stone 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, Mr. Zegiestowsky, had any closing comments, and he thanked everyone for their commitment to the program and that we are looking forward to a positive 2021.

The schedule for the upcoming Public Board meetings will continue to be quarterly and is as follows:

- May 18th, 2021 – 10:00am
- August 17th, 2021 – 10:00am
- November 16th, 2021 – 10:00am

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Ms. Kinzer motioned the conclusion of the meeting and Jim Pettinato seconded. There were no objections or abstentions and the motion was passed unanimously.