



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
February 13, 2013**

**Health District Office Building  
120 Bristlecone Drive, Fort Collins**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Celeste Holder Kling, President  
Bernard J. Birnbaum, MD, Vice President  
Timothy S. O'Neill, Secretary  
Steven J. Thorson, MD, Treasurer  
Joe D. Hendrickson, Liaison to PVHS Board

**STAFF PRESENT:** Carol Plock, Executive Director  
Bruce Cooper, M.D., Medical Director  
Lorraine Haywood, Finance Director  
John Newman, Medical Services Director  
Dan Sapienza, Policy Coordinator  
Chris Sheafor, Support Services Director  
Karen Spink, Special Projects Director  
Nancy Stirling, Assistant to Executive Director

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kyle England, Intern, Public Health Policy

**CALL TO ORDER: APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

President Celeste Kling called the meeting to order at 7:08 a.m. No changes were made to the agenda.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as presented.  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS**

**Current Legislative Issues**

Dental Coverage for Adults – The proposed budget includes funding that would add dental coverage for Adults under Medicaid. The proposal includes a \$1,000 per year benefit per adult and would cost the state approximately \$30 million. With the Cover Colorado program due to end once health care reform is implemented by 2014, the thought is that the money currently going to that program from the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund could be used to fund the dental benefit. However, there are questions about whether the source of funding should be tied to just

this purpose, so it's not clear whether it will make it into the final budget. If not, one of the legislators may re-introduce the concept of coverage for pregnant women, similar to what was seen in last year's legislative session. Staff recommend communicating support for dental coverage for all adults covered by Medicaid to our local legislators.

**MOTION: To STRONGLY SUPPORT (highest active level of support) the idea of dental coverage for all Medicaid-eligible adults.**  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

### *National*

Mental Health First Aid Act – S.153 would establish the Mental Health First Aid Act which would create the Mental Health First Aid grant program to provide training grants to “initiate and sustain mental health first aid training program” throughout the country. Senator Bennet is a sponsor of this bill and staff would like to send a letter to him to thank him for signing on to this legislation, as well as contact Representative Polis and Senator Udall to raise awareness on the issue. A draft letter was presented to the Board for consideration.

**MOTION: To send the letter of thanks to Senator Bennet as presented.**  
*Motion/Seconded/*

Board Discussion: Dr. Thorson suggested amending the letter, linking the program as one of the important approaches that might help reduce the incredibly violent acts that we're seeing in our nation recently.

**AMENDED MOTION: To send the letter of thanks to Senator Bennet, but amend to include a comment that the Mental Health First Aid Program is one of the important approaches that might help reduce the incredibly violent acts that we're seeing in our nation recently.**  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

### *State*

HB13-1015: Mental Health Claims in All-Payer Database – This bill corrects an oversight related to the all-payer database in relation to small group insurance. Currently, only small group payers are not required to send data to the database – creating a significant gap in information in the database. The bill has passed the House. Sen. Kefalas is one of the lead sponsors in the Senate, as is Sen. Aguilar. There is a good chance it will continue to move forward. Staff would like to contact Sen. Kefalas to thank him and encourage him to continue to support this, as well as the other local legislators to encourage their support. (See bill analysis for details.)

**MOTION: To STRONGLY SUPPORT HB13-1015 and direct staff to contact local legislators as stated above.**  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

[Note: Mr. Hendrickson left the meeting at this point to attend another obligation.]

HB13-1088: Office of Health Equity – This bill renames the Office of Disparity to the Office of Health Equity. Rather than disparity, which focuses mostly on race and ethnicity, this change would expand the scope of that office to include socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, disabilities, etc. The Office would still provide grants to community organizations, however the change broadens the scope of programs that could be funded. Locally, the Vida Sana organization receives grant money from the Office of Disparity to improve the health equity of

Latinos. One concern noted was whether the expanded scope could dilute the potential to fund groups. (See bill analysis for details.)

**MOTION: To SUPPORT HB13-1088.**  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

There was also a concern mentioned about whether the Department of Public Health had enough capacity, and whether they might be taking on more than they can do well.

SB13-111: Mandated At-Risk Adult Abuse Reporting – There is not currently an analysis for this bill, which is similar to one from last year’s session, and was just introduced last week and will be heard in Committee next week. The bill requires that as of July 1, 2014, certain professionals (mandatory reporters) who observe the abuse or exploitation of a person who is 70 years of age or older (at-risk elder), or who have reasonable cause to believe that an at-risk elder has been abused or has been exploited and is at imminent risk of abuse or exploitation, are required to report such fact to a law enforcement agency within 24 hours after making the observation or discovery. For last year’s bill, which just outlined the formation of a task force rather than mandatory reporting, the Board supported the stronger step of mandatory reporting of abuse. Colorado is currently one of 3 states that do not require mandatory reporting.

**MOTION: To SUPPORT SB13-111.**  
*Motion/Seconded/*

The Motion was amended:

**MOTION: To STRONGLY SUPPORT SB13-111.**  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

The Board continued to discuss briefly their belief that professionals have a responsibility to report abuse when they see it – but that the state also needs to provide the funding for the staffing to do appropriate investigations. They also mentioned that with the anticipated growth in the elderly population, the problem is likely to increase. Mr. Sapienza will draft a pro/con analysis to send along with the Board’s strongly support position to legislators.

SB13-008: Eliminate Waiting Period Under CHP+ - This bill would eliminate the current 3 month waiting period. Before taking any position, it would be important to do an indepth analysis; however, there may not be much opposition, so an analysis may not be necessary. Staff will monitor the bill and notify the Board if it looks like any action is needed.

Other –

- Senator Aguilar’s bill, Cooperate Colorado, is expected to be introduced in the next week. Staff should have more information concerning this bill by the next board meeting.
- A bill related to researching the health impacts of fracking is expected to be introduced, but there are no details yet. Staff should have more information by the end of this week or next week.
- HB13-1117 – concerning the alignment of Child Development services. This is a complex issue, and though the goal is a good one, there is concern that it may not be done well, or that while it may make things better for some children, others who are currently being served well might not be served as well in the future. The bill was just recently introduced.

- A Civil Unions measure has passed the Senate and is moving quickly forward to the House. It is looking likely that this could pass.
- Gun control bills started to be heard yesterday in Committee. Several bills were just introduced at the end of last week; we have not had a chance to analyze them yet.
- HB13-1111 is a bill to regulate Naturopathic doctors. Rep. Ginal is one of the sponsors for this bill. The bill is being adamantly opposed by the Colorado Medical Society. Much of the opposition is due to the feeling by many physicians (and others) that naturopathic treatments are not scientific nor considered to be appropriate medical treatment. If licensed, it sends the message that such practitioners are given official approval and validation. Board asked staff to monitor this bill and bring back more information about it.

### *Coming Up*

- Other –
  - HB13-1088 – Office of Health Equity bill is moving forward.
  - HB13-1061 concerns Responsible Medical Marijuana vendor standards. A similar bill came to the board last year and the board chose to take no position at that time. This bill has passed out of the House just yesterday.
  - HB13-1081 concerns Comprehensive Human Sexuality K-12 Education. Staff is doing some analysis on this issue which should be provided to the Board by next meeting. The bill is on second reading in the House and looks like it could pass.
  - HB13-1083 concerning a Motorcycle Operator Safety Training program is on second reading in the House.
  - HB13-1104, concerning Mental Health Professionals Oral Disclosure, is similar to a bill from last year. This bill has passed the House on third reading with an amendment. Staff will be reviewing the changes to the bill.

## **UPDATES & REPORTS**

### **Fourth Quarter Program Summary Report & Executive Director Update**

Along with all the usual day-to-day program operations, staff have been focusing on what changes and impacts implementation of the ACA and health exchange might bring to our programs and our community. At a recent conference, one of the speakers eloquently said “we are going to need all hands on deck” in order to be able to help people understand the changes, and figure out how best they can secure/maintain health coverage. For example, Ms. Spink has been on a mission to figure out how many people are going to qualify for health insurance financial assistance and for Medicaid, and therefore how many may need assistance in our community. In preparation for an upcoming Management Retreat, directors have been instructed to begin considering their programs and listing the kinds of questions that we will need to answer about how ACA implementation might affect their services - for example, how many of the people currently being served may be eligible for Medicaid/other insurance; how many of those will no longer need assistance; who might still need our programs and services either because they still don’t have coverage or because of affordability; how services might need to change; etc.

Some quick numbers: In Larimer County, the number of additional individuals that may qualify for Medicaid is estimated to be about 16,000; the number of individuals that may qualify for some level of assistance in the Exchange is another 16,000, and the total of currently uninsured who may qualify for some sort of assistance is around 34,000. Two concerns when thinking about the number of people who will now qualify for/obtain health insurance are: 1) the capacity issue – having enough providers to be able to serve the additional people with health insurance –

determining whether providers are adequately planning for the increase; and 2) for those who will be utilizing the new health exchange web site, how to provide the assistance they are going to need in order to address their questions and enroll. All in all, the upcoming changes are the very significant, and it is an immense challenge to consider how best to help our community adjust to the changes.

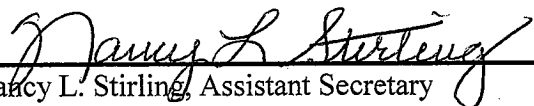
The Board complimented staff on a great quarterly report.

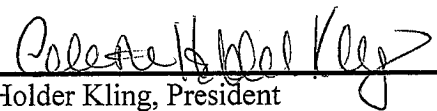
**ADJOURN**

**MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.**  
*Moved/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

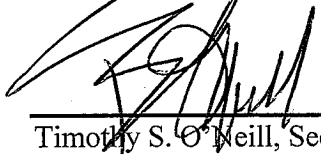
The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

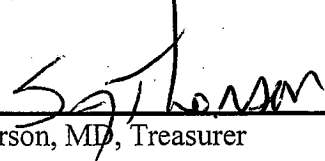
Respectfully submitted:

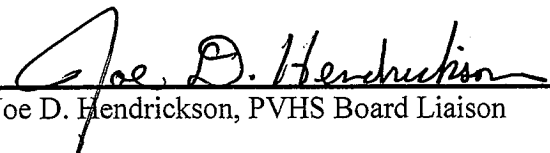
  
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Nancy L. Stirling, Assistant Secretary

  
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Celeste Holder Kling, President

*(Absent for approval vote)*  
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Bernard J. Birnbaum, MD, Vice President

  
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Timothy S. O'Neill, Secretary

  
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Steven J. Thorson, MD, Treasurer

  
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Joe D. Hendrickson, PVHS Board Liaison