



Transforming Lives. Building Community Well-Being.

JULY 14, 2020

TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES
NORTHERN REGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

The Trillium Health Resources Northern Regional Advisory Board met by WebEx on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Ernestine (Byrd) Bazemore, Kimberly Clark, Dr. Barbara T. Courtney, Selina S. Jarvis, Charles H. Jordan, Ron Lowe, Dr. P. Michael McLain, Donna Powell, Clayton D. Riggs, Dr. Denauvo Robinson, Ronnie Smith, and Emmie Lou Taylor

Members Absent: Freda Kaye Bonner, Kelvin M. Edwards, Sr., J. Ray Freeman, III, Larry McLaughlin, William F. Mitchell, Jr., and Wallace Nelson,

Staff Present: Bland Baker, Michelle Martin, and Jacqueline M. Waller, Clerk,

- I. CALL TO ORDER
Dr. McLain called the meeting of the Northern Regional Advisory Board to order at 4:08 p.m.
- II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 14, 2020, MARCH 10, 2020 & MAY 12, 2020 MINUTES (BOARD ACTION REQUIRED)
Dr. McLain called for a motion to approve the January 14, 2020, March 10, 2020, and May 12, 2020 minutes which was seconded by Dr. Barbara T. Courtney, so moved by Com. Jordan and, unanimously approved.
- III. PUBLIC COMMENTS
There were no public comments.
- IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
Dr. McLain called for a motion to adopt the agenda, which was so moved by Com. Riggs and seconded by Emmie Lou Taylor and, unanimously approved.
- V. BOARD COMMENTS/CONCERNS
There were none.
- VI. BUDGET PRESENTATION (TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES)

Ms. Michelle Martin, Director of Finance at Trillium Health Resources gave a presentation on Trillium's Business Financial Plan for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. The proposed budget for fiscal year 2020-2021 is totaling \$514,362,120. The total proposed budget is 4.7 % less than last year's fiscal year's budget of \$539, 571,110.

VII. ELECTION OF NEW CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR TO THE NORTHERN REGIONAL ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. McLain called for a motion for election of a new chair and vice-chair to the Northern Regional Advisory Board. Dr. P. Michael McLain and Com. Charles H. Jordan are currently chair and vice-chair of the Northern Regional Advisory Board. Com. Riggs made a motion to retain the same chair and vice-chair in place. Dr. Barbara T. Courtney seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dr. P. Michael McLain remain as Chair and Com. Charles H. Jordan remain as Vice-Chair to the Northern Regional Advisory Board.

VIII. ELECTION OF TWO NON-COMMISSIONER REPRESENTATIVES TO THE GOVERNING BOARD

Dr. McLain called for a motion for the election of two non-commissioner representatives to the Governing Board. Dr. Denauvo Robinson and Emmie Lou Taylor are currently non-commissioner representatives to the Governing Board. Com. Smith made a motion to retain the same two non-commissioner representatives in place. Com. Jarvis seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Dr. Denauvo Robinson and Emmie Lou Taylor remain as two non-commissioners to the Governing Board.

IX. GOVERNING BOARD REPORT

Dr. Robinson reported on the following:

- The Governing Board met in the month of June and talked about Senate Bill 476, Trillium's response to COVID-19, and Medicaid Transformation.
- In a closed session the board did an evaluation on Leza Wainwright and her contract was renewed.
- Bland Baker will talk more specifically about some of the things we talked about at the Governing Board meeting in his Director's Report.

X. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bland Baker gave the following director's report:

- Safe Schools/ Healthy Kids website was launched to support school personnel as well as parents and students. Trillium had a contest for the schools who had the largest number of participants. In the first round, a couple of winners were a school in Pasquotank County and one in Perquimans County. We had a second round and we have three new winners in the Northern Region. The three schools that won the \$5000 in this round were, Perquimans High School,

Grandy Primary School, and Shawboro Elementary School. The schools have been notified.

- Senate Bill 476 - State Board of Education is required to adopt a School Based Mental Health Policy that includes a Mental Health Training Program and a Suicide Risk Referral Protocol. The Training program for the staff is to include: Youth Mental Health, Suicide Prevention, Substance Use, Sexual Abuse Prevention, Sex Trafficking, and Dating Violence. In addition, the Suicide Risk referral protocol includes: Guidelines on the identification of students at risk of suicide, as well as procedures and referral resources that address actions that should be taken to address students of risk. All of this should be in place by December 2020.
- Internal Trillium Town Hall Meetings - Trillium has been having internal Town Hall meetings to give Trillium employees a safe platform in which to express their concerns around recent events concerning racial disparity. So far Trillium has had two meetings and we have had good responses from employees. As a result of these meetings Trillium has formed several work groups to address racial concerns. Good positive move on making a difference in the work place and ultimately in the community
- Trillium's response to COVID-19 - Trillium negotiated for a very flexible telehealth policy to enable almost all services to be delivered telephonically or through two-way real-time, video. Trillium has also submitted five "in lieu of" Medicaid services which have been approved, with another two pending. We have also received approval for four alternative State-funded service definitions. These alternatives and in lieu of services have been designed to ensure members can continue to receive services safely and providers can maintain financial viability. All services are no prior authorization required with the exception of inpatient hospitalization.

DHHS implemented the use of the "CR" (meaning crisis response) modifier to be used to document services that are being performed various under flexibilities. That meant Trillium staff had to add the CR modifier to 192 codes. Rate increases meant that 695 rates were adjusted, resulting in 711 contracts for 3014 provider sites that had to be amended. And, of course, all of this had to be reflected in the operating system so that claims could pay with the modifiers at the proper rates. It took collaboration between the finance, contracts, IT, claims and UM teams to accomplish all of these changes.

- Medicaid Transformation Update - Senate Bill 808 is the new standalone bill that directs Medicaid Transformation. The new effective date for Standard Plans is July 1, 2021 which makes the effective date for Tailored Plans July 1, 2022. The governor has signed the bill into law. In a phone call this week, Dave Richard said that although some individuals had already signed up for a

Standard Plan, it had been so long, they would give those individuals an opportunity to change their minds. One year is not a long time to restart the Standard Plan process but if that is what the bill says then that is what we have to do.

- State Budget Issues - General Assembly economists project that lost revenue due to COVID-19 will cost the State approximately \$4B. The General Assembly still has about \$1B in unspent federal COVID funds that they are hoping to use to help offset that deficit, but so far Congress has not approved such a use. Given that, the General Assembly seems to have decided to enact stand-alone budget bills, like the DHHS one above, for critical issues and defer action on a full State budget at this time. They may convene later in the year to take up other funding issues, if they get permission to use the COVID money more flexibly or if additional federal funds become available.
- Text Messaging Options for Trillium Members - Trillium will soon start implementing a program to reach out to our adult members by generating text messages that has to do with Trillium for those enrollees who have given permission for Trillium to send messages to their cellphone. These messages require no response from the members. It is another way of communicating important information with our members and links to Trillium videos. These messages will not come often but only when we need to communicate certain information to our members. Trillium's members can stop the texts any time they want. The program will be launched in a few days.

XI. CFAC REPORT

Ron Lowe reported that last month's meeting was not held due to technical difficulties with WebEx. At the July meeting the new officers were elected. The same officers from last year were asked to remain in office for another year. At the CFAC meeting this month there was a presentation on Sex Trafficking which was very informative. Ron will talk with Joy Futrell about reducing their CFAC budget and using it toward other things such as Naloxone Kits.

XII. REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S EVALUATION (BOARD ACTION REQUIRED)

At this point, Bland Baker and Jacqueline Waller, left the WebEx meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

With there being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline M. Waller, Clerk



Dr. P. Michael McLain, Chair