

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2018
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: Mike Conway, Tom Massey, Jay Norris and Sharon O’Hara

Staff Present: Brian Braun, Luke Clarke Kelly Davies, Kate Harris, Kevin Patterson, Lisa Sevier and Ezra Watland

I. Welcome and Introductions

Sharon O’Hara chaired the Policy Committee Meeting and called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., welcoming those in attendance, both in-person and on the phone. The April Policy Committee minutes were voted on and approved.

II. Updates

a. Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF)

Nina Schwartz gave the following updates for HCPF:

- The CBMS Transformation project is moving forward in a timely manner and continues to meet its milestones.

b. Division of Insurance (DOI)

Matt Mortier, Director of Compliance at Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies, gave the following updates:

- The DOI released a draft of the Cost Sharing Reduction (CSR) loading bulletin for an informal external review. DOI intends to adopt recommendations to the bulletin and release it within the next couple of weeks.
- The division is in the process of drafting a regulation to comply with Senate bill 136: Health Insurance Producer Fees and Fee Disclosure.
- The division will be asking for suggestions on language for its annual renewal notice.
- The division will be seeking input on updating the uniform application for Health Benefit Plans.

III. Princeton Report Summary

The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University reviewed and reported on the Colorado health care system to recommend policy options to control costs in the state for the Colorado Governor’s Office, DOI and Connect for Health Colorado. The report identified two pressing challenges facing the Colorado health care system: 1) high premiums in rural and mountain communities and 2) the steady growth of overall systems costs.

The report encourages policymakers to look at these problems as related but distinct issues, each demanding dedicated policy solutions.

To address high insurance premiums Colorado is encouraged to pursue:

- A reinsurance program using a 1332 waiver
- Geographic factor rating bands

To address overall system cost growth Colorado is encouraged to use:

- “Global budgeting” payment reform
- A heightened focus on greater transparency in health care prices

IV. Cost Allocation Funding Strategy

Connect for Health Colorado receives Medicaid reimbursement funds from CMS for the organization’s ongoing assistance with Medicaid eligible people. The reimbursement is determined according to the amount of Medicaid related contributions each department makes.

Currently:

- Customer Service Center – 64%
- Assistance Network – 17%
- Medical Assistance Site – 3%
- Organizational support/management – 11%

The funds will be used for future capital investments infrastructure, primarily in the Customer Service Center, and marketing and outreach.

V. Assistance Network

Ezra Watland, Director of Marketing & Communication Strategy, reviewed the Assistance Network funding strategy for fiscal year 2019. The organization intends to award \$1.75 MM to assistance sites. Which includes 23 organization and 29 permanent locations. The front range will receive 47% of the funds with the remaining 53% going to other areas of the state.

The Assistance Network budget will be submitted for approval to the board in the June board meeting.

VI. Public Comment

Public comment given by:

Deb Judy, Colorado Consumer Health Initiative

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon O’Hara
Policy Committee Chair