

WILL COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
VIA TELECONFERENCE
5/12/2021

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Lauridsen, Chairperson
Cynthia Brassea, Vice-Chairperson
Deborah Kornacker, Secretary
Marie Lindsey - arrival @ 5:18pm
Vernice Warren
Edith Cline-Kabba
Michael Crowner
Judith Easley

MEMBERS ABSENT

Alan Dyche, Treasurer

WCCHC STAFF PRESENT

Mary Maragos, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Jennifer Byrd, Chief Medical Officer
Dr. Sangita Garg, Chief Dental Officer
Stacy Baumgartner - Director of Operations
Phil Jass - Quality Improvement/Risk Management Coordinator
Mary Kilbride, Executive Assistant

WCCHC STAFF ABSENT

WCHD STAFF PRESENT

Sue Olenek, Executive Director
Elizabeth Bilotta, Assistant Executive Director
Denise Bergin, Director of Finance/Grants Management

OTHERS PRESENT

Adam Lipetz, ASA

Pledge of Allegiance

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Will County Community Health Center Governing Council was held virtually, via teleconference due to COVID-19 isolation requirements. Mr. Paul Lauridsen, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:05p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM - **Quorum present.**

II. MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Kornacker read the Mission Statement.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Cline-Kabba to accept the minutes from April 7, 2021. **Motion carries.**

Roll Call: Paul Lauridsen, "Aye", Cindy Brassea, "Aye", Deborah Kornacker, "Aye", Edith Cline-Kabba, "Aye", Michael Crowner, "Aye", Judy Easley, "Aye", Vernice Warren, "Aye"

- IV. **Chairman's Comments:** Mr. Lauridsen thanked all of the GC members for their commitment to the patients of the Center. Mr. Lauridsen also thanked Ms. Lindsey for her dedication to the Governing Council and all of her years of helping with the underserved with GC board matters.

V. **CEO Report**

AIDS Foundation of Chicago funding renewal - AFC has agreed to renew our funding for another year, for 4/1/21-3/31/22 at a rate of \$76,970/yr for case management plus up to \$51,000/yr. reimbursement for services for uninsured patients with HIV. Services can be for primary care, behavioral health, substance use disorder treatment, OB/gyne, and dental. Other AFC-affiliated agencies such as Agape and Open Door who offer case management refer their patients to us for our wrap-around services.

Increased fees for COVID vaccine administration - Illinois HFS has authorized an increase in COVID-19 vaccination administration fees to \$40. We are billing the patient's insurance or if none, billing HRSA for this administration fee. We ask the GC for its approval to increase our fees to \$42.14.

TimeDoc agreements for Home blood pressure monitoring - On 1/19/21 we received a Notice of Award from HRSA for \$122,580 for supplemental funding to improve the management of our patients with hypertension. We will use the funding to partially support a Healthcare Liaison staff person who will manage the panel of patients with uncontrolled hypertension. We will use also use the funding to purchase Blue-tooth enabled blood pressure monitoring devices, so our patients can measure their own blood pressures at home and transmit the data back to us. It is part of our 2021 Strategic Plan to improve the percent of patients with controlled hypertension from 48.2% to 86.0%, the number required by our insurances for quality bonuses (HEDIS measures). We have selected TimeDoc "remote patient monitoring" devices that can be used even if a patient does not have access to the Internet. The cost is \$3000 for implementation, \$80 per device, plus \$8/month per device. We can provide 367 persons with these devices.

Agape MOU approval - We have had a long-standing MOU with Agape services for social services for persons with HIV and also those who have been recently incarcerated. We present an updated MOU to the Governing Council for its approval.

HRSA ARPA funding \$3,014,375 & budget - On 3/26/21 we received a Notice of Award of \$3,014,375 from HRSA for one-time funding for 2 years as part of the new legislation FY2021 American Rescue Plan Act. Funding is to be used for 1) COVID vaccine administration and other related activities, 2) detection diagnosing, tracing COVID infections and activities to mitigate the spread, 3) Equipment and supplies for mobile testing and vaccines, 4) Establish, expand, and sustain the health care workforce to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 plus other related activities, 5) Modify, enhance, and expand health care services and infrastructure, and 6) Conduct community outreach and education related to COVID-19. We plan to budget for the following:

Personnel: Full time (FT) Family Physician, FT Psychiatrist, 2 CMA's to support the providers, FT LCSW, Nurse Care Coordinator, Health Care Liaison, Medical Secretary for dental, Population Health Manager, E.H.R. Content Subject Matter Expert, 6 COVID team temps. Some are existing positions unassigned to other grants, some are new but self-sustainable due to capacity for revenue generation.

Ms. Kornacker questioned if Nextgen is interoperable with Epic due to the possibility of partnering with other Health systems? Ms. Maragos stated we are not eligible to use Epic.

Renovations: Renovating Medical Records room to accommodate a new BH suite of offices, nursing station and provide waiting area. Furniture, computers, phones, office equipment for this space. Extend OB/Gyne nursing station to allow for comfortable spacing of support staff.

Supplies: Contactless credit card terminals, vaccine refrigerator, vaccines, cleaning and medical supplies

Services: 340B auditor, credentialing services, carpet & chair cleaning, recruiter fees, archiving and disposing of medical records, interpreter services, contractual biller, equipment maintenance and inspection, advertising, mobile unit repairs, software for outreach & enrollment in insurance and social services, CDL license training, additional security cameras.

COVID vaccinations at the WCHC – We are now receiving COVID-19 vaccinations directly from HRSA. We have established 4 vaccination clinics at our Joliet location on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, plus Wednesdays in Monee. New patients are accepted. So far, we have administered 695 COVID-19 vaccinations. Note that 44% of our vaccinations thus far have been given to persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity. An additional 20% of the vaccinations have been given to racial minorities (Native Americans, Asians, Blacks/African Americans.)

2021 Sliding Fee Scale – Every year in February, the US Dept of HHS updates the Federal Poverty Guidelines. Our Sliding Fees are based upon these guidelines. We ask the GC for its approval of our 2021 Sliding Fee Scale.

Ms. Lindsey questioned if an outside provider could refer a patient for Audiology services? Ms. Maragos stated we are still working through this but would prefer that a person come to see our provider first.

CMO Report was not provided

VI. CDO Report

BinaxNOW Rapid Covid Test in Dental

I am glad to report that for the month of April 2021, dental clinic performed 268 tests with one positive case.

Dental clinic is performing BinaxNOW Covid test for every patient, every visit before aerosol producing procedure.

Lower positivity rate is due to patients are getting vaccinated, screening done at the front door and dental clinic. Any patient with symptoms is quarantined and rescheduled for dental appointment.

BinaxNOW is a rapid test with result in 15 minutes that detects COVID-19 antigens to help identify patients who may be currently infected without any symptoms.

Mobile Dental Visits

The Will County Community Health Center, dental clinic has applied for a dental grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health aimed at meeting the following objectives:

- Increasing the number of children and families in Will County who are educated on oral health self-care and obtaining access to professional dental care.
- Increasing the number of low-income children in Will County who have a preventive dental visit.
- Increasing the number of Will County children and pregnant women who are connected to a dental home.

The Mobile unit is getting needed repairs and will be ready soon (tentative date is middle of May) to be scheduled for community visits.

This program was suspended in March 2020 due to Pandemic. We bought a HEPA filtration system for the mobile through one of the Oral Health Grants. We will also be performing BinaxNOW Covid testing in mobile before an aerosol producing dental procedure.

Ms. Olenek questioned if the Dental Clinic is offering vaccines? Dr. Garg said they are, for administration by one of our PCP's.

VII. DISCUSSION

Revenue report: The revenue report was presented and reviewed. We changed our method of accounting and now any revenue we are receiving for services performed in FY2020 is recorded in fiscal year 2020. By the time the June GC meeting takes place, it should show improvement. Ms. Bilotta stated that they are hoping for a higher influx of revenue coming in in May.

Expenses report: The expense report was presented and reviewed. We are in line with our goal through April.

COVID Testing Stats: Ms. Maragos reviewed the COVID Stats report. 8326 people have been tested and the test positivity rate for Will County is 5.6%. COVID testing at CHC is primarily taking place in Dental but can also be done through Quest. The specimen is obtained by a PCP.

COVID Vaccinations: COVID vaccination report was reviewed and discussed.

Ms. Easley questioned if we were having a problem with people coming back for the second dose? Ms. Maragos stated No.

Ms. Olenek stated the Health Department schedules their second appointment on the same day as the first and that seems to help.

Provider Productivity: Ms. Maragos presented and reviewed the Provider Productivity report. We still continue to struggle to capture our virtual visits to count towards the productivity of the provider. Mr. Lauridsen questioned if the virtual visits are for all types of providers? Ms. Maragos stated Dentists or Gynecologists do not do virtual visits. Majority of virtual visits are in Behavioral Health.

Reports from the Quality Committee Chairperson: Ms. Lindsey presented a summary of the Quality Committee meeting which took place prior to GC Governing Council.

- Risk Management report had a discussion regarding the 2 suicides that had taken place.
- Screening tool has been added to help with this issue as well as training.
- Review of some key performance indicators that were not doing well were discussed.
- Clinical Risk Assessment update was shared and is doing very well, and a lot of key measures have been attended to.
- Pt. Satisfaction Survey quarterly report does look good and discussion took place regarding how to get further responses.
- Ms. Lindsey discussed the possibility of creating a department of population health and of hiring someone who would work with patient referrals, mammogram referrals, colonoscopy referrals and creating a dashboard for providers etc.

VIII. ACTION

- A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker. **Motion carries.** Mr. Lauridsen "Aye", Cindy Brassea "Aye", Deborah Kornacker "Aye", Edith Cline-Kabba "Aye", Michael Crowner "Aye" Ms. Lindsey "Aye", Vernice Warren "Aye", Ms. Easley "Aye" to approve COVID vaccination administration fee increase. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to approve Time Doc RPM Agreement. Motion for previous roll call. **Motion** was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Brassea to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.** Ms. Kornacker questioned "how will we get the Time Doc equipment back from a patient"? Ms. Maragos stated we are not expecting the equipment back.

Ms. Kornacker questioned "how do we choose who gets the equipment and who doesn't"? Ms. Maragos stated there are approximately 900 patients with a diagnosis of hypertension and we will start giving to those patients having the most difficult time controlling their blood pressure. Ms. Olenek questioned "if there are issues with the equipment, who would the patient contact"? Ms. Maragos stated the Health Care Liaison will manage this project.

- A **motion** was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Ms. Cline-Kabba to approve 2021 Sliding Fee Scale.

Motion for previous roll call. Motion was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**

- A **motion** was made Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Easley to approve Family Planning grant application. Motion for previous roll call. Motion was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Easley to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**

Ms. Kornacker questioned if the morning after pill is part of the Family Planning package? Ms. Maragos stated Yes.

- A **motion** was made Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to approve MOU with Agape Services. Motion for previous roll call. Motion was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Cline-Kabba to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to approve policy DN-0039 Pre-Surgical Cardiac Risk for Dental Procedures. Motion was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Ms. Cline-Kabba to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to approve Pharmacy Services Amendment with Basinger's, to add generic drugs. Motion was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Cline-Kabba to approve FQHC Medicare Fee Schedule Amendment. Motion was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
- Ms. Kornacker questioned how we would advertise that we are accepting Dentaquest? Ms. Maragos stated we will advertise as well as Dentaquest will list CHC as a participant of their plan.
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to approve renewal of contract for Pranjali Vadgaonkar, MD. Motion for previous roll call. Motion was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Easley to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**

VIII. BOARD MEMBERS' CONCERNS AND COMMENTS:

PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS: No comments stated

- X. A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm. **Motion** for previous roll call. **Motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to use the previous roll call.

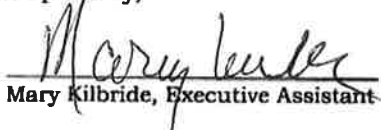
XI. Executive Committee

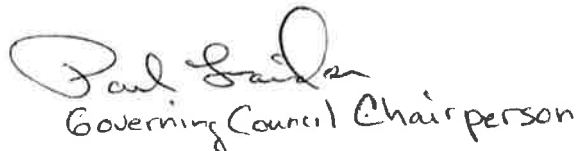
XII. NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 2, 2021	4:30pm	Finance Committee mtg.
Wednesday, June 2, 2021	5:00pm	Governing Council mtg.

(Meetings will be conducted virtually, through Microsoft Teams)

Prepared by,


Mary Kilbride, Executive Assistant


Governing Council Chairperson

Deborah Kornacker, Governing Council Secretary