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MINUTES OF THE

SANTA FE COUNTY

HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION June 4, 2010

A meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission was called to order at 9:25 a.m. by Chairman Larry Martinez on the above-cited date at the Santa Fe County Health & Human Services Department, 2052 Galisteo Street, Suite B, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum for conducting official business, as follows:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Larry Martinez, Chairman Arturo Gonzales, Vice Chairman Terrie Rodriguez, Vice Chairman Erika Campos Louis Carlos John Cassidy Dr. Frantz Melio Elizabeth Reynolds Beverly Russell Ardis M. Thomas Judith K. Williams

MEMBER(s) ABSENT:

Nancy S. Adelsheim, excused Rick Adesso, excused Fiquet Hanna Duckworth, excused Patricio Larragoite, excused Melissa Manlove, excused John "Jack" White, excused

STAFF PRESENT:

Marie Garcia, Health and Human Services Division

OTHERS PRESENT:

Robin Hunn, Project Access Lynda Longacre, Project Access Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer

Health Policy & Planning Commission Meeting: June 4, 2010

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Carlos moved to approve the agenda as published. Commissioner Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: May 14, 2010

Chairman Martinez noted that he had some minor editorial revisions to the Minutes and would be willing to share those, if anyone is interested. He asked members if there were any corrections or additions to the Minutes.

Commissioner Russell was present.

Page 7, 6th paragraph was changed to read: "Commissioner Williams pointed out that item 1 has already been adopted by the HPPC and following research, this was ascertained to be correct. She then moved to recommend to the Board of County Commissioners adoption of the above items, as amended. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote."

Commissioner Russell moved to approve the Minutes of the May 14, 2010 meeting, as amended. Commissioner Carlos seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION

A. Healthcare Assistance Program Update on Rules & Regulations

Chairman Martinez noted that a letter dated May 14, 2010 was sent to the Board of County Commissioners outlining the recommendations that the HPPC made at the last meeting. Chairman Martinez presented the recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners at their May 25th meeting and they adopted all six of the recommendations with a 2 to 1 vote. He noted that Commissioner Mike Anaya was opposed to item #1, which is the elimination of the social security number requirement.

Chairman Martinez reviewed the recommendations as follows:

- It is recommended that the definition of "resident" be clarified and that the requirement of a Social Security number to be eliminated as a qualifying criterion for Healthcare Assistance Program applicants.
- It is recommended that for purposes of eligibility for HAP assistance, that checking and savings accounts of applicants be given primary focus and that although other assets may be considered at discretion of staff, property that would be difficult to liquidate and retirement and pension accounts be disregarded.
- It is recommended that the eligibility period for applicants for HAP assistance be extended from one year to two years.

- It is recommended that the notarization requirement for certain application forms and/or attachments be eliminated.
- It is recommended that the time period afforded providers of services to approved HAP applicants for submission of bills be extended from 120 to 240 days from the time services are provided.
- It is recommended that staff of the Santa Fe County Health and Human Services Department be afforded the opportunity to refine and adopt a new application form to be used by clients and providers that would eliminate irrelevant or redundant information and result in a simpler application process.

Chairman Martinez said the intent is that these requirements would go into effect on July 1st, 2010.

Commissioner Campos said there has also been talk about the eligibility qualifications - in terms of the financial perspective - aligning with the percentage of the poverty level, instead of the formula that was previously used. She asked if anyone knew the status of this.

In response, Chairman Martinez said, as he recalls, the basic eligibility standards/qualifications are the same as the HUD standards, which is presently 120% of poverty. He said the way that the Indigent Law is written - that establishes these indigent funds - is also to prevent people from becoming impoverished because of a medical necessity or condition.

Commissioner Williams said the County Commissioners also expressed concerns that eliminating the social security requirement could open the flood gates for people to come into the state to receive healthcare.

B. Status of Santa Fe County FY11 Budget

Ms. Marie Garcia noted that there will be a budget meeting next week (Tuesday). Chairman Martinez suggested that an update be provided at the next HPPC meeting in August.

C. Impact of State FY11 Budget

Chairman Martinez reported that he and Commissioner Gonzales interviewed Alfredo Vigil, the Secretary of the Department of Health, at this morning's radio broadcast. Mr. Vigil provided an update on the State's FY11 budget.

Chairman Martinez quoted from a newspaper article dated April 7, 2010 that indicated that the Department of Health is trying to minimize the impact of their budget cuts, as they realize that some of the cuts will affect New Mexicans in almost every community.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked if Chairman Martinez knew where maternal and child healthcare is in the state's budget.

Chairman Martinez said that funding for maternal and child healthcare was cut from the state's budget. He noted that a total of \$24 million was cut from the state's budget. He reviewed a summary of the cuts that were made. He pointed out that mental health and substance abuse treatment will be reduced by \$1.8 million.

Commissioner Gonzales shared the impact on SBIRT - with respect to the state's budget cuts. He noted that SBIRT is presently operating on internal revenues.

MATTERS FROM THE COMMISSION

Chairman Martinez referred to the request that the Board of County Commissioners has made asking that the HPPC provide some feedback to them regarding the impact of federal health care reform on Santa Fe County. He suggested that the Healthcare Reform Subcommittee reconvene again to discuss this further. The HPPC members who volunteered to serve on the committee to address the federal health care reform request included Erika Campos, John Cassidy, Arturo Gonzales, Judy Williams and Larry Martinez.

The next Healthcare Reform Committee meeting is scheduled for June 22nd from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. at the Health & Human Services Conference Room. Ms. Hunn asked if she could have 10-15 minutes at this meeting to report on some things she has been working on. Chairman Martinez invited her to attend.

Commissioner Williams distributed and briefly reviewed the summary she prepared. (Please see Exhibit "A" for the details.) She noted that the Bureau Business Economic Research (BBER) has some information/data on the number of small businesses in Santa Fe.

Some of the statistics are as follows:

- In Santa Fe County about 28,000, or 60% of the workforce, work for companies with fewer than 50 employees. These companies make up 97% of local business establishments. These companies are not mandated to provide insurance, though there will be incentives in form of subsidies (up to 50% of premium price) for those who do in the short term. Statewide, only one-quarter (1/4) currently insure their employees, though the owners are likely (83%) to be insured.
- Under the new law, all children who have pre-existing conditions will be able to obtain insurance as of 2010. But it may be expensive.
- Medicaid expansions will only occur in 2014. Meanwhile, large groups will remain uninsured, particularly those without children.
- Medicaid income and asset eligibility requirements are liberalized in 2010.

- Medicaid cannot change other eligibility criteria, meaning they won't be able to drop beneficiaries.
- The individual mandate for insurance does not kick in until 2014.

Conclusion:

- The indigent are fund will continue to be needed, and need may actually rise, at least in the short term.
- Currently, part of the indigent care fund is used for safety net primary care.

Commissioner Williams said she reviewed the Mathematical Study to see if there was any County-related data in terms of figuring out the impact to Santa Fe County but she did not find anything useful in it. She offered to continue to put together information on this and share it with the Commission. She said her request from the last meeting - on the number of undocumented people who live in the County - still stands. (At the prior meeting, Mr. Shepherd offered to try and get this information).

Commissioner Gonzales offered to prepare a summary on the behavioral health information that will be coming out from SAMHSA.

Chairman Martinez announced that Commissioner Gonzales has been appointed to the SAMHSA National Advisory Board.

Chairman Martinez noted that the Board of County Commissioners was also interested in how economic stimulus construction funds were used so that the County can better understand how it impacted various projects.

Commissioner Campos noted that a PowerPoint presentation was made at the May 22nd Healthcare Reform Workshop regarding the establishment of insurance exchanges. She said this would be helpful information for this Commission. She offered to forward this to Ms. Marie Garcia to distribute to the Commissioners.

Ms. Hunn mentioned that there were also a number of great presentations at the Association of Commerce & Industry of New Mexico (ACI) Workshop that would be helpful to the Commission. She offered to provide this information to Ms. Garcia.

A. Health Para Todos Radio Station Update

As reported previously, Chairman Martinez noted that they interviewed the Secretary of Department of Health, Alfredo Vigil on this morning's program to discuss the budget reductions that have occurred in this department.

Commissioner Gonzales was also interviewed on this morning's broadcast regarding his appointment to the SAMHSA National Advisory Board. They also talked about healthcare reform, as a result of the Federal Health Care Reform Workshop that occurred on May 22nd.

Chairman Martinez said that it may be a good idea to have Caroline Ingram from the Medical Assistance Division to be a guest on a future broadcast. He mentioned that he has also extended an invitation to the Secretary of the Children, Youth and Families Department (Dorian Dodson) to talk about health care and protective custody issues that they are involved in, however, she has not been able to attend.

Commissioner Gonzales noted that there is an Alzheimer's Association in New Mexico and he would like to get a representative on a future radio broadcast to talk about Alzheimers.

Commissioner Gonzales reported that the Lovelace Clinic Foundation received some funding in regards to implementation of health information technology.

Ms. Robin Hunn was invited to be a guest on a future broadcast.

B. CHRISTUS/St. Vincent Behavioral Health Update

Commissioner Campos reported that CSV is looking at a \$9 to \$12 million deficit for 2011 with regards to unreimbursed health care services.

Commissioner Campos announced that CSV Breast Institute is expanding their program and will be offering lymphatic services. They will be conducting a lecture on this to providers in August.

She noted that the After-Hours care facility on Camino Letrado is going well and the Sports Medicine facility on St. Michaels Drive is open and doing fine.

Commissioner Campos reported that CSV will be expanding their sleep lab in a month or two. CSV is also working on their gastroenterology (GI) Outpatient Clinic this summer.

Commissioner Campos announced that CSV Breast Surgeon (Dr. Voltura) was recently nominated for an award by the "*People living through Cancer*" organization.

C. Jail Health Subcommittee update

Chairman Martinez reported that the next Jail Health Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. This will be a working session.

Commissioner Gonzales noted that the State Health and Human Services Department is developing a strategic plan addressing co-occurring chronic health conditions and the Commission should make comments on the strategic plan. He offered to send copies of the plan to Ms. Marie Garcia so she can distribute it to the Commissioners.

MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

None presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. The next HPPC Regular Meeting is scheduled for August 6, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. There will be no meeting in July.
- B. The next HPPC Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2010 at 8:30 a.m.
- C. The next Jail Health Subcommittee Meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2010 at 2:30 p.m.
- D. The next Healthcare Reform Committee Meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2010 at 8:30 a.m. (All meetings will be held at the Santa Fe County Health & Human Services Department, 2052 Galisteo Street, Suite B Conference Room).

ADJOURNMENT

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Rodriguez moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Gonzales and passed by unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Approved by: VALERIE ESPINOZ **COUNTY CLERK** Larry Martinez, Chairman

Respectfully submitted by: Jo Ann G. Valdez, Stenographer



Health Policy & Planning Commission Meeting: June 4, 2010