

**Meeting of the
Board of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
Richmond, Virginia**

December 8, 2009

Draft Minutes

Present:

Monroe E. Harris, Jr., D.M.D.
(Vice-Chair)
Kay C. Horney
Barbara H. Klear
Manikoth G. Kurup, M.D.
William L. Murray, Ph.D.
Robert D. Voogt, Ph.D. (Chair)
Michael Walker

By phone:

David Sylvester

Absent:

Phyllis L. Cothran
Kit Gordon
Patsy Ann Hobson

DMAS Staff:

Cheryl J. Roberts, Deputy Director of Operations
Steve Ford, Director, Policy and Research Division
Sylvia Hart, Director, Information Management
David Mix, MITA Program Manager, Information Management
Elizabeth McDonald, Legal Counsel
Craig Markva, Manager, Office of Communications &
Legislative Affairs
Nancy Malczewski, Public Information Officer, Office of
Communications & Legislative Affairs
Mamie White, Public Relations Specialist, Office of
Communications & Legislative Affairs

Speakers:

Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Cynthia B. Jones, Chief Deputy Director
Scott Crawford, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration

Guests:

Joe Lamantia, Elan Pharmaceuticals
Charles Whyte, Vectre
Hobart Harvey, Virginia Health Care Association
Travis Hill, Williams Mullen

Call to Order

Dr. Robert D. Voogt, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. after a quorum was met. Then, Dr. Voogt asked the other Board members to introduce themselves and the introductions continued around the room by DMAS staff and guests.

Dr. Voogt recognized Dr. Kurup for his years of service to the board and presented him with a plaque. Dr. Kurup made brief remarks and thanked the Board.

Dr. Voogt mentioned the meeting dates for 2010: April 13, June 8, September 14 and December 14.

Approval of Minutes from September 15, 2009 Meeting

Dr. Voogt asked that the Board review and approve the Minutes from the September 15, 2009 meeting. The vote was unanimous **6-yes (Harris, Klear, Horney, Kurup, Voogt, and Walker); 0-no. (Because of state “open meeting laws,” the vote of anyone participating by phone could not be counted.)**

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE REFORM UPDATE – IMPACT ON MEDICAID

Mr. Patrick Finnerty, Director, gave an update on the current health reform debate in Congress and focused primarily on the provisions that deal directly with Medicaid. He briefly explained the two main proposals currently under consideration: the House of Representatives “Affordable Care Act” – H.R. 3962 and the Senate “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act” – H.R. 3590. He highlighted the key Medicaid/CHIP provisions in each congressional plan.

There was discussion and questions by the Board.

HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATE

Mr. Finnerty then discussed the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (HITECH) provisions which were included as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. HITECH sets forth a plan for advancing the appropriate use of health information technology to improve quality of care and establish a foundation for health care reform. He briefly explained the provisions and noted that Medicaid providers will be provided with certain incentives for the adoption and administration of electronic health records. The amount of funding for Virginia providers is not clear at this time.

Virginia has established a Health Information Technology Advisory Commission (HITAC) to support the Commonwealth’s response to federal grant opportunities and ensure coordination among public and private entities.

MEDICAID FORECAST

Mr. Scott Crawford, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration, gave an overview of the current year’s budget cycle and the Medicaid budget and forecast for fiscal year 2010 through 2012. Mr. Crawford stated that many amendments that will reduce spending are anticipated. The Governor’s budget is scheduled to be introduced on December 18.

DMAS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ms. Cindi Jones, Chief Deputy, showed a video presentation highlighting some of the accomplishments in the Medicaid program for the last four years.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Regulatory Activity Summary

The Regulatory Activity Summary is included in the Members' books to review at their convenience.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Dr. Voogt motioned that the meeting be adjourned, and Ms. Klear seconded. The vote was **6-yes (Harris, Klear, Horney, Kurup, Voogt, and Walker); 0-no**. Dr. Voogt thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.