

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES

MINUTES

March 7, 2018

Teleconference Meeting

Held in the Director's Conference Room - 5th Floor

Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell
Alexa Heffernan
Kim Kudej
Kim Spading
Sam Wallace

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Representative Joel Fry (absent)
Representative Lisa Heddens (absent)
Senator Amanda Ragan (absent)
Senator Mark Segebart (absent)

STAFF

Jerry Foxhoven
Nancy Freudenberg
Mikki Stier

Mike Randol
Matt Highland
Sandy Knudsen

GUESTS

Tony Leys, Des Moines Register
Natalie Koerber, Amerigroup

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson, Chair, called the Council meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. by teleconference on March 7, 2018, in the DHS Director's Conference Room in the Hoover State Office Building.

ROLL CALL

All Council members were present. All ex-officio legislative members were absent.

Anderson reported that this meeting of the Iowa Council on Human Services is being held in accord with Section 21.8 of the Code of Iowa entitled “electronic meeting.” The Code states that a governmental body may conduct a meeting by electronic means if circumstances are such that a meeting in person is impossible or impractical, or if the governmental body complies with the following rules. The rules essentially state that access must be provided to the public. The meeting is being held on a speaker phone in the director’s conference room of the Hoover State Office Building. Notices and agendas were sent to interested groups as well as the press advising them the meeting will be held via conference call. Minutes will be kept of the meeting.

RULES

Nancy Freudenberg, Bureau of Policy Coordination, presented the following rules :

R-1. Amendments to Chapters 51 and 52, SSA COLA. Implements the January 1, 2018 cost of living adjustments to income limits and benefit amounts for several SSA categories. These amendments were already Adopted and Filed Emergency at the December 13, 2017 meeting of the Council on Human Services. Due to administrative delay, these amendments were required to be refiled in the Legislative Service Agency’s Rules Management System.

Motion was made by Heffernan to approve and seconded by Hansell. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-2. Amendments to Chapter 78, 79, and 83, Medicaid. Day Habilitation and Adult Day Care service rates will be changed to a fee schedule using tiered rates. These amendments were Adopted and Filed Emergency at the November 8, 2017 meeting of the Council on Human Services. These amendments were filed to allow for public comment. The Department received 60 comments during the public comment period requesting that Public Hearings be held to allow for interested parties to provide comments to the Department. This amended Notice of Intended Action establishes two public hearings to accommodate the requests received by the Department in the previous comment period.

Motion was made by Spading to approve and seconded by Heffernan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-3. Amendments to Chapter 79, Medicaid. These amendments further clarify services covered and provide standards for operation of Medicaid crisis response service providers. These amendments correct inadvertent errors in a previous rule making, in addition to providing updates requested by the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise.

Motion was made by Wallace to approve and seconded by Kudej. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-4. Amendments to Chapter 81, Medicaid. Adds the use of online course curricula to meet the required minimum of 30 hours of classroom instruction for nurse aide training. Allows a veteran to be deemed to satisfy training requirements for nurse aide training based upon the veteran's service-related training and experience.

Motion was made by Heffernan to approve and seconded by Wallace. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-5. Amendments to Chapters 81 and 166, Medicaid. Aligns rules with federal regulations regarding the use of civil money penalties (CMP) imposed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Also updates the Department's process in how and when applications for grant proposals are requested.

Motion was made by Hansel to approve and seconded by Kudej. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-6. Amendments to Chapters 95 and 99, Child Support. Aligns CSRU rules with federal regulations. Removes references to voluntary reduction of income as a factor when CSRU modifies child support obligations.

Motion was made by Wallace to approve and seconded by Heffernan. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-7. Amendments to Chapter 100, Child Support. Replaces the current chapter on Child Support Parental Obligation Pilot Projects. Renames the program and clarifies incentives within the program.

Motion was made by Hansell to approve and seconded by Wallace. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The following amendments to rules are presented as Notices of Intended Action for review by the Council:

N-1. Amendments to Chapter 7, Appeals. Implements new federal guidelines extending the period to appeal decisions for state fair hearings from 90 days to 120 days. Also changes effectuation of a reversed appeal resolution for MCO appeals.

N-2. Amendments to Chapter 77, Medicaid and Mental Health and Disability Services. Requires hospitals providing inpatient psychiatric services, including the state mental health institutes (MHI) to update the inpatient psychiatric bed tracking system at least two times per day with number of available, staffed beds by gender, child, adult, and geriatric.

N-3. Amendments to Chapter 170, Child Care Assistance. Revises the child care assistance (CCA) fee chart based on the new federal poverty levels (FPL).

Updates rules regarding temporary lapse policy and adds a wait list exemption for homeless families.

Motion was made by Spading to approve the noticed rules and seconded by Hansell. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Hansell requested a tutorial at a future meeting on how the federal poverty level is determined.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Kudej to approve the minutes of February 14, 2018. MOTION CARRIED WITH HEFFERNAN ABSTAINING.

COUNCIL UPDATES

Kudej noted that at the April meeting she would like to discuss 'Tiered Rates' and the Department's proposed legislation regarding the Eldora State Training School.

Following discussion, Anderson suggested that if Council members are contacted by constituents with questions, they could share the questions/concerns via email with the other Council members or forward to Sandy Knudsen in the Director's Office to forward to the entire Council. The Council may request that certain topics and issues be placed on the Council's agenda at any time. Also if Council members wish, they could submit questions needing response from DHS to Sandy Knudsen to disseminate to staff.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mikki Stier, Deputy Director, reported that DHS staff continue to work with the department's legislative liaison and legislators on various bills. The Mental Health Complex Work Group's legislation is moving through both houses and is receiving positive responses.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Heffernan and seconded by Hansel to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Council adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Submitted by,

*Sandy Knudsen
Recording Secretary*