



The Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) Meeting

December 2, 2021

10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Attendance and Minutes

Commission Members Present: Dr. Nancy Fan (St. Francis), Secretary Rick Geisenberger (DOF), Dr. Roger Harrison (Nemours), Richard Heffron, Melissa Jones, Cabinet Secretary Molly Magarik (DHSS), Nick Moriello (Highmark), and Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro (DOI)

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Nancy Fan (Chair)

Commission Members Absent: Theodore W. Becker (Mayor of Lewes), Jan Lee (DHIN), and Dr. Richard Margolis (DSCYF)

Health Care Commission Staff: Elisabeth Massa (Executive Director), Eschalla Clarke (Social Services Senior Administrator), and Latoya Wright (Manager of Statistics and Research)

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Fan called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m. via WebEx. It was determined a quorum was present. Dr. Fan asked public attendees to virtually sign-in by placing their name and affiliation in the chat box or by sending their name and contact information to the DHCC Resource Account (dhcc@delaware.gov).

Dr. Fan announced that due to a scheduling conflict for Secretary Geisenberger, his Workforce Subcommittee update would be the first item on the agenda.

UPDATES

Health Workforce Subcommittee

Secretary Geisenberger thanked Dr. Fan to moving his update to the top of agenda due to the inaugural meeting of the Clean Water Oversight Committee which is scheduled at the same time as the DHCC meeting. The Secretary shared an update on the Health Workforce Subcommittee meeting that was held on November 16. At the meeting, there was a presentation and update from Tim Gibbs (Executive Director with the Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association) on the workforce project that is now being branded as "Delaware Health Force." The DHCC contract with the Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association has been executed. The project is

getting off the ground in terms of pulling together the data and geocoding working towards Delaware having real information that can be used to guide decision making and the prioritization of public policy.

Secretary Geisenberger shared he recently met with Tim Gibbs, the Secretary of Labor, Claire DeMatteis (Governor's office), and Scott Malfitano (CSC general counsel and DE State Chamber of Commerce and their newly appointed chairman of the Workforce Investment Board). It was in introductory conversation about ARPA and what falls under ARPA. Monies have been set aside for investment infrastructure projects and workforce development initiatives. Grants are currently being accepted by the Governor's office. Whether Mr. Gibbs ARPA proposal is a fit cannot be determined at this time. It is suggested Mr. Gibbs should submit applications for the categories.

Secretary Geisenberger shared there are more meetings/discussions to come around the Talent Finance Program developed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. Topics to be covered are programs, how to develop data, specified training.

Nick Moriello, the co-chair for the Health Workforce Subcommittee, said he was pleased with the direction the work is going. Secretary Geisenberger asked if there were any questions. There were none.

BOARD BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM: Approve November 4, 2021 meeting minutes

Dr. Fan asked the commissioners to review the draft November 7, 2021 meeting minutes. She shared the public comment for the quality benchmarks has now closed. Nick Moriello moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Harrison seconded the motion. The motion to approve was unanimously accepted by all commissioners present. The approved minutes are available on the [DHCC website](#).

ACTION ITEM:

The commissioners reviewed the proposed 2022 DHCC Seasonal Calendar. Dr. Fan asked the commissioners if they had any changes or additions. Hearing none, Dr. Fan asked for a motion to accept. Nick Moriello made a motion to approve and Secretary Magarik seconded. The motion to approve was unanimously accepted by all commissioners present. The 2022 DHCC Seasonal Calendar is available on the [DHCC website](#).

ACTION ITEM: Approve DHCC Strategic Retreat Minutes and Action Plan

Dr. Fan asked the commissioners to review the draft Strategic Retreat minutes that were sent to the commissioners in their advance meeting materials. She asked if the commissioners had any modification/edits and/or if more time is needed to review. Nick Moriello stated the minutes were captured accurately and made a motion to approve. Richard Heffron seconded the motion to approve. The motion to approve was unanimously accepted by all commissioners present. The Retreat minutes are available on the [DHCC website](#).

UPDATES

DIMER

DIMER Chair, Sherman Townsend, shared an update on the recent DIMER meeting which was held on November 10. At the meeting, the DIMER board reviewed and finalized an outline for DIMER eligibility for residency. The approved document will be shared with DIMER partner institutions (Sidney Kimmel Medical College and the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine). The meeting also included a DHCC Strategic Retreat Summary from DIMER board member and DHCC Commissioner, Dr. Jan Lee.

Mr. Townsend thanked the Commission for renewing DIMER's contract with the Delaware Health Sciences Alliance (DHSA) for next year. DHSA continues to conduct DIMER outreach events across all three counties. Pam Gardner with DHSA shared that on November 30, DHSA hosted a DIMER virtual speaker series with PCOM. DIMER board members, PCOM leadership, DIMER PCOM students, and students who had done a rotation at the Delaware Branch campus attended. DHSA plans to host other similar engagements in the future.

Dr. Fan asked if the DIMER eligibility would be shared on the DHCC website. Mr. Townsend confirmed it would be posted.

Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program (HCPLRP)

Dr. Fan provided an update on the HCPLRP. The HCPLRP Advisory Group held their first meeting on November 8. The slide below provides the updates shared and is available on the [DHCC website](#).



Health Care Provider Loan Repayment Program

- Advisory Committee
 - First meeting held on November 8th
 - Core members: 3-year term
 - Insurers
 - Delaware Healthcare Association
 - Delaware Health Care Commission
 - Delaware Health Sciences Alliance
 - Delaware Institute of Medical Education and Research
 - Medical Society of Delaware
 - 3 at-large members: 2-year term
 - Ability to increase diversity on Committee both geographically and include other providers who qualify for loan repayment
- Marketing vendor and RFP for vendor for application process
- Program Design and Development – mirror certain elements of federal program
- Award Distribution
- Cadence of meetings: Next meeting – Monday, December 13th at 3 p.m.



POLICY DEVELOPMENT

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Dr. Fan introduced Claire DeMatteis, Special Assistant to the Governor. Ms. DeMatteis provided a summary of ARPA in Delaware.

The State of Delaware received \$925 million in what is called State Recovery Funds. The State also received \$112 million solely for capital projects for nonprofits. Both funds have very strict federal requirements.

Ms. DeMatteis shared her screen and walked the audience through the [State's Rescue Plan website](#). Delaware is investing in one-time projects which include broadband, housing, and job training. The website shows the public what exactly the funds will cover, applications, and projects.

Dr. Fan asked Ms. DeMatteis about the breadth of applications for health care initiatives and the applicant notification timeframe. Ms. DeMatteis encouraged those interested to apply and if there are projects the DHCC would like to pursue, to let her know and she will see if the project would be eligible. The first announcements for those that applied for the community investment fund recovery dollars is estimated for the end of January, pending the U.S. Department of Treasury determination. For projects that did not meet the federal requirements for the capital fund, there will likely be another round of approvals in March, April, May timeframe.

Rich Heffron asked if the money needed to be allocated by a certain date, spent by a certain date, etc. Ms. DeMatteis said we are still operating under the Interim Rule and it is unclear if the State will have a two- year grace project to finish the project. State dollars will have to allocated by December 31, 2024.

Secretary Magarik thanked Ms. DeMatteis for her work. The Secretary shared DHSS is making a lot of investments in community-based services.

Dr. Liz Brown, DMMA Medical Director, inquired if there was a link with all the questions for the mental health services application. Ms. DeMatteis provided the following link, <https://governor.delaware.gov/community-based-mental-health-services-fund-questions/>

Steven Costantino commented on the Interim Rule and shared there is a list of FAQs that is updated as approved by the federal government.

Commissioner Navarro asked for clarification on the broadband access – more towers, more funding that cannot afford, etc? Ms. DeMatteis shared it was hard wire in the ground laying the cable. There will be agreements with the State and communities to work out the costs.

From the WebEx Chat Box

from Stacey Schiller:

Claire, typically, what's the turnaround time for decisions on grant recipients, please?

from Dr. Liz Brown she/her:

Is there a list of application questions available outside of the fillable form online?

from Steven Costantino:

<https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/SLFRPFAQ.pdf>

ADJOURN

Dr. Fan asked if there was any new business from the commissioners or public comment.

Chris Otto, with the Delaware Nurse Association (DNA), shared DNA would like to recommend an advance practice registered nurse fill one of the at-large members on the Advisory Committee. Dr. Fan commented Mr. Otto should send DNA's recommendation to the DHCC for consideration.

Dr. Fan announced DHSA is hosting a virtual information outreach event for high school students and undergraduate students in Kent County that are interested in health sciences and future careers in medical professions on December 7.

The next DHCC meeting will be held on January 6, 2022 from 9 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Public Meeting Attendees December 2, 2021

Faith Rentz	SEBC
Tyler Blanchard	Aledade
Beste Kuru	United Medical
Brian Olson	La Red Health Center
David Roose	Department of Finance
Delaney McGonegal	Mid-Atlantic Association of Community Health Centers
Chris Otto	DE Nurses Association
Fleur McKendell	Department of Insurance
Frank Pyle	Department of Insurance
Chris Haas	Department of Insurance
Lizzie Lewis	302 Strategies
Joann Hasse	League of Women Voters of Delaware
Sherman Townsend	DIMER
Lincoln Willis	Willis Group LLC
Lolita Lopez	Westside Family healthcare
Lori Ann Rhoads	Medical Society of Delaware
Mollie Poland	Nemours
Pam Price	Highmark
Pamela Gardner	Delaware Health Sciences Alliance
Omar Khan	Delaware Health Sciences Alliance

Paula Roy
Frank Pyle
Liz Brown
Richard Holladay
Jill Fredel
Steven Costantino
Kathy Collison
Tim Gibbs
Victoria Brennan
Nicole Freedman
Wayne Smith
Christina Crooks-Bryan
Megan Williams
Tomi Morris
Mashiya Williams

Roy Associates
DOI
DHSS
DHSS
DHSS
DHSS
DHSS
Delaware Academy of Medicine
Office of Controller General

Delaware Healthcare Association
Delaware Healthcare Association
Delaware Healthcare Association