

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
BOARD OF PENNSYLVANIA RURAL HEALTH REDESIGN CENTER AUTHORITY
EIGHTEENTH OFFICIAL BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th, 2022
IN-PERSON PENN HARRIS HOTEL HARRISBURG/TEAMS CONFERENCE CALL
10:00AM-10:30AM

Meeting Minutes of Public Session

Call to Order:

Mr. Zegiestowsky called the meeting to order and took roll for the meeting. There were no members of the Public present.

Board Introductions:

Commonwealth Representatives:

1. Muneeza Iqbal, Public Health Advisor, (DOH)
2. Caolinn Martin, Deputy Policy Director at PID

Commonwealth's Absentees:

1. Meg Snead, Acting Secretary, PA Department of Human Services (DHS)

Payer Representatives:

1. Mike Sweeney, VP, UPMC
2. Megan Richards, Senior Project Manager, Aetna
3. John Bulger, CMO, Geisinger
4. Doug Doyle, Senior Director of Provider Contracting and Provider Relations, Gateway Health
5. Kayvin Robinson, Director of Provider Contracts and Value Based Programs, Highmark

Payer's Absentees:

6. Raymond Prushnok, AVP Program Development, UPMC
7. Sarah MacDerment, Actuarial Director, Geisinger

Hospital Representatives (1 additional representative pending confirmation):

1. Jack Sisk, President, 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. John Lewis, CEO, Armstrong County Memorial Hospital
5. Tammy Anderer, CAO, Geisinger Jersey Shore Hospital
6. Kate Slatt, Vice President of Innovative Payment and Care Delivery, The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania
7. Loren Stone, CEO, Endless Mountains Health Systems

Hospital Representatives-Absentees

1. N/A

National Recognized Experts:

1. Donna Kinzer, Global Budget Expert, DK Healthcare Consulting

National Recognized Experts-Absentees

1. Brock Slabach, SVP-National Rural Health Association

Public Attendees:

- No public attendees joined the meeting

Department Staff

1. Gary Zegiestowsky, ED, RHRCA
2. Janice Walters, COO, RHRCA
3. Diana Carpenter, Clinical Program Manager, RHRC (notetaker)
4. Angie Slemok, Executive Assistant, RHRC (notetaker)

Members of the Public:

- N/A

Opening Remarks- by Mr. Zegiestowsky:

- Mr. Zegiestowsky took roll for the meeting that was held in-person and on TEAMS. An Executive Session meeting will immediately follow this meeting.

September 2022, Board Minutes Approval-by Mr. Zegiestowsky:

- Mr. Zegiestowsky asked for Board members to review the minutes sent out to see if they had any edits or questions. Mr. Zegiestowsky called for a Motion for Approval of the September Board notes.

Mr. Pettinato motioned for the approval of the minutes and Mr. Sisk seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions, and the motion was passed

- Mr. Zegiestowsky then moved the agenda forward to discuss the Joint Finance and Operating Committee. Mr. Sisk was elected Chairman last session.
- The agenda then moved to the inter-governmental agreement between the DoH and the RHRCA. It was approved by the Executive Committee of the RHRCA Board. Mr. Zegiestowsky thanked Ms. Iqbal for her efforts in relation to this agreement.

- Mr. Zegiestowsky then turned the agenda to Ms. Walters to discuss COVID and the exogenous factors.
- The RHRCA needs to develop policy options that adequately and fairly account for the impact of the COVID PHE in 2020 and 2021 for hospitals and payers under global budgets.
- The question that was brought forth to consider was: “What policy produces a win / win for payers and providers within PARHM to address the extreme nature of COVID?”
 - The proposed motion is:
 1. Allow the global budget methodology as designed settle 2020 and 2021 global budgets for 13 of the 17 hospitals where methodology produced favorable results in comparison to FFS without additional exogenous factor adjustments.
 2. Exception based exogenous factor adjustment: Settle to FFS for the 4 exception hospitals.
 - The rationale is:
 1. Simplest and most direct path forward with minimal disruption to the program.
 2. Provides a “give” from both payers and hospitals. Hospitals relinquish the COVID enhanced payments of for sequestration and add-on when the PARHM program kept them whole. Payers provided additional compensation to honor the intentions of PARHM and kept hospitals stable.
 3. No additional work beyond validating the 2023 global budget for 1 hospital

Ms. Walters called for a vote for the approval of the recommendation for PARHM Policy COVID Exogenous-Based Adjustment

Dr. Doyle motioned for the approval of the COVID exogenous factors and Ms. Adornato seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions, and the motion was passed unanimously.

- Ms. Walters then turned the agenda back over to Mr. Zegiestowsky.

Opportunity Public Comment:

- Mr. Zegiestowsky opened a section for public comment and invited any members of the public to bring forth their comments.

As there were no public comments, Mr. Zegiestowsky moved the agenda forward and announced that an Executive Session will be conducted today following the public meeting.

Mr. Zegiestowsky asked if any Board members had any additional comments and hearing none, asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Pettinato motioned for the adjournment of the meeting and Ms. Richards seconded the motion. All responses were ayes with no nays. There were no objections and the motion was passed.

The next Public Board meetings will be bi-monthly on 3rd Tuesday of month starting @10:00am ET.

- Schedule for 2023 RHRCA Board Meetings
 - Public and Executive Sessions:
 - January 17, 2023,
 - March 21, 2023,
 - May 16, 2023
 - July 18, 2023
 - August 15, 2023 (Executive Session only for Transformation Plan Review)
 - September 19, 2023
 - November 21, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 am. The Executive meeting will begin at 10:30am.