

COUNCIL ON HUMAN SERVICES TELECONFERENCE MEETING

MINUTES

January 11, 2017

COUNCIL

Mark Anderson
Phyllis Hansell
Alexa Heffernan
Kimberly Kudej
Guy Richardson
Kim Spading
Sam Wallace

EX-OFFICIO LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

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

STAFF

Chuck Palmer
Sandy Knudsen
Amy McCoy

Nancy Freudenberg
Jean Slaybaugh
Merea Bentrrott

GUEST

Tony Leys, Des Moines Register
Rod Boshart, Cedar Rapids Gazette
Molly Driscoll, Brown Winick

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Anderson convened the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Roll was taken.

Anderson read the following:

“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 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 fifth floor conference room of the Hoover State Office Building. An agenda was 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 reviewed the following rules:

R-1 Amendments to Chapters 77, 78, and 79, Medicaid. These amendments change the outpatient drug reimbursement methodology for drugs provided to Medicaid recipients who are American Indians for Alaska natives by health facilities that are operated by the U.S. Indian Health Service.

Hansell inquired about "encounter rates" - Slaybaugh responded that "encounter" would mean all-inclusive (includes office visits, dispensing charges, etc.).

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

R-2 Amendments to Chapters 78, 79, and 83, Medicaid. These amendments increase fee-for-service upper payment limits and reimbursement rates by 1% over the rates in effect June 30, 2016 for providers of HCBS waiver services. These amendments were Adopted and Filed Emergency at the November 9, 2016 DHS Council meeting. These rule amendments were filed as Notice of Intended Action to allow for public comment.

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Richardson to approve.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

R-3 Amendments to Chapter 79, Medicaid. These amendments increase the Home Health Low Utilization Payment Adjustment (LUPA) rates by 2.93 percent. These amendments were Adopted and Filed Emergency at the November 9, 2016 DHS Council meeting. These rule amendments were filed as Notice of Intended Action to allow for public comment.

A motion was made by Hansell and seconded by Richardson to approve.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Wallace and seconded by Kudej to approve the minutes of December 14, 2016. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Chuck Palmer provided the following updates:

Merea Bentratt was introduced to the Council. Merea is the Department's new Legislative Liaison.

Palmer announced that Wendy Rickman has been recognized by the Casey Foundation by being awarded the "2017 Casey Excellence for Children Award in Leadership."

Palmer reported that yesterday the Governor, in his 'Condition of the State' address, noted the significant revenue shortfall and the impacts on the current fiscal year budget (SFY17) and the biennium budget going forward (SFY18 and SFY19).

Jean Slaybaugh reported that the Governor announced a \$110M shortfall in the current SFY17 budget. DHS budget adjustments will be covered by managing within current projected surpluses (\$20M primarily from TANF, in addition to a \$13M adjustment in the Medical Assistance program). The Department will be working with the Governor's Office and Legislature regarding adjustments to the SFY18 budget and will keep the Council apprised.

Palmer reported that time will be allotted on the agenda in February to discuss how savings are calculated in the Medicaid managed care program.

COUNCIL UPDATE

Council asked that the Chair send a letter to Wendy Rickman, on behalf of the Council, congratulating her on receiving the Casey award.

ADJOURNMENT

Council adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

*Submitted by Sandy Knudsen,
Recording Secretary*