



Transforming Lives. Building Community Well-Being.

February 27, 2020

**TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Trillium Health Resources Governing Board met on Thursday, February 27, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. at the Trillium office located at 201 W. First Street in Greenville, NC.

Members Present: David Clegg, Jimmy Farrington, Mary Ann Furniss, Tracey Johnson, Ron Lowe, Jim Madson, Ed Masters, Sheri Slater (via phone), Tom Savidge, Emmie Taylor-Ortiz, and Lea Wolf (via phone).

Members Absent: Ernestine Bazemore, Dr. Denauvo Robinson.

Staff Present: Bland Baker, Joy Futrell, Richard Leissner, Mike Lewis, Dave Peterson, Leza Wainwright, Dennis Williams and Rita Joyner, Clerk.

Guests: Carol Choate, CEO, Caring Heart Case Management; Lisa Jackson, liaison with the NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS, aka the Department)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Furniss called the February 27, 2020 meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. DECEMBER 12, 2019 GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Ms. Furniss called for a motion to approve the December 12, 2019 Governing Board minutes. Mr. Masters so moved. The motion, seconded by Commissioner Farrington, was unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Farrington moved to adopt the agenda. The motion, seconded Ms. Taylor-Ortiz was unanimously approved.

V. BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Ms. Furniss inquired about the status of The Harbor in Wilmington. Ms. Wainwright reported that there has been no change since the December meeting. The hospital has announced that they will not make a decision on what to do with the property until at least September of 2020.

Ms. Furniss also asked for an update on The Healing Place in Wilmington. Ms. Wainwright explained that there had been a communication issue with New Hanover County on who would actually be running The Healing Place. The land use agreement that the Trillium board agreed to clearly states that it is Trillium who determines the operator of the program. The county owns it, but Trillium gave the county the land to build it on and chooses the operator. Since The Healing Place in Kentucky is the originator of the model and are the ones who have proven the model successful for 30 years, and since they are willing to replicate themselves in Wilmington, Trillium feels they are the best choice to operate the program and the county has agreed.

Commissioner Johnson asked if the sale of the building in Perquimans County was moving forward. Ms. Wainwright replied that it was and that she had signed the paperwork last week.

VI. CONVENE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Furniss entertained a motion to recess the Governing Board meeting in order for the Finance Committee meeting to convene. Mr. Masters so moved. The motion, seconded by Mr. Madson, was unanimously approved.

VII. BUDGET REVISION I FISCAL YEAR 2019 - 2020

Ms. Futrell reported that the first budget revision of this fiscal year is to align state funds with allocations that have been received and to align Medicaid funds with the rate setting. She explained that when the budget for fiscal year 2019 – 2020 was originally prepared in May/June of 2019 we did not have the Medicaid rates and had to base the budget on the previous year's rates. This revision is a decrease in the budget of \$6.2 million. Ms. Futrell explained that on the Medicaid side we are right at 100% of the Medicaid service funds we have received, so while our budget is decreasing, we are still on target with what we have been spending. Bringing the budget into alignment with the new Medicaid rates is a large part of the revision. Other revisions include an increase in Personnel related to the FEMA grant that was received and a decrease in Contracts related to Medicaid. A decrease in State Administrative Funds is a part of the reduction in single stream funding that is being budgeted out of fund balance. This budget revision decreases the total budget to \$539,571,110.

Mr. Madson moved to approve Budget Revision I for Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020. Commissioner Farrington seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

VIII. FISCAL YEAR 2019 - 2020 AUDIT CONTRACT

Ms. Futrell reported that our current auditors, Cherry Bekaert, have been doing our audit since we became Trillium in 2015. Previously, they were the auditors for CoastalCare and one year for ECBH. The cost of the audit in 2015 was around \$51,000, and following years were \$57,000, \$61,000, and 57,500. The price for this year is \$57,950. The fluctuation in price is driven by some of the federal grants that have to be audited every three years. Ms. Futrell reported that the auditors for the seven Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) in North Carolina are Cherry Bekaert (2), Dixon Hughes (1), and Clifton Larson (4). Ms. Futrell recommended that the board consider approving Cherry Bekaert again.

Commissioner Farrington made a motion to approve the audit contract for fiscal year 2019 – 2020 with Cherry Bekaert. Mr. Masters seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Clegg disclosed that Cherry Bekaert also does the audit for Tyrrell County, but did not believe that this created a conflict with him voting on this issue.

IX. SALE OF WILMINGTON PROPERTY

Ms. Futrell reported that a property owned by Trillium at 202 Dorchester Place in Wilmington appraised at \$278,500. Two offers were received on the property with the higher offer being \$265,000. Ms. Futrell recommended that the offer of \$265,000 be accepted.

Following discussion regarding the property, Mr. Madson made a motion to approve the recommendation made by Ms. Futrell. Mr. Masters seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

X. STAFF SALARY INCREASE

Ms. Wainwright explained that because of the way the rate setting process works with Medicaid, the cost of a staff salary increase needs to be in this fiscal year for it to be recognized in subsequent years' rate setting. Management proposed a 3% cost of living adjustment (COLA) for staff effective March 1, 2020. Staff have not received a COLA since December 1, 2017. The increase would be for current staff who were employed as of January 1, 2020. The pay plan will not change.

Mr. Masters moved to accept the recommendation of management to increase staff salaries by 3% effective March 1, 2020. Mr. Lowe seconded the motion. The motion passed 8-1.

XI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Wainwright discussed the following items from her written report.

Medicaid Reform

Although the Department has put Standard Plans on hold, they are still moving forward with policy development and procurement for the Tailored Plans. On January 30, 2020 they released the "Behavioral Health I/DD Tailored Plan Request for Applications (RFA) Pre-Release Policy Paper" for comment. Ms. Wainwright noted some concerns expressed to the Department about certain aspects of the paper and reviewed some other items in the paper.

DHHS has told us to anticipate the release of the Tailored Plan RFA sometime in early to mid-April, with responses due approximately four months later. They will then have another 4 months to review and score the applications and expect to announce awards in December, 2020.

Trillium Preparation for Tailored Plan

Based upon the RFP for the Standard Plan, Trillium expects there to be at least 59 sections of the RFA to which we will have to respond. Ms. Wainwright gave a breakdown on where we are with completing those sections.

State Budget

The General Assembly reconvenes on Tuesday, April 28, 2020. Ms. Wainwright explained that if the General Assembly enacts a budget that the Governor signs, or if the Senate finds the votes to override the Governor's veto of last year's budget, DHHS will need to re-start Medicaid Transformation and get Standard Plans up and running as quickly as possible. If that occurs, there is a chance that Tailored Plans could still go live July 2021 as planned.

NCQA

Trillium began operating in a "NCQA compliant" way in December of 2019. The on-site review for that accreditation is scheduled for August 3-4, 2020.

Crisis Respite Services

Trillium has partnered with Integrated Family Services to open several crisis respite homes for children ages 13-17 throughout our 26 counties. The first two homes, one in Vanceboro and the other in Winterville, opened on February 25, 2020.

Provider Recruitment

Recruitment is being done statewide for mental health providers to staff shelters during hurricanes.

Kody Kinsley Listening Sessions

Deputy Secretary for Behavioral Health and I/DD Kody Kinsley is holding a series of public listening sessions across the State. Upcoming sessions in our area were noted.

XII. CFAC REPORT

Ms. Furniss, Southern Region CFAC designee, Mr. Lowe, Northern Region CFAC chair, and Mr. Masters, Central Region CFAC chair, gave reports on behalf of their respective committees.

XIII. CHAIR'S REPORT

No report.

XIV. CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS TAILORED PLAN UPDATES

Ms. Furniss entertained a motion to enter into closed session, pursuant to GS 143-318.11(a)(1)&(3), to discuss confidential information and to seek advice of counsel regarding such matters. Commissioner Farrington so moved. The motion, seconded by Mr. Masters, was unanimously approved.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

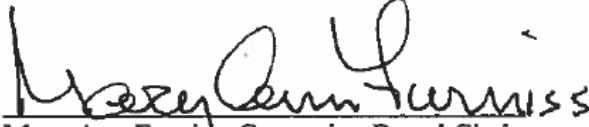
Commissioner Farrington made a motion to reconsider the Finance Committee minutes and change Ms. Slater's title to Finance Committee chair. Mr. Clegg seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

With there being no other business, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

The meeting adjourned at 5:42 p.m.



Rita Joyner, Clerk to the Board



Mary Ann Furniss, Governing Board Chair