

**Dirigo Health Agency
Board of Trustees
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, August 9, 2010**

The Dirigo Health Agency Board of Trustees held a meeting Monday, August 9, 2010.

Jonathan Beal, Chair, convened the meeting at 9:05 AM in the Dirigo Health Agency Boardroom located at 211 Water Street in Augusta.

Other Board members in attendance: Mary McAleney, Joseph Bruno, Sara Gagne-Holmes, Mary Anne Turowski, Marianne Ringel, Gary Reed, Frank O'Hara, Trish Riley, David Lemoine, and Ellen Schneider. Also in attendance: Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director of the Dirigo Health Agency and William Kilbreth, Deputy Director of the Dirigo Health Agency.

Governor's Office of Health Policy and Finance Update-Trish Riley

Ms. Riley reported on a meeting that she and Karynlee Harrington recently attended in Minneapolis with federal officials and state leads regarding Exchanges.

She also reported that there will be a NGA meeting in Vermont September 13th - 14th to continue the discussion on Exchanges and federal health reform. All the members of the Health Reform Steering Committee are scheduled to attend this meeting.

Ms. Riley reported that an analysis was completed with Superintendent Kofman to determine if the provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that go into effect September 2010 fit within the construct of Maine's current regulatory environment. The conclusion is that they can.

Ms. Riley stated that on September 24th the ACHSD meeting will focus on the issue of the Exchange defined in the ACA and the numerous policy options the State will need to consider.

Ms. Riley reminder the board of the federal health reform website at www.maine.gov/healthreform.

Ms. Riley reported that the voucher program for part-time workers that was established under the HRSA Grant has been operational since May. There have been significant requests to open the voucher program to groups with fewer than 50 employees. This issue was brought to the Business Advisory Group and the group agreed that it makes sense to open the program to small group if large group is not filling up the openings.

Ms. Harrington requested the Board approve expanding the voucher program to employers with fewer than 50 employees.

The Board unanimously approved Ms. Harrington's request.

Ms. Riley reviewed several of the grant opportunities available to the State as a result of the ACA. Specifically Ms. Riley described the opportunity for up to \$1 million in federal funding to help states begin their planning efforts as it relates to the Exchange provision of the ACA. The grant application is due by October 1st. This will be one time money and funding for each year going forward to implement.

Agency Business

Ms. Harrington presented to the Board the Agency's proposed SFY 2012-2013 budget including the details and assumptions used in forecasting the expected revenues and expenses for each year. Refer to handout.

Ms. Harrington outlined the States budget process and timelines. The proposed budget reflects the Agency's goals as it relates to both access and quality.

After a robust discussion regarding the budget, a motion was made to approve the budget. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Ms. Harrington reported that she is currently working with HPHC on finalizing the terms and conditions of the new three year contract for the Boards review and approval at the September 20, 2010 Board meeting.

Public Comments

Gordon Smith of the Maine Medical Association referred to an article in "Maine Medicine" about Dr. McAfee who was the honoree at the Fifteenth Annual Edmund Muskie Access to Justice Award Dinner. Dr. McAfee was recognized for his efforts in bringing to the nation's attention the epidemic of family violence.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 20, 2010 beginning at 9:00 AM in the Boardroom of the Dirigo Health Agency.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 AM.