

Delaware Health Care Commission
Thursday, July 6, 2017 9:00 AM
Delaware Tech Terry Campus Corporate Training Center
Rooms 400 A & B
100 Campus Drive, Dover

Meeting Minutes

Commission Members Present: Nancy H. Fan, MD, Chair; Theodore W. Becker, Jr; Susan A. Cycyk, M.Ed., Director of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services, Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families (DSCYF); Rick Geisenberger, Secretary, Department of Finance; Janice L. Lee, MD; Molly K. Magarik, Deputy Secretary, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS); Edmondo J. Robinson, MD, MBA; Dennis Rochford

Commission Members Absent: Richard Heffron; Kathleen Matt, PhD; Trinidad Navarro, Commissioner, Department of Insurance (DOI); Kara Odom Walker, MD, MPH, MSHS, Secretary, Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS)

Staff Attending: Laura Howard, Executive Director; Shebra Hall, Community Relations Officer

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Nancy Fan called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL – JUNE 1, 2017

Dr. Nancy Fan asked for a vote to approve the June 1st meeting minutes. Dr. Edmondo Robinson motioned to approve the minutes and Ted Becker seconded. All members were in favor of approving the minutes. Motion carried.

PLAN MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Janet Brunory (Department of Insurance (DOI)) provided an update on Plan Management activities for the State of Delaware. Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield has submitted seven plans for Plan Year (PY) 2018. Highmark submitted a proposed rate increase of 33.6%. This rate proposal does not reflect a guarantee of Cost Share Reductions (CSRs) for PY 18, or enforcement of the individual mandate. The rate proposal is not yet final until accepted by the DOI. Moreover, Highmark will no longer participate in the small group market, and will only offer individual plans. Age ranges for plans in PY 18 will be 0 – 14 years old and 15 – 64 years old. Delta Dental and Dominion Dental submitted dental plans for PY 18. Dominion Dental proposed a rate increase of 3% for individual plans and 3.7% for small group plans. DOI will release final premium rate increase information by the October HCC meeting. Public comments to the DOI will be accepted today until August 1st. Written comments may be sent to the DOI at 841 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, DE 19904. Open enrollment will be six weeks this year, starting November 1st and ending December 15th.

Discussion

Nick Moriello (Health Insurance Associates) inquired if there was an alternative rate filed by Highmark, if CSRs are in effect for PY 18. Ms. Brunory responded that Highmark submitted one proposed rate however, Highmark reserves the right to re-submit a proposal. The deadline for re-filing is August 1st.

STATE INNOVATION MODEL (SIM) UPDATE

Laura Howard provided an update on the CMMI State Innovation Model (SIM) grant and program

administration. The SIM Year 2 Annual Report was approved and is posted on the HCC website. The first Quarterly Progress Report for Year 3 was submitted to CMMI and is under review. The carryover funds request for \$4.9M was approved by CMMI and will support the continuation of SIM projects. Ms. Howard reviewed the activities of SIM related projects, and shared that \$1.4M has been spent to date.

On June 28th DHSS and HCC partnered with the Delaware Center for Health Innovation (DCHI) to host a Cross Committee Meeting, where guest speakers were invited to present on payment reform strategies from other states and provide national perspectives. The Cross Committee Meeting was live streamed on DHSS and DCHI Facebook pages and can be viewed on the DHSS YouTube channel, and on HCC and DCHI websites. The General Assembly also passed House Joint Resolution 7, which authorizes DHSS to establish a health care benchmark to address health care costs and payment reform efforts.

Ms. Howard provided updates on activities of the DCHI Committees, including Workforce & Education and Healthy Neighborhoods. A final report on the Community Health Workers initiative is available on the DCHI website.

A list of the upcoming DCHI meetings can be found on the DCHI website:
<https://www.dehealthinnovation.org/events>.

A copy of the full SIM update can be found on the Health Care Commission website:
http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhcc/dhcc_presentations.html

Discussion

Dr. Robinson analyzed the SIM budget, pointing out that no money has been spent on the Patient & Consumer and Healthy Neighborhoods projects, and comparatively little has been spent on Workforce. Ms. Howard responded that a Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued by the HCC for work on Healthy Neighborhoods, and a vendor has not been selected, so no money has been spent on this initiative. There is a vendor contract and work being done with Aloysius, Butler & Clark (ab+c) for the Patient & Consumer initiatives, as well as contracts with the University of Delaware and Christiana Care for Workforce, but invoices have not been compensated yet, and thus payments are not yet reflected in the budget. Dr. Robinson also expressed interest in the budget for Health IT. Ms. Howard explained that the Health IT budget includes the Health Care Claims Database (HCCD), maintenance of the Common Scorecard and Delaware Health Information Network (DHIN) initiatives, including some variable costs, such as with patient portals. When the funding from the Office of the National Coordinator (ONC) grant runs out in July, SIM will continue to support some of DHIN's work. Ms. Howard added that some of the vendor contracts that were considered during the development of the Year 3 budget, are no longer valid, and will also effect the budget.

Sec. Rick Geisenberger asked about the role of the HCC regarding the newly passed House Joint Resolution 7. Molly Magarik responded that DHSS will use existing vehicles to garner the stakeholder feedback needed to plan the discussion around the global healthcare benchmark, and that this effort is a result of the culmination of all the work of the HCC and DCHI. Dr. Fan added that the HCC can be used as a public forum and opportunity to share innovative ideas on these efforts. There is a lot of information available on examples of a healthcare bench mark and what is being done in other states to address health care spending. The presentations provided by the guest speakers at the DCHI Cross Committee meeting are available online. Sec. Geisenberger suggested that there may be high

expectations and a sense of urgency by state leadership to produce results on this work, to which Ms. Magarik responded that this legislation will be carried out in phases, in a deliberate process, with 2018 as a planning year.

John Dodd (BDC - Health IT) stated that his impression from the Cross Committee Meeting presentations is that Delaware's work so far in payment reform has produced good stories and that Delaware is off to a good start. Ms. Howard agreed that the guest speakers were complimentary to the ground work that has happened in Delaware and that we are on the right path, ready for this next phase. Dr. Fan added that Delaware has been laying the foundation for this next step and these efforts are reflective of what is happening on the national landscape.

HEALTH RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN (HRMP)

Dr. Fan asked the Commission members for questions or comments on the revised draft of the Health Resources Management Plan (HRMP). Monica Horton, (Department of Justice) informed the Commission that the role of the HCC is to vote on the plan, but if there are questions or changes suggested, the HRMP would go back to the Health Resources Board (HRB) for further review, before returning to the HCC for a vote. The challenge in the decision-making process for the HRB has been that there are currently 4 vacancies on the Board. Dr. Fan asked the Commission members to consider recommendations for HRB members that can be shared with the Governor's Office, as members are Governor-appointed. HCC staff will provide Commission members with the composition of the HRB members and current vacancies so that they can make recommendations. Mr. Becker added that if the HCC were to return the draft to the HRB for further review, the HCC will need to provide them with directives on suggested changes. Dr. Robinson suggested that the Quality Measures outlined in the HRMP are outdated and need to be reviewed for more current metrics. Sec. Geisenberger suggested the HRB give additional exploration of the public comments that consider legislation. Dr. Fan asked the Commission members for a motion to approve the final draft of the HRMP with the specific directives: The HRB will review the quality measures for each level of care stated in the plan within the next 3 months and review the quality measures on a routine basis, and the HRB will provide additional responses to the public comments that require legislature changes by January 2018. Mr. Becker motioned to approve the HRMP and Dr. Lee seconded. All members were in favor of approving the HRMP with the added stipulations. Motion carried.

The final draft of the HRMP and public comments can be found on the Health Care Commission website: <http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dhcc/hrb/dhrbhome.html>

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Howard shared that funding for the Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research (DIMER) and the Delaware Institute for Dental Education and Research (DIDER) was restored for FY 18. This funding supports the relationships with Sidney Kimmel Medical College, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Kornberg School of Dentistry, which guarantees admission to qualified students from Delaware in each entering class. DIMER funding also includes tuition assistance and a residency program at Christiana Care. Funding was also restored for the State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) which provides the state match for the federal dollars funding this program. Ms. Howard acknowledged all who participated in the advocacy efforts in getting funding restored.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Johnathan Kirch (American Heart Assoc. /American Stroke Assoc.) expressed disappointment that the tobacco tax was increased \$0.50 rather than \$1 in the FY 18 budget, insisting that the small amount will

do little to reduce tobacco use in Delaware, which continues to be a leading preventable cause of death. Sec. Geisenberger asserted that research has shown that a \$0.50 tax increase could yield an approximate 30% decline in volume. There was also increased tax on other tobacco products, and the bill also introduced a tax on vape juice, e-cigarettes and other smokeless tobacco products like snuff. The Secretary added that this bill is a step in the right direction from a health perspective and will help to reduce consumption.

Monica Horton (Department of Justice) suggested that the HCC consider enacting by-laws that would help govern how the body procedurally handles duties and requests that the HCC is statutorily authorized to take action on. Dr. Fan stated that this discussion point will be added to a future agenda.

Anne Caswell, a nurse practitioner in primary health care asked the HCC to give further consideration to the charity care stipulations outlined in the HRMP, and on the HRB member's ability to enforce. Ms. Caswell reasoned that patients without health insurance, particularly those who are undocumented, rely on the safety net resources under charity care, but remain underserved. Additionally, Ms. Caswell expressed concern that these patients lack access to care, beyond primary care needs, and that some providers build treatment plans around immigration status. Ms. Caswell asked the HCC consider addressing this issue when developing new policies and procedures. Ms. Caswell further appealed to the HCC for any resources to help her patients. Dr. Fan offered to share resources with her after the meeting. Lolita Lopez (Westside Family Healthcare) agreed that the HRB should develop infrastructure that would hold provider institutions accountable. Ms. Howard pointed out that this act would involve legislative change, which the HRB could consider in phase two of the HRMP.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Delaware Health Care Commission is Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 9:00am at Del Tech in Dover.

ADJOURN

Hearing no other business, Dr. Fan adjourned the meeting at 10:20 AM.

GUESTS

Jennifer Anderson	DE Surgery Center
Julane Armbrister	Delaware Center for Health Innovation
Helen Arthur	Delaware Health Care Commission
Carol Bancroft	Del Tech
Shannon Boyer	Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers
Jan Brunory	Department of Insurance
Mike Camburn	FMP Consulting
Anne Caswell	
Judy Chaconas	Pubic
Kathy Collison	Division of Public Health
John Dodd	BDC - Health IT
John Gentile	Office of Senator Carper
Lisa Goodman	HEP
Jim Grant	Public
Sheila Grant	AARP
Deborah Hamilton	Hamilton Goodman
Kristy Hull	DE Surgery Center
Lolita Lopez	Westside Family Healthcare
Nick Moriello	Health Insurance Associates
R.W. Munson, Jr.	United Medical, LLC
Meredith Newman	The News Journal
Maggie Norris Bent	Westside Family Healthcare
Brian Olson	La Red Health Center
Pam Price	Highmark
Nitin Rao, Esq.	National Multiple Sclerosis Society
Paula Roy	DCSN/Roy Associates
Lisa Schieffert	Delaware Healthcare Association
Robin Taylor	Department of Insurance
Latoya Wright	Delaware Health Care Commission