

**Dirigo Health Agency  
Board of Trustees  
Minutes of Meeting  
Monday, January 14, 2013**

The Dirigo Health Agency Board of Trustees held a meeting on Monday, January 14, 2013.

Chair Bruno convened the meeting at 9:29 AM in the Dirigo Health Agency Boardroom located at 211 Water Street in Augusta.

Board members in attendance: Gary Reed, Robert Harmon, Deborah-Hamblen-Wood, Jonathan Beal, Ellen Shillinglaw, Neria Douglass, and Douglas Carr. Also in attendance: Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director of DHA and William Kilbreth, Deputy Director of DHA.

Chair Bruno welcomed Neria Douglass, Treasurer, State of Maine, to the meeting.

The December 10, 2012 meeting minutes were approved with one abstention.

**Agency Old Business**

Ms. Harrington explained enrollment was closed for DirigoChoice and the Voucher Program after accepting applications with a January 1, 2013 effective date.

Preliminary discussions have begun with Harvard to determine if there is financial feasibility in opening enrollment for members eligible for subsidies on a short contract basis. Ms. Harrington expects further information at the next BOT meeting.

Ms. Harrington stated that based on reports in the paper it looks like certain segments of the MaineCare parent expansion will phase out effective March 1, 2013. She also confirmed that the Agency has paid in full the required transfer amount in FY13 of approximately \$7.2M

A question was posed as to where the DHHS payments appear on the Balance Sheet. Mr. Kilbreth responded it appears in the gain/loss from operations as it is an inter-agency transfer.

Ms. Harrington briefed the board on the status of one of the key initiatives with the Maine Quality Forum (MQF)-the Patient Experience of Care Project. The surveys are out in the field and the next significant activity is to design the public reporting of the results. The MQF Advisory Council met in December and made a number of critical decisions specific to the design of the reporting. There are other entities like the Maine Health Management Coalition (one of our partners in the initiative) that plan to publically report the data as well-the goal is not to duplicate and or confuse the user with dueling data-but rather the sites should complement each other.

Ms. Harrington explained that the LD1818 work group was designed to address some of the operational issues that were going on with health care data in Maine and to submit to the Joint Standing Committee on Health and Human Services Committee recommendations specific to the future state of health care data in the State. The Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO) has been an integral part of the discussion and is very interested in the content of the report. The next meeting of the 1818 work group most likely will discuss the ongoing work of the MQF and the value of the integration of clinical data into the All Payer Claims Database. There has been discussion in the work group and there is general support that the MQF continue and perhaps become a division of the MHDO. The law that governs MQF requires the MQF and the MHDO to work collaboratively on a number of activities; because of the synergy between the two

organizations some believe it might make sense to merge them. It is a decision that the Legislature will be tasked with if legislation is put forward to merge the MQF into the operations of the MHDO. In the interim, the budget request for the next biennial (FY14/15) includes maintaining the work of the MQF for FY 2014 and FY2015 using any remaining reserves at the end of CY13 to fund the work.

### **Agency New Business**

Ms. Harrington briefed the Board that she and Chair Bruno have been asked to brief the Joint Standing Committee on Insurance and Financial Services on Thursday, January 17th. The Committee has asked the briefing to focus on the status of the programs and any transitional issues as they relate to the Health Insurance Exchange and the Dirigo population.

### **Public Comments**

Mitchell Stein with the Consumers for Affordable Health Care stated that five of the largest private insurance companies in Connecticut plan to participate in the Health Insurance Exchange. He also indicated that Connecticut is building its own state run exchange.

Mitchell also stated that he is not aware of the feds delaying the implementation of the health insurance exchange. In fact, in the past month there has been a deluge of new regulations. The Exchange is still set to begin enrolling members October 1, 2013 for a January 1, 2014 coverage effective date.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2013 beginning at 9:30 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM.