

February 23, 2023

**TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Trillium Health Resources Governing Board met on Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. via WebEx.

Members Present: Gary Bass, David Clegg, Mary Ann Furniss, Charles Jordan, Janice Nichols, Amy Pridgen-Hamlett, Dr. Denuvo Robinson, David Stanley, Emmie Taylor, Rob Zapple.

Members Absent: Ron Lowe, Dr. Sheila Smith

Staff Present: Bland Baker, Christie Edwards, Cindy Ehlers, Sue Ann Forrest, Joy Futrell, Senitria Goodman, Mike Lewis, Bobbie Lowe, Melissa Owens, Cecelia Peers, Dave Peterson, Megan Roberson, Dr. Michael Smith and Lisa Fuller, Clerk.

Guests: Lisa Jackson, liaison with the NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Furniss called the February 23, 2023 meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Furniss called for a motion to approve the consent agenda to include the following items:

- December 22, 2022 Governing Board minutes
- Information System Security Program Management (PM) – Policy Update Approval
- 2023 Utilization Management Program Policy

Dr. Robinson moved to approve the consent agenda items. The motion, seconded by Ms. Taylor, was unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Ms. Furniss called for a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Nichols so moved. The motion, seconded by Dr. Robinson was unanimously approved.

V. BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Mr. Clegg - WakeMed received 150 new beds for mental health, how will this effect Trillium. Ms. Futrell - with more people moving into the area, I see this as only positive.

Ms. Taylor - Asked if anyone had knowledge about Stepping Stones in Ahoskie, NC possibly closing.
Ms. Futrell - In the past prior to an announcement of a facility closing their doors, Trillium was notified in advance. I am not aware of any such closing at this time.

Commissioner Zapple - The Healing Place opened on January 17, Ms. Futrell, Ms. Ehlers and Ms. Furniss attended the grand opening.

Ms. Furniss – Within the first three weeks of opening, The Healing Place had 86 residents. The community is excited to have the facility and grateful for the support.

VI. CONVENE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Furniss announce that Mr. Clegg has agreed to serve as the Finance Committee Chair, replacing Mr. Madson, who retired in December 2022. Ms. Furniss entertained a motion to recess the Governing Board meeting and to convene the Finance Committee meeting. Commissioner Zapple so moved. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Jordan, was unanimously approved.

VII. INNOVATIVE DEVELOPMENT AND MEMBER SOLUTIONS PRESENTATION

Christie Edwards, VP Innovative Development and Member Solutions and Megan Roberson, Innovative Development Director introduced themselves to the Board. They shared a PowerPoint presentation to highlight some of the new initiatives, value-added services and incentives for the Tailored Plan and Medicaid Direct, to support members as we move towards the Tailored Plan.

VIII. EMPLOYEE BONUS – TAILORED PLAN “GO LIVE”

Ms. Futrell - Trillium is ready to “Go Live” April 1. The last delay gave Trillium the opportunity to continue focusing on building the provider network, and to work with hospitals to sign contracts. In January we were able to contract with ECU Health, which means our members, will continue to have access to their primary care providers, specialty clinics, etc.

Trillium employees continue to work hard, logging numerous hours in preparation for Tailored Plan “Go Live”. At the June 2022 Governing Board meeting, the Board approved a one-time bonus of \$2,500 for Trillium employees hired as of July 1, 2022, and who remained employed through December 2022. This bonus was to be paid upon a successful Tailored Plan “Go Live” date of December 1, 2022. The State delayed the “Go Live” date to April 1 and the bonus was not paid. Should the State again decide to delay “Go Live”, Ms. Futrell asked the Board to consider allowing the one-time \$2,500 bonus to be paid at the end of April 2023, to employees hired as of October 1, 2022, whether the Tailored Plan goes live or not on April 1.

The Board voted on Ms. Futrell’s request to pay the one-time bonus of \$2,500 at the end of April 2023. Commissioner Zapple so moved. The motion, seconded by Ms. Nichols, the Board unanimously approved the request 8-0.

IX. NCGA UPDATES

Ms. Forrest reported that legislators appear to be moving on health care bills earlier in the session. The House has passed a Medicaid Expansion bill, HB76 Access to Healthcare Option. Trillium had two primary sponsors sign onto the bill, Representative Michael Wray representing Northampton and Halifax Counties, and Representative Chris Humphrey of Jones County. The final vote was 92 to 22; this has been the best vote the House has had on Medicaid Expansion. Negotiations with the Senate are ongoing. There does seem to be agreement among the House, Senate and Governor that they need to move Medicaid Expansion forward.

February 23, 2023, SB156 the Medicaid Children & Families Specialty Plan was filed. This is the statewide foster care plan, which would move the foster care population to a single statewide commercial plan.

We are continuing to have joint appropriation meetings, the LMEs will present next week. Trillium has been asked by the legislature to present, Ms. Futrell will be a part of the discussion panel.

X. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Futrell acknowledged the retirement of Bland Baker, Trillium Northern Regional Director. Mr. Baker's last day will be February 28, 2023. Ms. Futrell along with the Board thanked Mr. Baker for his service and dedication to Trillium.

Tailored Plan Activities

We continue to work with other providers outside of our 28 counties, for continuity of care for our health plan members. This includes providers such as Children's Hospital of The King's Daughters in Virginia, which would be a resource for our members in the northern region.

NC General Assembly

Ms. Forrest updated the Board on the Foster Care Plan. We will continue to move forward with our support for this population, until a statewide plan has been awarded.

An email was sent to the Board in early February regarding the legislative breakfast. It included a video of Cindy Ehlers presenting to legislators in, her role at Trillium as well as a mother of a child who was in foster care. If you have not had an opportunity to watch the video, please take five minutes to view it, she did a great job presenting.

Ribbon Cuttings and other Events

As mentioned in my report to the Board, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for The Healing Place on May 11 in Wilmington.

We recently opened two additional Oxford homes, in Nash and Onslow Counties. This brings our total to more than twenty.

In February, ribbon-cutting ceremonies were held for additional mobile clinics in Hertford, Bertie and Columbus Counties. Currently we have four providers and nine mobile clinics in operation.

In 2021, 116 children died from firearm related injuries. Sean Kenny, Trillium Department of Social Services Engagement and One Community, in an effort to decrease the number of children injured/killed by firearms, distributed gun locks to DSS offices.

Town Hall meetings continue, the next meeting is in New Bern. The meetings in Nashville and Pitt Counties were well attended. The Pitt County meeting included State Senator Candy Smith, Leaders John Bell and Representatives Gloria Brown and Dr. Reader. These meetings are a great opportunity to voice your concerns about the mental health system.

Personnel Changes/Other

The current fiscal year Trillium's employee turnover rate is 7.5%. This is in line with national industry, however, higher than we have experienced. We intentionally left 20% of our budgeted positions vacant until we get closer to "Go Live".

XI. CFAC REPORT

Ms. Furniss Southern Region CFAC designee, and Mr. Peterson, Central Regional Director in the absence of Dr. Smith, gave reports on behalf of their respective committees.

XII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Furniss welcomed Ms. Amy Pridgen-Hamlett to the Board.

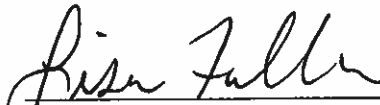
XIII. OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Fuller administered the Oath of Office to new board member Amy Pridgen-Hamlett.

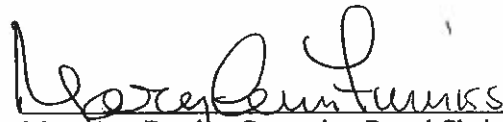
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

With there being no other business, Ms. Furniss called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Zapple so moved. Ms. Nichols seconded the motion, was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 5:51 p.m.



Lisa Fuller, Clerk to the Board



Mary Ann Furniss, Governing Board Chair