

**Wyoming Healthcare Commission
February 9, 2009
Conference Call Notes**

Commissioners: Rex Arney, Co-chairman, Larry Kirven, Co-chairman; Rod Barton; Barbara Cohee; Andy Fitzgerald; Jack Glode; Cathy Guschewsky; Lorraine Saulino-Klein; Barb Rea; Brent Sherard; Jack Speight; John Vandel and Ken Vines.

Guests: Sharla Allen; Steve Bahmer; Larry Biggio; Jerry Calkins; Stacie Dunn; Pat Monahan; Dan Perdue; Lloyd Wilder; Allison Rupp.

Staff: Susie Scott, Executive Director; Beth Worthen, Assistant Director; Fran Cadez, Facilitator; Barb Robinson, Database Project Manager; Keith Hageman, Administrative Assistant.

10:00 a.m. Co-chairman Rex Arney called the meeting to order.

I. Legislative Update

Executive Director Susie Scott gave the Commission an update on House Bills and Senate Files that were legislatively active at the time of the conference call:

- SF 43 Health Care Access Project Design- did not make it out of committee.
- HB 253 Healthcare Commission- made it through committee and is on the General File of the House.
- HB 146 Emergency Medical Services Sustainability Trust- made it through committee and is on the General File of the House.
- SF 39 Child Health Insurance Program- has passed 2nd Reading in the Senate.
- HB 163 Physician Assistant School- has passed 3rd Reading in the House (This bill involves a study to look at the possibility of having a physician assistant school in Wyoming).
- HB 281 Telemedicine-State System- has passed Committee of the Whole in the House.
- HB 294 Prescription Drug Database- has passed Committee of the Whole in the House.
- SF 24 Health Care Reform Demonstration Project- has passed the Senate and will now go to the House.
- SF 138 Health Care Professions Database- Assistant Director Beth Worthen gave the Commission an update on the database transition bill. SF 138 has passed the Senate and is now over in the House. SF 138 contains an appropriation to the Wyoming Department of Health with \$214,000 for project management and \$140,000 for data analysis.

There was additional discussion regarding SF 24 (Demonstration Project) and SF 43 (Access Project Design). The two bills are considered complementary to one another. Commissioners expressed concern that SF 43 was never discussed in committee while SF 24 has passed the Senate and is now in the House.

Motion: Commissioner Barb Rea motioned that the Commission go on record of supporting SF 24 but with an amendment of adding SF43. Commissioner Lorraine Saulino-Klein seconded the motion.

Motion Withdrawn: Commissioner Barb Rea withdrew her motion after further discussion.

The Commission reached a general consensus that efforts to have SF 43 revived in the House by amending SF 24 could prove counterproductive.

II. Patient Safety Organization Update

Patient Safety Task Force Facilitator Fran Cadez gave the Commission an update on the development of a Patient Safety Organization. Fran Cadez and Executive Director Susie Scott met with the Wyoming Business Council again to discuss revising the business plan for the Patient Safety Organization. The meeting went very well. The Wyoming Business Council has been a tremendous help. The business plan is in the process of being revised based upon the discussions with the Wyoming Business Council.

III. Carbon County Project Update

Commissioner Jack Glode gave the Commission an update on the Carbon County Project. The Joint Powers agreement has been signed. The town of Hanna has opted not to sign. Commissioner Glode has had several conversations with Duane Abels and Hanna not signing should not set the project back any. The project is proceeding without any significant problems.

IV. Wyoming Healthcare Commission March 2009 Meeting

Governor Freudenthal has expressed interest in the Commission providing ideas about a health policy organization. The WHCC staff will draft a document, based on previous discussions and work, and e-mail it to Commissioners prior to the March meeting. Comments and input regarding this document will be heard at the March meeting.

A legislative update will be given at the Commission's March meeting. This will include an update on the database transition.

The meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 9, 2009, in Casper.

10:50 a.m. Co-chairman Rex Arney adjourned the meeting.