

**MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF COMMUNITY HEALTH MEETING**

May 1, 2009

The Board of Community Health conducted a conference call on May 1, 2009 to vote on Certificate of Need Rule 111-2-2-.03, State Health Benefit Plan Rule 111-4-1-.06(6) and the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice.

Board members participating in the call were Richard Holmes, Chairman; Ross Mason, Vice Chairman; Kim Gay, Secretary; Dr. Inman C. "Buddy" English; Dr. Ann McKee Parker; Raymond Riddle; and Archer Rose.

DCH participants were: Dr. Rhonda M. Medows, Commissioner; Clyde Reese, General Counsel; Nancy Goldstein, Chief, State Health Benefit Plan; and Dr. Jerry Dubberly, Chief, Medical Assistance Plans. The Fifth Floor Board Room at the Department of Community Health, 2 Peachtree Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303, was available to anyone wishing to listen to the discussion. (A List of Attendees and an Agenda are attached hereto and made official parts of these Minutes as Attachments #1 and #2.)

Chairman Holmes called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m. He asked Dr. Medows to facilitate the call and introduce each participant. Dr. Medows asked Clyde Reese, General Counsel, to give an overview of Certificate of Need Rule 111-2-2-.03.

Mr. Reese asked the Board for favorable consideration to approve for final adoption Rule 111-2-2-.03. This rule would implement a statutory exemption for the Department to promulgate standards to allow hospitals that wanted to perform therapeutic cardiac catheterization procedures at their facilities without open heart backup. The exemption would allow hospitals that are participants in the C-PORT Study prior to July 1, 2008 to continue performing those procedures and allow the Department to promulgate standards to assess hospitals that would like to do these type procedures without open heart backup but are not active participants in the C-PORT Study. The process going forward would be from May 1-May 15 hospitals can request and send in information to the Department, pursuant to these standards, to be granted a determination to move forward to do percutaneous cardiac interventions (PCIs) in their hospitals without open heart surgery backup. The hospitals would have to be annually reassessed according to these rules during this time of year. In addition, when the C-PORT study ends the Department will implement licensure standards that will address in great measure quality and safety standards for hospitals that received authorization under the rules before the board today.

A discussion ensued about the past geographical limitations of the C-PORT Study, enabling other hospitals to perform these type procedures by adopting these rules, and future possibilities for clinical trials, group studies and collaboration opportunities. Mr. Reese stated that he would follow up with the C-PORT Study Administrator on a status report of the C-PORT Study thus far.

Mr. Riddle MADE a MOTION to approve for final adoption Rule 111-2-2-.03. Vice Chairman Mason SECONDED the MOTION. Chairman Holmes called for votes; votes were taken. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (A copy of Rule 111-2-2-.03 is attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 3).

Dr. Medows asked Nancy Goldstein, Chief, State Health Benefit Plan, to give an overview of Rule 111-4-1-.06(6). Ms. Goldstein stated the proposed rule change would place the SHBP in alignment with Internal Revenue Service rules and gives the Plan more flexibility to address changes in cost of coverage, coverage options and tiers when the qualifying event involves cost increases or coverage losses or curtailments resulting from employment or compensation decisions of employing entities. Rule 111-4-1-.06(6) was approved for initial adoption on February 12; a public hearing was held on March 17, but no public or written comments were received. Ms. Gay MADE a MOTION to approve for final adoption Rule 111-4-1-.06(6). Mr. Rose SECONDED the MOTION. Chairman Holmes called for votes; votes were taken. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (A copy of Rule 111-4-1-.06(6) is attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 4).

Dr. Medows said the Department of Human Resources asked DCH to provide a public notice about changes to the Community Mental Health Services rates. She asked Dr. Jerry Dubberly, Chief, Medical Assistance Plans, to present the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice. Effective for services provided on and after July 1, 2009, and subject to payment at Fee-for-Service rates, DCH is proposing to move from a bundled methodology to an unbundled

reimbursement methodology based upon the practitioner type, service costs, location of services, and productivity factors. Dr. Dubberly stated that these changes will more accurately match reimbursement methodology and payments to the actual level of service provided. The changes are estimated to be budget neutral. Ms. Gay MADE a MOTION to approve for initial adoption the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice to be published for public comment. Mr. Riddle SECONDED the MOTION. Chairman Holmes called for votes; votes were taken. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (A copy of the Community Mental Health Services Public Notice is attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 5).

Chairman Holmes asked Commissioner Medows to provide the Board with an update on Influenza A H1N1 and the Division of Public Health's transition to DCH in July. Dr. Medows said the Division of Public Health is the lead agency in response to the H1N1 Flu (also referred to as Swine Flu) epidemic and DCH is assisting Public Health with its attempt to getting accurate information to the public. She said the Division of Public Health has done a fantastic job reaching out to its partners, the community, and education systems. She reported that there is one confirmed case in Georgia at this time. Dr. Medows advised that one cannot contract Swine Flu by consuming pork. She also offered a few tips on everyday actions to remain healthy and reduce the spreading of H1N1 Flu.

Dr. Medows stated that the Department will present information at the May meeting on all components of the Health and Human Services Reorganization, budget changes and an update on H1N1 Flu. She reminded the Board that all actions taken today will have to be ratified at the May meeting.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Holmes adjourned the May 1 meeting at 10:55 a.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS THE _____

DAY OF _____, 2009.

RICHARD L. HOLMES
CHAIRMAN

KIM GAY
SECRETARY

Official Attachments:

- #1 List of Attendees
- #2 Agenda
- #3 Rule 111-2-2-.03
- #4 Rule 111-4-1-.06(6)
- #5 Community Mental Health Services Public Notice