

WYOMING HEALTHCARE COMMISSION
June 12, 2006
Meeting Minutes
Casper

ATTENDANCE:

Rex O. Arney, Rod Barton, Jack Glode, M.D., Carol Jenkins, Steve Mossbrook, Barb Rea, Lorraine Saulino-Klein, John Vandell, Commissioners; Lee Clabots, Deputy Director of Administration Wyoming Department of Health (attending in place of Dr. Brent Sherard; Lloyd Wilder, Department of Insurance (attending in place of Ken Vines); John P. McBride, Lynn Birleffi, Rick Schum, Beth Wasson, Linda O'Grady, Greg Gruman, Ph.D., Teri Green, Mary Burman, Jerry Calkins, M.D., Dan Perdue, Susie Pouliot, Committee Members; Susan Anderson, Executive Director, Beth Worthen, Assistant Director, Susie Scott-Mullen, Facilitator and Keith Hageman, Administrative Assistant, WHCC staff.

GUESTS:

Senator Charles K. Scott; Representative Pete Jorgensen; Lynne Weidel, Office of Rural Health; Chris Newman, Wyoming Department of Health; Tom Gallagher, Department of Employment, Research & Planning; Steve Thronson, APS Healthcare; David Hunsaker, APS Healthcare; Kathy Black, APS Healthcare; Chris Sullivan, APS Healthcare; Marian Smith, M.D., APS Healthcare; Mark Schippits, M.D., APS Healthcare; Lora Huston, WLRA & AHIP; Sharon Montagnino, Wyoming Nurses Association; Patrick Monahan, Wyoming Primary Care Association; Sue Howard, WNA; Carol Crump, Casper Journal; Forest Irons, M.D.; Michelle Harker, Wyoming Department of Health; Dan Neal, ESPC;

9:00 am Meeting called to order by Commissioner Carol Jenkins

Chairman Dixie Roberts was away on business and unable to attend the meeting. Commissioner Carol Jenkins chaired the meeting in Chairman Roberts' absents.

I. Introductions

II. Director's Report

Executive Director Susan Anderson gave the Director's Report:

A. WHCC Contracts

- A WHCC Contract Summary Sheet was handed out to the Commissioners.
- The WHCC has eight (8) contracts that are currently in the progress of being completed.
- The contracts will be completed in time to encumber the funds from the fiscal year 05 funds.

B. Medical Specialty Centers

- Health Systems Change (HSC), the entity that the WHCC has contracted with to do the Medical Specialty Centers Study, will have officials at the next WHCC meeting on July 10, 2006.
- Commissioners are asked to participate in a conference call with HSC the week of June 19-24, 2006, to discuss the study.

C. Wyoming Medical Society

- Commissioner Jack Glode, M.D., gave a presentation to the Wyoming Medical Society (WMS) at their annual meeting June 8-10, 2006, regarding the work that the WHCC has been doing. Executive Director Susan Anderson also attended the WMS annual meeting.
- At the WMS's annual meeting, interest was expressed by physicians to participate and get involved with the WHCC.
- Also at the WMS's annual meeting, there was discussion about the WHCC offering teleconferencing of the WHCC's monthly meetings to enable more medical personnel to participate.

D. The Time is right for healthcare reform in Wyoming

- The state's financial situation looks promising.
- The need for healthcare is escalating with the growth of new workers.
- There is an appetite for new ideas.

E. Two Commissioners Are Retiring as of June 30, 2006.

- Carol Jenkins (Buffalo, Wyoming)
- Steve Mossbrook (Riverton, Wyoming)
- The Commission presented both Carol Jenkins and Steve Mossbrook with letters from the Governor and commemorative plaques in appreciation of their service and dedication to the Commission.

III. APS Healthcare Presentation

Megan Cormier, RN, BSN (Executive Director, Wyoming Healthy Together Program), participating via teleconference call, introduced the presenters from APS Healthcare. They were as follows: David Hunsaker, President, APS Public Programs; Steve Thronson, Chief Operating Officer, APS Public Programs; Mark Schippits, M.D., Corporate Disease Management (DM) Medical Director; Marion Smith, M.D., Medical Director, APS Wyoming Healthy Together; Kathy Black, RN, BSN, CCM, Clinical Director, APS Wyoming Healthy Together; Michelle Harker, RN, CCM, EquityCare Medical Care Coordinator; Chris Sullivan, Marketing Director, APS Wyoming Healthy Together. The APS Healthcare Presentation covered the following:

A. APS History and Expertise

- private for-profit
- 10 Years experience in public health programs
- URAC Accredited
- Currently working with over 20 states.

B. Total Population Health Management (TPHM)

- TPHM is an expansion of the Disease Management (DM) model
- TPHM applies to entire health care continuum of population (i.e., the Healthy, At-risk and Chronically Ill)

C. Wyoming's "Healthy Together!" Program

- Unique
 1. Looks at population outside of the chronically ill.
 2. Has a wellness and prevention component.
- The first formal Return on Investment (ROI) analysis is due June 30, 2006.
- The program is funded by the Wyoming Department of Health's EqualityCare (Medicaid) program and managed by APS Healthcare.
- Able to work (integrate) with other programs (i.e., community programs and state agencies) at all levels of care.
- Uses the Johns Hopkins Adjusted Clinical Groups (ACG) Case Mix System in order to help predict a population's illness burden and incorporates a treatment gap analysis.
- Health awareness tools (Health Buddy device, 24 hour health hotline, Healthwise Handbooks)
- Funding and Accountability
- Snapshot of Outcomes
- What's next for "Health Together!"
 1. ER Collaboration
 2. Pre-diabetes and metabolic syndrome provider education.
 3. Availability of education via webcast and videoconferencing.
 4. School nurse tools for asthma and diabetes.
 5. Encourage medical homes, immunization clinics and wellness education through community providers.
 6. Healthy Kids Day
 7. Increase incentives to participate.

APS Healthcare will be presenting their ROI report of the "Health Together!" program at the July 10, 2006, WHCC meeting.

IV. Committee Meetings

All three subcommittees (Access & Affordability, Medicaid and Rural Health Care Delivery Systems) held committee meetings from 12:00pm to 2:00pm.

VI. Medicaid Committee Update

Commissioner Rod Barton (Medicaid Committee Chairman) presented the Medicaid Committee update as follows:

- A Medicaid reform subcommittee update sheet was handed out to the commission.
- The Medicaid Committee is exploring ways to help people find appropriate care outside the institutional setting when possible.
- With the short time frame before reporting to the state legislature, the Medicaid Committee is focusing on the highest cost areas: nursing home care and the developmentally disabled. In-home care is less than half the cost of institutionalization.
- The Medicaid Committee is also looking at other issues beyond the nursing home challenge.
- Wyoming's current Medicaid program is barebones, i.e., strictly mandated benefits.

- The Medicaid Benefit Redesign Study RFP was drafted and sent out. The deadline for submission of proposals is June 13, 2006.

VII. Rural Health Care Delivery Systems (RHCDS) Committee Update

Beth Worthen (WHCC Assistant Director) presented the Rural Health Care Delivery Systems Study RFP Requirements:

Phase 1. Evaluate existing circumstances.

The study will examine the status of Wyoming's rural health care delivery systems, in terms of human resources, finance, information technology, transportation, delivery of specialty services, and public health. The evaluation shall include five distinct areas: (1) an inventory of current services and providers; (2) a comparison of existing public and private models of coordinated rural health care delivery systems for all aspects of health care; (3) interviews with stakeholder organizations to identify problems with existing delivery systems and perceived solutions (4) an analysis of the economic impact of health care services in Wyoming; and (5) an inventory of transportation related to health care delivery in Wyoming.

Phase 2. Design improved rural health care delivery systems.

Based upon Phase 1 outcomes, the study will propose at least three alternative designs for rural health care delivery systems. Taking into consideration: community based systems, regionalized planning, creation of a state commission, feasibility of a foundation model, demographics, creating provider education system for all health care professionals, and private healthcare delivery systems vs. community based health programs.

The preliminary report for the RHCDS Study is due October 2006 and the final report is due May 2007.

There were four (4) vendors that submitted Proposals: CBIZ, University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC), John Snow, Inc. (JSI), and Stroudwater Associates. The RHCDS Committee ranked the proposals as follows:

1. University of Nebraska Medical Center
2. Stroudwater Associates
3. John Snow, Inc
4. CBIZ

A major factor in the RHCDS Committee's ranking was that the University of Nebraska Medical Center understands Wyoming and their (UNMC) proposal was more comprehensive. There was general consensus from the Commission at large that the University of Nebraska Medical Center is the right choice for the Rural Health Care Delivery Systems Study. The University of Nebraska Medical Center has been awarded the RHCDS Study.

Commissioner Jack Glode, M.D., suggested that everyone on the Commission read the Rural Policy Research Institute (RUPRI) Report to get an idea of where the RHCDS Committee is going. The RUPRI Report discusses integration of the various aspects of the healthcare system:

- Implementing IT into a system.
- Combining community and private practices.

- Addresses the flex program.
- Addresses financing issues of IT.

In summary, Commissioner Glode believes that after the WHCC works with the UNMC for a year it may become clear how the WHCC can tie all of the WHCC's work together. The RUPRI report has the potential of aligning the incentives of patients, payers, and the health care delivery system.

VIII. Access and Affordability (AAA) Committee update

Commissioner Rex Arney (Access & Affordability Committee Chairman) and Susie Scott-Mullen (WHCC Facilitator) presented the Access and Affordability Committee update to the Commission.

- The AA Committee is reviewing previous work that has been done in the area of insuring the uninsured. The AAA Committee wants to learn from the previous work. Some of the previous work the AAA Committee has looked at includes:
 1. The "Task Force" that was headed up by Tom Stroock.
 2. WyoCare
 3. KidCare- the expansion of which led to an increase of between 3,800 to 4,000 in coverage.
 4. Free Clinics
 5. Navigant Study
- Incremental Approach vs. Comprehensive Approach- the AAA Committee has not yet decided which approach it will take.
- There are three different programs that are, reportedly, making a difference in the area of insuring the uninsured and the AAA Committee is going to investigate them. They are as follows:
 1. Michigan 3-share
 2. SCHIP (expansion)
 3. Private marketing (Idaho)
- At next month's WHCC meeting (July 10, 2006)the AAA committee will be listening to a presentation on the "Insure Montana" legislation (Small Business Health Care Affordability act H.B. 667)
- There was comment that it is critical to accurately identify who the uninsured are.
- Cost and Revenue- To this point, the AAA Committee has focused on the 'revenue" aspect of the problem more than the "cost" aspect. However, the AAA Committee recognizes that they will have to address both.

In summary the AAA Committee continues to consider effective ways of improving accessibility and affordability through incremental change such as modifying current legislation and expanding the scope of tools already available, i.e. SCHIP, while continuing to research successful large scale change models such as Michigan, Idaho and Montana.

IX. Wrap-up and Next Meeting

- The next WHCC meeting will be July 10, 2006, at the Plains Hotel in Cheyenne. The agenda for the next meeting will be distributed as soon as it is finalized.
- APS Healthcare will be presenting their Return on Investment (ROI) for the Wyoming "Healthy Together!" program.
- The Access & Affordability Committee will have a presentation on the "Insure Montana" legislation (Small Business Health Care Affordability act H.B. 667) at the July 10, 2006, WHCC meeting.
- Health Systems Change (HSC), the entity that the WHCC has contracted with to do the Medical Specialty Centers Study, will have officials at the next WHCC meeting on July 10, 2006.

3:45 pm Meeting adjourned by Commissioner Carol Jenkins