

WILL COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, May 10, 2023 @ 5:00pm
VIA TELECONFERENCE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Paul Lauridsen, Chairperson
Cindy Brassea, Vice Chairman
Edith Cline-Kabba
Michael Crowner
Alan Dyche, Treasurer
Judy Easley
Deborah Kornacker, Secretary
Marie Lindsey
Nicole Luebke
Vernice Warren

MEMBERS ABSENT

WCCHC STAFF PRESENT

Mary Maragos, Chief Executive Officer
Dr. Jennifer Byrd, Chief Medical Officer
Dr. Sangita Garg, Chief Dental Officer
Phil Jass, Quality Improvement/Risk Management Coordinator
Bose Oshin, Billing Supervisor
Kathleen Harkins, Community Outreach & Marketing Coordinator
Denise Sitasz, Administrative Assistant

WCHD STAFF PRESENT

Elizabeth Bilotta, Executive Director
Denise Bergin, Assistant Executive Director

OTHERS PRESENT

Adam Lipetz, ASA
Sarah Lucas – community member
Frank Sandoval – community member

A. CALL TO ORDER - Pledge of Allegiance

The regular meeting of the Will County Community Health Center Governing Council was held virtually, via teleconference. Mr. Lauridsen, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:00p.m.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM – Quorum present.

Community member Sarah Lucas briefly spoke of her background.

Community member Frank Sandoval introduced himself and briefly spoke of his background.

Governance Committee will setup a meeting to interview both candidates to become members of the Governing Council. Ms. Easley will setup a meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

MISSION STATEMENT

Ms. Lindsey read the Mission Statement.

B. APPROVAL OF GOVERNING COUNCIL MINUTES

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM – Quorum present.

A motion was made by Mr. Dyche and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to accept the Governing Council minutes from April 5, 2023. **Motion carries.**

Roll Call: Paul Lauridsen “Aye”, Cindy Brassea “Aye”, Edith Cline-Kabba “Aye”, Michael Crowner “Aye”, Alan Dyche “Aye”, Judy Easley “Aye”, Deborah Kornacker “Aye”, Marie Lindsey “Aye”, Nicole Luebke “Aye”, Vernice Warren “Aye”

C. Chairman’s Comments:

D. Public Comment for Agenda Items Only: None

E. CEO Report

School Based Health Certification – We were visited by an auditor from the IL Dept of Public Health on April 17, 2023, who inspected our school health clinic at Brooks Middle School. He reviewed our policies and procedures and inspected the site to ensure we had equipment for the collection laboratory specimens, equipment for safe dispensing of vaccinations, ADA compliance, job descriptions and yearly staff evaluations, documentation of continuing education for providers, professional licenses and certifications, CLIA certification, and an OSHA exposure plan. A virtual chart audit was conducted on ten random records on April 20. See attached Administrative Review Tool, Initial walk-through tool, and Chart Audit Tool. We had no deficiencies or adverse findings. We just submitted affirmation of full-time provision of services starting on May 1, and next we await notice of formal certification. Certification is a requirement for additional funding from IDPH.

Approval to submit for IDPH school health funding for July 2023 through June 2025 – We ask the Governing Council for its approval to submit an application to IL Dept of Public Health for additional funding for our School-Based health center. Funding is from July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2025, up to \$300,000 per year. Due to the limited amount, the funding is only enough to support staff salaries and fringe benefits for an APRN, CMA, LCSW, and Registration/ Check-out clerk. Support for ongoing expenses such as medical supplies will come from revenue from billing insurance companies for students’ visits. Grant funding from IDPH would give us access to screening tools such as Bright Futures, plus additional resources for School-Based clinic operations.

Approval for 2023 Medical, BH, and Hospital Fees and for Dental fees – We ask the Governing Council for its approval to approve our Medical/BH/ Hospital fee schedule for 2023. We also ask for approval of our 2023 Dental fees. Fees are based on Usual and Customary fees for this geographic region, at the 75th percentile. HRSA recommends that our fees be set at this level, to capture maximum reimbursement from insurers. We ask the GC to also consider all Nominal fees, as they should not pose any barrier to access to care.

Updates from IPHCA Legislative Committee – The IL Primary Healthcare Association of which we are members has proposed legislation to increase the rate of reimbursement for Medicaid and Medicare for FQHCs in Illinois. For most FQHCs, the current IL reimbursement rates cover only about 60% of our costs. For the WCCHC in particular, our Medicaid or Medicare encounter reimbursement rate for medical or psychiatry (which includes all procedures and vaccinations) is \$173.44. Our actual cost per medical encounter is \$248.28, and for psychiatry is \$286.34. Our dental Medicaid reimbursement rate is \$127.20, compared to our actual cost of \$256.68 per encounter. In neighboring states, Medicaid reimbursement rates are up to three times higher than in Illinois. The bill will be introduced to the legislature as early as this week. We thank the GC members who responded to our email request to contact their legislators for support!

Another initiative from IPHCA is to expand Medicaid/Medicare reimbursement for FQHCs to include all BH providers who at least have a master’s degree, such as licensed clinical therapists. This will increase access to care and expand the types of providers we can hire here. We will keep you posted on these developments.



Approval for MOU with AIDS Foundation of Chicago- We ask the Governing Council for its approval to support an MOU for the provision of Ryan White related services with the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC). AFC receives federal pass-through funding from IDPH and then in turn subcontracts with the WCCHC for medical case management services. It also provides financial support of medical, BH, SUD, and dental services for uninsured individuals with HIV. The proposed funding amount for April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024, is \$135,228.

Pharmacy Services at the Community Health Center – The Will County Board has approved the awarding of a bid to Genoa Pharmacy and subsequent lease agreement for the use of the space within the CHC. Once this Agreement is signed and the pharmacy is approved for new licenses at the WCCHC, we can move forward with a Pharmacy Services Agreement for participation in our 340B program. We hope to bring this to the Governing Council for its approval in June. After signed and approved it should be ready for enrollment as a pharmacy site with the HRSA Office of Pharmacy Affairs, and then they can begin operations. It is expected the entire process may take up to 90 days.

Proposed Changes to the Collaborative Agreement – We performed a routine review of our Co-applicant Cooperative Operational Agreement between the Governing Council and the Board of Health. There is some language that although relevant at the time of inception, is no longer in line with current operations. The document was discussed at the Governance Committee and at our last Governing Council meeting in April. Proposed changes will be voted upon at this May meeting, and then the Board of Health will also be asked for their approval.

Podiatry Services at the WCCHC – I have been on the alert for more services we can provide to our patients who can least afford them. An area podiatrist has proposed to provide on-site podiatry services to our patients one-half to one day per week. He is starting a new practice and applying for surgical privileges at Silver Cross Hospital. He would agree to accept public health insurances and offer a sliding fee for uninsured. The podiatrist would not be an employee of the WCCHC and would do his own billing. We had a similar arrangement with Americans for Better Hearing Foundation a couple of years ago. The benefit for our patients is that many of them may have little access to such services, and it would provide a broader scope of care for the uninsured and underserved. We ask the GC to consider this. Next steps would be to obtain a formal agreement, attorney’s approval, formal GC approval, and then approval from HRSA to expand our scope of services.

Behavioral Health Suite Open House – On May 1 we were thrilled to have a formal open house to celebrate our new behavioral health space. Congresswoman Lauren Underwood of Naperville was on-site to visit the Will County Health Department and for a ribbon cutting. As a Registered Nurse, she is very supportive of health care issues and increasing access to services for the underserved.

CMO Report

COVID-19 Update:

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Recovered</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
World	~ 686 million	~ 659 million	~ 6.86 million
United States	~ 106 million	~ 104 million	~ 1.15 million
Illinois	~ 4.13 million	~ 4.05 million	~ 41.8 K

(worldmeter.info as of April 26, 2023)

↑
Increased from 4.10 million since within the last one month

Increased from 41.6 in last 1 mo.

Total Daily New Cases – Illinois (through March 23, 2023):

~ DECREASE **FROM** March 23rd @ **1,222 new cases per day** **TO** April 26th @ **797 new cases per day**
(graph was shown of total new cases in Illinois)

Total Deaths – Illinois (through April 26, 2023):

Increased from 41,618 in March of 2023
(graph was shown of total deaths in Illinois)

Pandemic distribution by country:

#	Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered
	World	686,685,591	+54,535	6,860,942	+166	659,257,731
1	USA	106,585,478		1,159,417		104,493,815
2	India	44,905,827		531,369		44,311,078
3	France	39,967,817	+7,490	166,425		39,660,606
4	Germany	38,398,881		172,761		38,186,700
5	Brazil	37,407,232		701,215		36,249,161

COVID-19 Summary update :

For the most part, great news:

- Lowest number of cases and deaths since Spring of 2020
- Though new infections have become harder to track due to the use of home testing, experts still believe the data is generally accurate regarding a decrement in cases.
- We are experiencing an expected “Spring Slow Down” in cases, and it is of note that this Spring is **even better** (with regard to a lower number of cases) than other Spring seasons in the last two years.
- We should take note that also expected is a minor surge in the Summer, especially in the southern states when the heat drives people indoors as the ambient temperatures get too hot.
- The risk of contracting COVID-19 is **now quite low** now due to:

- * Immunity being increased by the large numbers of vaccinated persons
- * The use of antivirals, and refined antiviral regimen, is now commonplace → less time sick, less opportunity to infect others.
- * No new “game changing” variants, as most of the recent variants have been *no more virulent* than others [for example, the latest variants: XBB.1.5 and XBB.1.16 (which is causing a new symptom of conjunctivitis)]

Of note: XBB.1.16 is driving a current surge in COVID-19 cases in India right now, and accounts for 10% of cases in the U.S. now.

- We should still be cautious as 100,000 people in the U.S. are infected daily, and 150 die each day.
- “Cautious” to most experts means: get vaccinated and continue to wear a mask in large indoor gatherings, and on public transportation (including airplanes).

UPDATE on New Initiatives - Brooks Middle School:

As previously mentioned, we have now obtained our Vaccines for Children certification from the state of Illinois for our School-Based Health Center.

We now have evolved from screened in areas, to proper demi-walls, and a proper “waiting room”. This offers the children more privacy during their office visits, and a more refined, professional look as well.

(Pictures of Brooks Middle School were shown)

Ms. Kornacker asked how many children we have seen at Brooks Middle School and how is the trust of the family with our staff? Dr. Byrd stated we have seen approximately 120 children and we are currently repairing our relationship with the families given our need to cancel a few days in the past.

Ms. Maragos stated that we are developing a website which will have content on the website of Brooks Middle School.

Staffing:

There continues to be a paucity of Certified Medical Assistants in the health center.

Our Behavioral Health Manager resigned, her last day was Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

- interviews have begun

However, the following achievements have been made:

- Family Medicine Physician – Interviewed, both parties interested
- checking references (completing residency)

Ms. Kornacker asked if an exit interview is being done with staff leaving the Center. Dr. Byrd spoke about the reason behind the loss of the BH manager and the DON.

CDO Report

Dental Secretary

Dental clinic welcomed the new dental secretary on 4/17/23. She is getting trained. She has a dental background and is learning quickly.
She will be contacting and coordinating mobile dental visits.

Mobile Dental Services

A part time mobile driver has been hired and started work on May 1, 2023.
We are working to schedule the mobile dental unit at Brooks School monthly.

Internal Referrals

From April 1-27, 2023, the dental clinic received 67 internal referrals from our WCCHC medical providers. It includes children, pregnant women and adults referred to Dental for oral health care.

Revenue FY22

The revenue ending 11/30/22 was presented. We were 14.7% above projected budget.

Expenditures FY22

Ms. Maragos presented expenditures ending 11/30/22. We came in under budget. Brief discussion took place.

Ms. Kornacker questioned if Telehealth is being done for OB, Medical, Pediatric or specifically for BH? Ms. Maragos stated Telehealth is done for Medical, Peds, and BH but not for gyne or OB. We use our OTTO Virtual platform in which the MA will prescreen prior to the provider contacting the patient.

Revenue FY23

The revenue ending April 30, 2023, was presented and is coming in under budget by 9.3%.

Expenditures FY23

Ms. Maragos presented expenditures. The target was 33.3% and we came in below target at 31.5%.

Patient and Visits

Patient and visits report were presented, and brief discussion took place.

F. Discussion

- **Report from the Quality Committee Chairperson:**
Ms. Lindsey presented the proceedings from Quality Committee meeting which had taken place prior to the Governing Council meeting. We will be requesting GC board to vote on the 2023 CQIPM Plan. Ms. Lindsey spoke of a few incident reports that had been presented at the Committee meeting. Ms. Bilotta stated that our safety manual and work rules do indicate that a person cannot bring weapons into the facility but a more detailed "Weapons Policy" is currently being worked on.
 - Mr. Lauridsen spoke of the Key Performance Indicators and how well some of the measures are doing.
 - Our patient satisfaction scores are doing very well.
 - **School Health Center Review Tools:**
Ms. Maragos presented the school health center certification review tools as well as the certification approval letter. Discussion took place.
 - **Potential expansion of services to include podiatry:**
Ms. Maragos spoke of the podiatrist that is interested in providing on-site podiatry services to our patients. She has had an interest for a while to add more services to the Center. Discussion took place.
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G. Action Items

- A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Mr. Dyche to approve MOU with AIDS Foundation of Chicago .
Roll Call: Paul Lauridsen “Aye”, Cindy Brassea “Aye”, Edith Cline-Kabba “Aye”, Michael Crowner “Aye”, Alan Dyche “Aye”, Judy Easley “Aye”, Deborah Kornacker “Aye”, Marie Lindsey “Aye”, Nicole Luebke “Aye”, Vernice Warren “Aye”. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Mr. Dyche to approve revised Co-applicant Cooperative Agreement. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Mr. Dyche to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and seconded by Ms. Easley to approve revised 2023 CQIPM (Continuous Quality Incentive Plan). **Motion carries. Motion** Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Luebke approve proposed 2023 Medical BH Hospital fees. Affirming the nominal fees will not pose a barrier to care.
Motion carries. Motion was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Brassea to approve proposed 2023 Dental fees. **Motion carries.** A **motion** was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**

Ms. Kornacker questioned if the proposed fees for some of the dental procedures and wondered if the cost of some of those would be a barrier to care for some of the patients? Ms. Maragos stated that is why we have nominal fees for the uninsured and for those who have insurance, we bill their private insurance and will not bill patients for the remaining cost if they are unable to pay. The GC affirmed the nominal fees will not pose a barrier to care.

- A **motion** was made by Mr. Crowner and **seconded** by Ms. Luebke to approve the application to IDPH for SBHC funding. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Mr. Dyche and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** Ms. Warren to approve election of Alan Dyche as Chairman of GC. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to approve election of Vernice Warren as Vice Chairperson of GC. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Mr. Crowner and **seconded** by Ms. Easley to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Mr. Dyche to approve reelection of Marie Lindsey as a GC member. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Mr. Dyche and **seconded** by Ms. Brassea to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Luebke to approve reelection of Deborah Kornacker as Secretary of GC. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to approve election of Michael Crowner as Treasurer. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Ms. Cline-Kabba to approve recredentialing for Trishna Harris, APRN. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Brassea to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Mr. Crowner to approve credentialing for Olalekan Fapohunda, APRN. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
 - A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to approve credentialing of Dana Rhea, OD. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Brassea and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
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- A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Easley to approve credentialing for Hye Seon Yoo, OD. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Lindsey to approve credentialing for Neha Gulati, OD. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Mr. Dyche and **seconded** by Ms. Luebke to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**
- A **motion** was made by Ms. Lindsey and **seconded** by Ms. Easley to approve credentialing for Frederick Collison, OD. **Motion carries. 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. Easley to approve credentialing for Jenny Geevarghese, OD. **Motion carries. Motion** was made by Ms. Warren and **seconded** by Ms. Kornacker to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**

H. BOARD MEMBERS' CONCERNS AND COMMENTS:

I. PUBLIC CONCERNS AND COMMENTS: None

J. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE/EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

K. ADJOURNMENT: A **motion** was made by Ms. Easley and **seconded** by Ms. Warren to adjourn the meeting at 6:19pm. **Motion** was made by Ms. Kornacker and **seconded** by Mr. Dyche to use the previous roll call. **Motion carries.**

NEXT MEETING- IN PERSON

Wednesday, June 6, 2023

Wednesday, June 6, 2023

4:30pm

5:00pm

Finance Committee

Governing Council

Prepared by,

Mary Kilbride

Mary Kilbride, Executive Assistant



Vernice Warren, Vice Chairperson of Governing Council

