

April 27, 2023

**TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

The Trillium Health Resources Governing Board met on Thursday, April 27, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. via WebEx.

Members Present: Gary Bass, David Clegg, Mary Ann Furniss, Charles Jordan, Jerry Langley, Ron Lowe, Amy Pridgen-Hamlett, Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Dr. Sheila Smith, David Stanley, Emmie Taylor.

Members Absent: Janice Nichols, Rob Zapple.

Staff Present: Khristine Brewington, Holly Cunningham, Cindy Ehlers, Joy Futrell, Senitria Goodman, Mike Lewis, Bobbie Lowe, Melissa Owens, Cecelia Peers, Dave Peterson, 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 April 27, 2023 meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

II. OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Fuller administered the Oath of Office to returning board member Commissioner Jerry Langley.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

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

- February 23, 2023 Governing Board minutes

Mr. Clegg moved to approve the consent agenda item. The motion, seconded by Mr. Lowe, was unanimously approved.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

V. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to discuss the Board meeting format post-Covid. Ms. Furniss called for a motion to adopt the amended agenda. Mr. Stanley so moved. The motion, seconded by Dr. Robinson was unanimously approved.

VI. BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS

Mr. Clegg raised concerns regarding the Governing Board meeting virtually rather than in-person, as workplaces are returning to normal post-Covid. His concern is to ensure that we are in compliance as we are continuing to meet virtually.

Senitria Goodman, Trillium's General Counsel addressed the concerns with the Board. North Carolina law requires the Trillium Governing Board as a public body to have open public meetings. There is no legal prohibition on remote open meetings, as long as the public is provided access, and the opportunity for public comments and questions. Also, there is no legal prohibition on policy making discussion while meeting virtually. Ms. Goodman offered to provide written documentation to the Board at the Chairs discretion. We are in compliance with the law, while the Board meets virtually, the Board Clerk, Lisa Fuller is in the office and offers the public and the members an opportunity to meet in-person.

We provide notice at the bottom of each meeting agenda sent out to the public. "If you are in need of a location or equipment to call into the meeting, please contact Lisa Fuller at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." Mr. Bass suggested rephrasing the statement for clarity and public participation.

The Board discussed meeting on a hybrid schedule, to include two in-person meetings per year, and to maintain the virtual/remote meeting option. The majority of Board members present are in favor of having some type of hybrid schedule. Ms. Furniss and Ms. Futrell will collaborate on a schedule to present to the Board.

VII. CONVENE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Ms. Furniss entertained a motion to recess the Governing Board meeting and to convene the Finance Committee meeting. Commissioner Jordan so moved. The motion, seconded by Mr. Stanley, was unanimously approved.

VIII. DRAFT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024

Ms. Owens presented the draft budget to the Board. There is no action required at this time. This gives the Board an opportunity for input, prior to the public hearing at the June meeting. At which time the Board will need to take action on the budget.

The draft budget will differ slightly this year due to the increase in funding related to Medicaid Tailored Plan. This is the carved out population of managed care and the Tailored Plan. We had expected updated rates in June, with the Tailored Plan launching October 2023, we had to adjust the budget and continue with the current rates to estimate the overall Medicaid budget. We have included all reoccurring state allocations in the budget, as well as county dollars. One-time allocations were pulled out, and will be added throughout the year as they are received. We will do a budget revision as we have done in the past when they are received.

The current inflation rate is 8.7%, an increase from last year's rate 5.9%. We have included in the draft budget for Board consideration and feedback, a 5% cost of living adjustment for all employees. This is in align with the rate of inflation and to increase staff retention. Our staff turnover rate for this fiscal year to date is 9.88%.

The total draft budget amount is \$1,018,500,947. Last year the initial budget was \$969,704,633. The additional \$48 million between last year's initial budget and this year's initial budget, is the Tailored Plan was to occur in the third quarter, and now it will occur in the second quarter of the fiscal year. This is the reason for the increase in Medicaid dollars.

Board Comments

Mr. Stanley – If there are particular positions that you are having issues with retention and recruitment. You may need a more targeted approach and offer more of an adjustment, rather than a 5% COLA. To ensure you remain competitive, and to continue to recruit and retain a certain segment of workers.

Ms. Owens – We look at the cost of living adjustment overall. However, for those positions that are difficult to recruit and retain, we do take into consideration the salary ranges when advertising those positions. We are also looking into initiating “Pay for Performance”, a performance incentive program to address some of those issues.

Commissioner Jordan – Are individual positions looked at to ensure that they are competitive nationally?

Ms. Owens – Yes. We consider the market and our current pay plan. We complete a market analysis, based on local county positions as well.

Ms. Furniss – Are we currently developing a “Pay for Performance” plan in Human Resources?

Ms. Owens – Yes.

IX. FINANCIAL AUDIT CONTRACT FY 2023

Ms. Owens presented to the Board the financial audit contract for fiscal year 2023. The total cost of the audit ending fiscal year June 30, 2023 is \$75,370. This includes the audit of two major programs, as well as cost cutting testing. Last year the audit included four additional program reviews that we do not anticipate this year. This year it will be about three additional programs, the cost of each program is \$5,250. The total audit is estimated to be \$80,620. Ms. Owens recommended that the Board approve the contract for Cherry Bekaert.

Ms. Furniss called for a motion to approve the Financial Audit Contract for fiscal year 2023. Mr. Clegg so moved. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan, was unanimously approved.

X. VALUE-BASED PURCHASING – THE FOCUS ON VALUE PRESENTATION

Holly Cunningham, Trillium’s Director of Contracting and Value Based Purchasing, shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board. She highlighted Trillium’s focus and commitment to:

- Improving the care experience and long-term health outcomes for members.
- Partnering with members, health care providers and community stakeholders.
- Reducing cost across populations.

She also shared video recordings of member success stories related to value based contracting.

XI. DIRECTOR’S REPORTTailored Plan Activities

Our team has done a great job on securing our network adequacy. We have contracted with ECU Health and continue to work along with Carolina Complete Healthcare, on signing contracts with Atrium Health and UNC Health.

NC DHHS

The letter to LME-MCO's from Secretary Kody Kinsley regarding the Foster Care program was shared with the Board on April 3, 2023. NC House released HB588 last week, almost identical to the Governor's recommended \$1 billion investment in services.

Ms. Futrell reviewing the LME-MCO/TP Dashboard metrics handout. Our teams work with DSS's and ED's to ensure placement at the correct level of care. Even with workforce shortages, the metric shows Trillium has one of the two lowest metrics in the state. Secretary Kinsley's focus is to improve the system and access to services, for all children in Foster Care.

Ms. Futrell also pointed out the metrics for individuals waiting for Innovations Waivers. There are approximately 14,000 to 15,000 people in North Carolina waiting for an Innovations Waiver, more people than slots available. We cannot place individuals on a waiver until we receive more slots from the North Carolina General Assembly. Our team focuses on making sure those waiting for a waiver slot are receiving some supportive services. The metrics shows 66% of those waiting, are receiving some form of services from Trillium.

NC General Assembly

NC HB855 was released, the bill contains significant investments in infrastructure critically needed to improve healthcare and access across North Carolina.

Other

On May 11th, Trillium will host an open house/ribbon cutting for The Healing Place of New Hanover County.

In 2021 Trillium conducted a baseline Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) survey, and results were favorable. We continue to work to ensure everyone feels included and feels free to present their ideas. Overall this year we increased our score. On a scale from 1-4 the overall score was 3.5.

XII. CFAC REPORT

Ms. Furniss Southern Region CFAC designee, and Dr. Smith Central Region CFAC Chair, gave reports on behalf of their respective committees. Mr. Lowe did not give a report during this meeting.

XIII. CHAIR'S REPORT

Ms. Furniss thanked Trillium for the hard work in preparing for the Tailored Plan. She also thanked Governing Board members for their community support of Trillium.

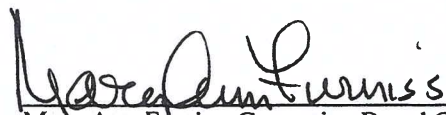
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:50p.m.



Lisa Fuller, Clerk to the Board



Mary Ann Furniss, Governing Board Chair