



May 21, 2020 at 3:00 pm

Location: Conducted virtually

Meeting Minutes:

Member Attendees: Dr. Andrew Baron, Kathy Brashear, Denise Chuckovich, Dr. Keith Davis, Dr. Ted Epperly, Lisa Hettinger, Randall Hudspeth, Rod Stiller for Yvonne Ketchum-Ward, Dr. David Pate, Susie Pouliot, Patt Richesin, Neva Santos, Cristina Thomas, Larry Tisdale, Dr. Karl Watts, Matt Wimmer

DHW Staff: Mary Sheridan, Matt Walker, Stephanie Sayegh, Ann Watkins, Elizabeth Heist

Guests: Janet Reis, Ethan Despain, Jennifer Wheeler, Liz Woodruff, Dr. Jon Schott, Jordan Button, Katie Falls, Linda Rowe, Norm Varin, Krista Stadler, Liz Hatter, Melissa McVaugh, Matt Wolff, Cynthia York, Dieuwke Dizney-Spencer, Robbie Roberts, Nancy Powell, Hilary Klarc, Dr. Alejandro Necochea, Scott Banken

Summary of Motions/Decisions:

Motion:

Lisa Hettinger moved to accept the minutes of the March 19, 2020 meeting of the Healthcare Transformation Council of Idaho as presented.
Second: Dr. Karl Watts

Outcome: Passed

Agenda Topics:

Welcome and Opening Remarks; Roll Call; Introductions; Review of Minutes; Action Items, and Agenda Review – Dr. Ted Epperly, HTCI Co-Chair

Dr. Epperly opened the meeting and expressed appreciation for council member flexibility in participating electronically and for continuing to make this work a priority.

Coronavirus/COVID-19 update – Dr. David Pate, HTCI Co-Chair

Dr. Pate recognized Director Jeppesen and the Division of Public Health and expressed his continued appreciation for Health and Welfare efforts during the pandemic. Idaho began Stage Two for reopening, in accordance of the guidelines set by Governor Little. Dr. Pate noted that we should use this time to prepare for an additional wave coming and not become complacent and risk potential

exposure. There are an estimated 5-15% of Americans infected with Coronavirus nationwide, which is far below where we need to be for herd immunity. In Idaho, we are far less than this statistic.

The antiviral drug Remdesivir seems to help in treating patients with Coronavirus. Dr. Pate cautioned that it is not a miracle drug, as there is no improvement in mortality. Idaho hospitals are involved in plasma studies. In the next few months we hope to see if this is an effective treatment. Other therapeutic trials are happening. We are hopeful but don't have any solutions in sight. There are promising results from early vaccine trials but we still have a long way to go. We are remaining optimistic that we will have a vaccine as early as next year in Idaho. We will need to discuss how to distribute this vaccine once it is developed.

In Idaho, we have created a Task Force to help solve our testing capability issues. The state has expanded and improved contact tracing abilities, including adopting technology solutions that have since been implemented. Additionally, there is a wealth of information on up-to-date happenings regarding the Coronavirus at coronavirus.idaho.gov.

Payer Provider Workgroup (PPW) update – *Norm Varin, PPW Co-Chair*

PPW had momentum going into March but delayed due to COVID-19. The group continues to make progress but will need more time to accomplish their objectives. PPW is identifying three areas to work on together as payers and providers by creating a survey and overlaying those results in order to find areas of commonality.

Engaging organizations to collect data has slowed down quite a bit. There is no indication they are hesitant to participate- everyone has a lot going on.

Rural & Frontier Healthcare Solutions Workgroup update – *Patt Richesin and Larry Tisdale, Co-Chairs*

Members will continue with this workgroup as they head back to some sort of normalcy. They agree this work will need to continue and met to discuss the expectations in the coming months. DHW staff will research potential grant opportunities to support the workgroup.

Mercer Financial Analysis project introduction – *Scott Banken, CPA, Principal*

Mercer has been working with Idaho since 2013. They worked with the Statewide Healthcare Innovation Plan (SHIP) multi-payer workgroup and now with PPW. As an independent organization, Mercer can provide subject matter expertise and secure payer data so that it cannot be traced back to any provider or organization. Mercer is working to provide the best results with the data they receive.

Mercer will provide a financial analysis model that includes collecting data, comparing data and current trends with projected trends to calculate cost avoidance, and calculate the return on investment for Idaho's transformation initiatives. This analysis will be provided to PPW, HTCI, and other stakeholders for tracking the progress of moving from fee-for-service to value-based payments in Idaho.

Mercer has established non-disclosure agreements and will evaluate 2018 and 2019 aggregate data to compare the percent of value-based payments to the 2017 report produced under SHIP. Mercer will also use the HCP-LAN framework. They noted an anticipated patient shift from commercial plans to Medicaid due to expansion. This may impact the data since typically 25% of the population creates 75% of the cost.

St. Luke's Health Partners – *Matt Wolff, Vice President of Network Operations, Dr. Alejandro Necochea, Medical Director, and Dr. Jon Schott, Medical Director*

St. Luke's Health Partners is a financially and clinically integrated network focused on achieving optimal member health at the lowest total cost. They are accountable for 180,000 lives in 20 southwest and southcentral Idaho counties. The network includes approximately 3,300 providers and average a 4.5 star performance. They've achieved significant results with increased cancer screening rates, a reduction of inpatient admissions, and reduced readmissions.

The group highlighted the importance of care management and care coordination. They conduct patient assessments to better meet the needs of their patients. The assessment allows them to effectively coordinate needed services and address unmet needs, such as end of life challenges and coordination with hospice. The result has been high patient satisfaction. Provider accountability is an important element of the network's success.

Telehealth Task Force (TTF) update – *Krista Stadler, TTF Co-Chair and Ann Watkins, Bureau of Rural Health & Primary Care*

The Telehealth Task Force's goal is to deliver an action plan to advance telehealth in Idaho and the response to COVID-19 advances this work. There has been an increased interest from both payers and providers. The question has shifted from "What if we implement Telehealth?" to "How can we implement Telehealth?" Existing policy barriers have been temporarily relaxed because of COVID-19. TTF will continue having meaningful dialogue to bring the action plan together and on track to provide the final report to HTCI in October.

Broadband availability is one of the barriers identified. A representative from the Broadband Taskforce in the Idaho Department of Commerce is a TTF member.

Next steps and future actions for HTCI – *Dr. Ted Epperly, Dr. David Pate, and HTCI members*

Randy Hudspeth recommended that HTCI invite a speaker to address workforce concerns in a future meeting.

There are three vacant at-large HTCI member seats. These seats were reserved to allow for flexibility to meet the needs of the group. Members are asked to provide recommendations regarding the expertise needed to fill the at-large seats and round out the group.

Closing: *Dr. Ted Epperly*

Next Meeting: Thursday June 18, 2020

Meeting Adjourned: 04:48 p.m.