

**Public Employers Health Purchasing Committee
Meeting Minutes**

February 28, 2011
1 – 4 pm

Wilsonville Training Center:
29353 SW Town Center Loop E
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Meeting materials can be found online at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/OHA/OHPB/committees/pub-hlt-bn-prch-mtgs.shtml>

Committee Members in Attendance:

Lynn McNamara, Acting chair
Caren Cox
Diane Lovell
Barbara Prowe
Cathy Bless, by phone
Joan Kapowich, by phone
Zue Matchett, by phone
Linda Shames, by phone

OHA Staff in Attendance:

Jeanene Smith
Kelly Harms
Ari Ettinger
Bobby Green, by phone.

Meeting Summary:

Call to Order, Welcome, Approval of Minutes (1:03 PM)

- Lynn McNamara is acting Chair, as Steve McNannay could not attend.
- Introductions.
- January minutes were approved with no changes.

Overview of meeting agenda

Kelly Harms reviewed the day's agenda.

Update on work of Health System Transformation

Diane Lovell, who is a member of the Health System Transformation Team along with Steve McNannay, gave an update on the Team.

- The Team of 45 people has been put together to provide feedback and critical thinking on these issues:
 - Fix an \$850 million hole in the state budget for the coming year.
 - Redesign the health delivery system to integrate all areas of health into single entities.
- So far, there have been initial discussions on dual eligibles, global budgets, Accountable Care Organizations, and metrics.
- Jeanene Smith added that the savings are over a two-year period. Year one will include the rate reductions and the delivery transformation, and year two would complete those savings.
- There is also an idea to share Medicaid and Medicare savings.

Update on Legislative Session

Harms and Smith gave a brief update on the legislative session in Salem.

- It is a tight timeframe this year because there is a finite end date. That means that there are some key dates that will likely happen earlier this year than in previous years.
- All committees on the House side this year are co chaired.
- One of the key bills is the Exchange bill: SB99.
- Barbara Prowe asked that if there are any bills that this committee should know about, it would be great to be kept informed.

Update on contracting language work of PEBB/OEBB

Joan Kapowich gave an update on contracting language.

- Many of the updates to contracting language either reflect or preceded ideas that were outlined by the Oregon Health Policy Board.
- Language will likely be strengthened for the 2011 contracts.
- Kapowich reviewed different aspects of healthcare reform that have been integrated into PEBB/OEBB contracts, such as electronic medical records, administrative simplification and patient safety.

Break

1:57 PM – 2:07 PM.

Discussion of this year's preliminary work plan and work group assignments

Harms presented a draft work plan to the group that involved creating work groups composed of committee members in order to develop some products that could be used as the committee draws closer to making specific recommendations to contractors and carriers, with the eventual aim of having carriers adopting Committee-endorsed benefit designs.

Discussion issues:

- One problem that was raised was that simply having recommendations for carriers does not mean that those recommendations will be adopted.
- If the Committee endorses something, does that mean that each of us needs to take that idea back to their carrier? If there is something that has already been endorsed by the Committee, it seems to make sense that any of the committee members who had wished, or do wish, to take that recommendation to the negotiating table has the option to do that. Does there really need to be a single template that every one of us must follow?
- Most people concurred that they did not have the time to take on another subcommittee/workgroup. They would prefer to work through issues at the Committee meetings.
- Jeanene Smith talked about making sure that the committee does not just become talking heads. How can we come together and share ideas and collaborate in order to really make decisions and changes that can benefit the people we serve?
- What is the best way to share the information and ideas we develop? How can we streamline the recommendations for people who may be starting off from scratch?
 - Website
 - **A Purchasers pamphlet or Toolkit or Handbook** was also discussed and seemed popular. It would essentially include easy-to-use advice when negotiating contracts.
 - The committee wondered what questions need to be answered: what will be the very most useful questions to answer for other healthcare purchasers, both public and private.
 - For example: What five things can you do to bend your cost curve, get better value, and improve your health outcomes? These are the questions that purchasers really need the answers to.

Public Comments

None

Next meeting

Monday, March 28. 1 – 4 PM.

Adjournment (3:00 PM)