

**Dirigo Health Agency
Board of Trustees
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, March 12, 2012**

The Dirigo Health Agency Board of Trustees held a meeting Monday, March 12, 2012.

Chair Bruno convened the meeting at 9:02 AM in the Dirigo Health Agency Boardroom located at 211 Water Street in Augusta.

Board members in attendance: Gary Reed, Robert Harmon, Douglas Carr, Jonathan Beal, Mary Anne Turowski, John Brautigam, and Mary McAleney. Also in attendance: Karynlee Harrington, Executive Director of the DHA and William Kilbreth, Deputy Director of the DHA.

The Board unanimously approved the amended January 9, 2012 and February 13, 2012 meeting minutes.

Agency Old Business

There were no questions from the Board on the financial reports and enrollment report.

Ms. Harrington stated that the small group segment has continued to grow in the month of February bringing on 17 new groups. The number of unsubsidized small group members is approximately 54% of the total small group population. As of February 2012 there are 698 small businesses participating in DirigoChoice.

Ms. Harrington presented to the Board a revised SFY 2012-2013 budget which includes the items in the supplemental budget. Refer to budget document.

Ms. Harrington presented to the Board the DHA Total Medicaid Contributions in FY 2012-2013 Budget. Please refer to handout.

Chair Bruno stated that he would like to discuss the 2013 budget at the April meeting.

Chair Bruno stated that after speaking to Ms. Harrington they believe the DirigoChoice subsidy program can continue to be open until the end of this fiscal year although the timing is fluid given the numerous variables. Chair Bruno reminded the Board there needs to be at least a two month notice to close subsidized enrollment.

Board member Beal expressed his concern about the obligation to members he feels that the Board maintains which is to manage Agency funds to be used for Agency business and programs and not to be transferred to the state budget for other programs.

Ms. Harrington stated that she has spoken to AG Linda Pistner about the concerns Board member Beal has raised and her comments are consistent with prior comments that the Legislature has the power through Legislation to redirect Agency funds and it is the obligation of the Agency to follow the laws that impact the Agency.

The Board requested that AG Linda Pistner attend the April 9, 2012 meeting to discuss the Board's fiduciary obligation further. Ms. Harrington will contact Ms. Pistner.

Ms. Harrington reported that voucher ads are now running on the radio. They will be running until the end of August.

Ms. Harrington reported that the Maine Quality Forum is continuing work on the Patient Experience of Care project. A stakeholder meeting of providers was held on March 6, 2012 where the project was launched. The keynote speaker was Dale Schaller with Schaller Consulting Group. A follow up webinar is in the process of being scheduled. Refer to handout from meeting.

Agency New Business

Board Chair thanked Mary Anne Turowski and Dr. Edward David for their years of service on the Dirigo Board.

Ms. Harrington reported that Richelle Wallace and Ellen Shillinglaw have been nominated by the Governor to the DHA Board of Trustees. The public hearing before the Insurance and Financial Services Committee is scheduled for March 21, 2012 at 1:00pm.

Ms. Harrington reported that the Governor has nominated five individuals for the Maine Quality Forum Advisory Council. The public hearing before the Health and Human Services Committee is scheduled for March 13, 2012 at 1:00pm.

Ms. Harrington reported that LD 1497 and LD 1498 have been amended and the Insurance and Financial Services Committee continues to work through the issues of a health insurance exchange.

Public Comments

Mitchell Stein, Policy Director at CAHC, stated that the most recent republican amendment to the exchange bill gives the Governor authority over the exchange so the Legislature doesn't have to be called back into session.

Mr. Stein added that he is supportive of the Patient Experience of Care survey but is concerned that the data will not be released on a physician specific basis and the usefulness will be limited. His interpretation is that the limited funds from the assessment are being used to subsidize the private businesses and private insurance companies as opposed to the consumer.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 9, 2012 beginning at 9 AM.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 AM.