# SANTA FE COUNTY HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

# Minutes - November 6, 2009

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# MINUTES OF THE

# SANTA FE COUNTY

## **HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION**

# **November 6, 2009**

A Meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission was called to order at 8:35 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 Terrie Rodriguez, Vice Chairman Nancy S. Adelsheim Rick Adesso Erika Campos Louis Carlos John Cassidy Figuet Hanna Duckworth Patricio Larragoite

Elizabeth Reynolds

Beverly Russell

Ardis M. Thomas

Judith K. Williams

#### **MEMBER(s) ABSENT:**

Arturo Gonzales, Vice Chairman, excused Valery Henderson Lydia Zepeda Jennings Dr Frantz Melio Melissa Manlove John "Jack" White

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Roman Abeyta, Santa Fe County Manager Marie Garcia, Health and Human Services Division Steve Shepherd, Health and Human Services Division Director

Santa Fe County Health Policy and Planning Commission Meeting: November 6, 2009

Greg Smith, Healthcare Assistance Program Angela Thorndyke, RN/BSN, County Mobile Health Van

#### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Kathleen Benecke
Joyce Gonzales, Cavernous Angioma
Robin Hunn, Project Access
Paul Nelson, Sangre de Cristo Community Health Program
Lynda Longacre, Project Access
Julia Valdez, Constituent Services Liaison for BCC Commissioner Liz Stefanics

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Item VII-B (Recommend Resolution from Food Policy Council) was deleted from the agenda.

Item IX-D (Cavernous Angioma Update) was moved up on the agenda.

Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve the agenda, as amended. Commissioner Cassidy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: October 2, 2009**

Chairman Martinez noted that he had some minor 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 Rodriguez moved to approve the Minutes of the October 2, 2009 meeting, as amended. Commissioner Russell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by voice vote.

#### SANTA FE COUNTY MANAGER

### A. Discussion Concerning the MOA with CHRISTUS/St. Vincent

Mr. Abeyta thanked the Commission for the work they do on behalf of Santa Fe County. He said Santa Fe County is very appreciative of the work HPPC does and the recommendations that they make on health care decisions for Santa Fe County residents.

Mr. Abeyta referred to the handout entitled "Santa Fe County FY2010 Health, RECC and Corrections Funding Levels" that was distributed to the Commissioners. The handout listed the health care services and funding levels that the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) has traditionally funded for the County.

Mr. Abeyta explained that a lawsuit has been filed against certain counties and hospitals related to Sole Community Provider funding. As a result of this lawsuit, the County took a look at its relationship with CHRISTUS/St. Vincent Regional Medical

Center (CSV) with regard to Sole Community Provider funding. He said the County does not feel that they have the same relationship with CSV as other counties do - as far as how they are working with Sole Community Provider funding - but they did identify potential threats that both CSV and Santa Fe County could be exposed to. The main threat is the amount of money that the County is contributing to the Sole Community Provider funding, above and beyond, what the law states that the County is required to appropriate. The County is required to base the amount of the annual contribution to CSV on the Indigent care claims for the previous calendar year. In reviewing this, the County has been contributing double than what the minimum is. The Indigent claims have averaged \$4 to \$5 million - last year's County contribution to Sole Community Provider funding doubled to more than \$9 million.

Mr. Abeyta said when the County was told that this could be a potential threat and that they could have some exposure in that regard, this made them take a hard look at the actual Sole Community Provider funding and the County's funding. The County has decided to contribute what is required by law, which is \$4 to \$5 million to the Sole Community Provider funding, fund County health services with the remainder, and not rely on CSV or make them responsible for providing funding for the County's healthcare services. The County has decided to fund the Health and Human Services Division programs (the top 9 items of the handout), therefore they would be County-run programs. These total approximately \$9.5 million. The County will fund these whether or not there is a MOA. The remaining items total approximately \$2 million. Mr. Abeyta said he still needs to talk with Alex Valdez, the CEO of CSV about this and the MOA.

Chairman Martinez asked how the County got to the point where they were contributing almost double the required amount. He asked if this was primarily due to the supplemental Medicaid funding that came in.

In response, Mr. Shepherd said yes.

Chairman Martinez asked if there was a possibility that there would be a Memorandum of Agreement with CSV for this year, or will it be next year.

Mr. Abeyta said that he and Alex Valdez have been trying to connect to discuss that. He explained that the County wants to ensure that the County and CSV are still covering the \$11.5 million worth of services. The County is lacking approximately \$2 million and they, along with CSV, need to figure out how to cover the shortfall that they are going to have, as a result of the County's decision to fund the County's Health services themselves.

Commissioner Cassidy asked if the community would lose the matched dollars. Mr. Abeyta said yes-there is approximately \$4.5 million that is not being matched.

Chairman Martinez informed Mr. Abeyta that the HPPC passed a motion recommending that the Board of County Commissioners come up with the \$2.6 million match for roughly \$13 million of supplemental funding that was available.

In response, Mr. Abeyta said the County does not have that funding, because it too has been affected by the present economic situation. Mr. Abeyta offered to keep the HPPC updated as this progresses.

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

#### A. Healthcare Assistance Program (Greg Smith)

Mr. Smith provided an update on the Healthcare Assistance Program, otherwise known as the Indigent Fund. He reported that 18 contracts were issued to healthcare and mental health providers and they will not be making any changes to those contracts, as of yet. He offered to keep the HPPC informed if there are budget cuts that will affect the Healthcare Assistance Program.

Commissioner Larragoite asked if there is a report available on the data of the providers- such as the number of claims, number of clients, etc. Mr. Smith said yes and offered to get the data and report back to the Commission.

## B. Mobile Health Van (Angela Thorndyke)

Ms. Thorndyke provided an update on the Mobile Health Van noting that they received a new van on September 15<sup>th</sup>. Some of the benefits of the van include an exam table, better lighting, vaccine refrigerator in the exam room, wall mounted BP cuffs, desk area for check in person, three heaters and two sinks and improved storage to include a storage closet for cleaning supplies. Ms. Thorndyke noted that the old van went to the Fire Department for their mobile command. She mentioned that the new van is shorter, which makes it easier to park.

Ms. Thorndyke reported that a National Mobile Health Project Survey is being conducted. They are collecting data on the individuals who come to the van, such as what their income is, where they live, whether they have chronic illness such as diabetes, did they get anything from their last visit to the Mobile Health van, etc. They should have the data that is collected sometime in July 2010.

Ms. Thorndyke noted that they had flu clinics from September 30<sup>th</sup> to October 8<sup>th</sup> and approximately 700 clients were seen. This is a record for them. The areas they served in that week were: the Southside Library, San Isidro Church, Fort Marcy, Pojoaque, Chimayo, El Rancho, Santa Cruz and Rio En Medio. Ms. Thorndyke said she was seeing over 100 clients a day on the mobile van.

Ms. Thorndyke mentioned that the second phase for distribution of the seasonal flu vaccines will go to South Santa Fe County. The H1N1 and seasonal vaccine will be distributed to specific County staff (FD, Jail, Sheriff's, Sobering Center and volunteer firefighters), approximately 700 employees.

Ms. Thorndyke reviewed the goals for the Santa Fe County Mobile Health Van as follows:

- Be part of City of Santa Fe and County of Santa Fe Emergency Management Planning.
- Work more with local churches to identify clients without health coverage. Use church outreach to find medical home for Santa Fe County residents.
- Development website for the Mobile Health Van with links for those who are uninsured.
- RN to obtain CDE (Certified Diabetes Educator) certification.

Chairman Martinez complimented Ms. Thorndyke for the success of the Mobile Health Van and all the work she does.

#### **PRESENTATION**

- **A.** Mental Health Issues (Commissioner Valery Henderson) No report.
- **B.** Recommend Resolution from Food Policy Council (Steve Shepherd) This agenda item was deleted.

The following agenda item was moved up on the agenda:

### **CAVERNOUS ANGIOMA UPDATE (Commissioner Terrie Rodriguez)**

Commissioner Rodriguez introduced Joyce Gonzales who explained that Cavernous malformations occur in people of all races and sexes. The male-female ratio is about equal. Family history may be positive especially in patients of Hispanic descent. Recent work has linked the predisposition to cavernous malformation to the seventh human chromosome. Cavernomas can be found in any region of the brain, be of varying size, and present with varying clinical disorders. In a general population of 1,000,000 - .5% or 5000 people may be found to have a cavernous malformation, although many are not symptomatic.

Ms. Gonzales reported that the City of Santa Fe will host the second annual Cavernous Angioma Awareness Week from November 9<sup>th</sup> through the 14<sup>th</sup>. Many of the events are still in the planning process, but this year's Awareness Week will include the 5<sup>th</sup> Pathbiology of Cerebral Cavernous Malformations International Scientific Workshop and a half-day patient seminar.

Ms. Gonzales noted that New Mexico has a high rate of cavernous malformations, and unfortunately most people that have it are not familiar with it. Sometimes they are misdiagnosed or not diagnosed at all. The symptoms of Cavernous Malformations include

seizures, progressive or transient neurologic deficits, bleeding and headache. It is important to know that a cavernous malformation can be present and not produce any symptoms. In fact, approximately 12% of patients are asymptomatic. Commissioner Adelsheim asked if there is a test to diagnose this.

Ms. Gonzales said yes, there are two main tests that are used to diagnose cavernomas. These are: Computerized Axial Tomography (CAT Scan) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). MRI has provided the ability to image and localize otherwise hidden lesions of the brain and provide accuracy of diagnosis preoperatively. Both the MRI and CAT scans produce images of slices through the brain. These tests help the doctors to see exactly where the cavernoma is located. There is another way to test for this and it is a blood test that costs approximately \$190.00; however, there is only one lab in the United States (in Wisconsin). There are two possible options available for patients who are found to have a cavernous malformation: surgery and no treatment.

Ms. Gonzales noted they will have a national conference in July and they will be talking about research. She mentioned that the Angioma Alliance has received a discretionary grant of \$2,500 from the Con Alma Health Foundation to support the patient education efforts in New Mexico. They are using the funds to create a bilingual patient brochure that is particularly focused on the community of individuals with the common Hispanic mutation. This brochure will be available in time for Cavernous Angioma Awareness Week in Santa Fe in November.

Chairman Martinez suggested that the insurance companies be educated about this. He said he would like to have Joyce Gonzales on the radio program again.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

#### A. Jail Health Sub Committee (Chairman Larry Martinez)

Chairman Martinez reported that a meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2009 here in this Conference Room from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. He said he would like to address the medical protocol for those individuals who are discharged from the Adult Facility - so that they are lined up with a medical provider upon discharge. Another item he would like to address has to do with whether or not it should be a requirement that everyone - who is discharged from the Adult Facility - should be subject to a SBIRT screening. Chairman Martinez said it would be ideal to get Medicaid to reimburse providers for SBIRT screenings.

#### MATTERS FROM THE COMMISSION

## A. Health Para Todos Radio Station Update (Chairman Larry Martinez)

Chairman Martinez reported that Dr. Anna Voltura from CHRISTUS/St. Vincent Regional Medical Center was a guest on the October 9<sup>th</sup> radio broadcast. Dr. Voltura is one of the Cancer Surgeons at the hospital. The radio broadcast was primarily dedicated to Breast Cancer given that October was "Breast Cancer Awareness Month". Dr. Voltura

reported on the progress being made on getting the word out that early diagnosis is the best prevention effort.

Alex Valdez, CEO of CHRISTUS/St. Vincent Regional Medical Center was a guest on the October 23<sup>rd</sup> broadcast. Mr. Valdez talked about flu vaccines given all the confusion between the seasonal flu and the H1N1 flu. They also interviewed Carolyn Ingram, who is the Director of the Medicaid Division at the Human Services Department. She oversees the Medicaid Program. There is talk about possible Medicaid cuts due to the shortfall in the budget.

Chairman Martinez said they would like to get Cathy Berkley and Ron Pacheco on a future radio broadcast to talk about the Senior Citizen Program.

#### **B.** Community Benefit Funds (Commissioner Beverly Russell)

Commissioner Russell noted that at the last Commission meeting, she brought up the question as to whether or not it is appropriate for the HPPC to serve in this capacity without a MOA. She is waiting for a letter from the County Manager that should address this question.

Commissioner Russell reported that the Committee has made some minor changes to the Community Benefit Fund application and she had a draft copy if anyone is interested in seeing it.

#### C. CHRISTUS/St. Vincent Update (Commissioner Erika Campos)

Commissioner Campos reported that CSV has not received their order of flu vaccines. She announced that CSV will be having a ribbon cutting for the new Operating Room.

Commissioner Campos gave a brief update on the Gap Analysis that CSV, PMS and the Behavioral Health Collaborative is conducting.

#### MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

None presented.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next Executive Committee Meeting November 18<sup>th</sup>
- B. Next HPPC Regular Meeting December 4th
- C. Next Jail Health Subcommittee Meeting November 10th

Commissioner Carlos announced that they had a multi-jurisdictional DWI Checkpoint at the end of September in collaboration with Bernalillo, Rio Arriba County, Santa Fe County and Tribal Police and there were eight arrests.

Ms. Marie Garcia reminded the Commissioners to complete the "Conflict of Interest and Financial Disclosure" forms for 2009.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Carlos moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Adesso and passed by unanimous voice vote, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

	Approved by:	
	Larry Martinez, Chairman	
Respectfully submitted by: <b>Jo Ann G. Valdez</b> , Stenographer		