

**Rural Healthcare Delivery Systems**  
**October 9, 2006**  
**Minutes**

I. Expansion of dental education program – University of Wyoming

Senator Scott:

- ❖ Currently expanding programs for APNs, PAs, MDs, permitting denturists to practice in state, etc.
- ❖ This bill could be a piece of a comprehensive strategy
- ❖ Will be 2012 before dentists come back
- ❖ If WHCC recommends, this could be a LHSS bill (depends on amount of work in Medicaid recommendations) or help round up sponsors. Whether we could pass it depends on price of natural gas.
- ❖ Need one page summary – recruitment needs, how it fits into Medicaid conversation.

Representative Jorgensen:

- ❖ WHCC is a “package developing” group – need to look at this in terms of overall efforts in past (Medicaid/dentists) and future.

Idea: After a certain amount of uncompensated payment will have an automatic reduction on payback program – incentives instead of requirement. (though may create additional bureaucracy/oversight)

Larry:

- ❖ Don't set requirements too high, won't find students interested (particularly with WICHE program – no requirements there)

Jack Speight: Motion -- Recommendation to endorse this program by WHCC, go to LHSS for consideration as a committee bill.

Recommend that the legislation include repayment incentives for treatment of Medicaid patients. Recommend that the legislation stay directed at expansion of dental education, not attempt to address other workforce issues.

- ❖ Need letter + data (cc Rick Miller, Marian Schulz, Diane O'Keefe)

Larry Kirven: second

Passed unanimously.

Lynne Weidel: Grant Christianson has data re: Medicaid

**Action item: If WHCC approves, Beth will draft letter and supporting data for Dixie's signature.**

II. HPTC

a. Statistical handbook update and sample

Specific handbook recommendations:

- ❖ We would like to see summary data, and then profile page for each county
- ❖ Don't like 3 dimensional graphs
- ❖ Map: use something besides syringes – dots
- ❖ Do a map of MDs, APN, DDS, etc.
- ❖ Do subtotals within charts

Role of WHCC: Need an in-house individual to work with this data, establish use policies, track who are heaviest users, build county contact infrastructure.

b. Response rates

Response rates look pretty good, subcommittee is interested in responses from hospital survey on hospital employees.

**Action item: Beth will pass along changes to HPTC.**

**Action item: Beth will share responses from hospitals to Dan, Lynne and Susie.**

III. RUPRI

a. Site visits – contact list and instrument

Reviewed contact list and site visit instrument, made recommendations for modification.

b. Letter of introduction – approved

**Action item: Beth will make changes to list and instrument, send to RUPRI.**

**Action item: Beth will get additional suggestions from Rod Barton and Jack Glode.**

**Action item: Beth/Keith will distribute letter of introduction when we have the list of recipients.**