

Mission:

To protect, promote & improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county & community efforts.



Ron DeSantis
Governor

Scott A. Rivkees, MD
State Surgeon General

Vision: To be the **Healthiest State** in the Nation

**Florida Physician Workforce Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
August 28, 2019
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Council Members Present:

- Scott Rivkees, MD State Surgeon General and Council Chair
- Thesla Berne-Anderson, MS
- Debra Andree, MD
- Michael Curtis, MBA
- Linda Delo, DO
- Mark Gabay, DO
- Jim Howell, MD
- John Lanza, MD
- Alma Littles, MD
- Ralph Nobo, MD
- James O'Leary, MD
- Dennis Saver, MD
- Brett Scotch, DO
- Joan St. Onge, MD

Florida Department of Health Staff Present:

- Nathan Dunn, Strategic Projects Manager
- Debbie Reich, Director, Primary Care Office
- Keri Taggart, Primary Care Office
- Linda McMullen, Assistant General Counsel

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. The Florida Physician Workforce Advisory Council (Council) members received all pertinent meeting materials. Council members participated via conference call and were able to actively and equally participate in the discussion.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Nathan Dunn welcomed Council members and public attendees to the meeting, and he introduced Dr. Scott Rivkees, State Surgeon General, to the Council. Dr. Rivkees

welcomed the Council members and provided a concise summary of his professional background.

Dr. Rivkees next welcomed three new members to the Council: Dr. John Lanza, representing the Florida Department of Health; Dr. Debra Andree, representing the Florida Association of Community Health Centers; and Dr. Joan St. Onge, representing a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

The new members provided information about their professional achievements that will be most helpful to the Council, and they expressed appreciation for the opportunity to contribute to the Council's mission.

II. Public Records and Government in the Sunshine

Linda McMullen, Office of General Council, provided an overview of the public meetings and records, section 286.1101, Florida Statutes. Members asked questions regarding their activity with Council members when both are serving on other boards and councils not related to the Council. They discussed the situation in which other organizations may discuss matters likely to come before the Council in future meetings. Ms. McMullen stated that a Council member could provide both information from the Council which was public record, and individual opinions or remarks which do not represent Council policy at a separate meeting, as long as this information is appropriately identified. Ms. McMullen clarified that Council members should not discuss Council business with other Council members outside of a publicly noticed meeting. The Office of General Counsel is available for any questions regarding Public Records and Government in the Sunshine.

III. Review of Draft Portions from the 2019 Physician Workforce Annual Report

Dr. Littles gave a brief overview of the annual report processes, and she explained that the licensure survey was the source of the data. This year's report will include data from the newly added survey questions.

Dr. Littles added that the Council has focused on Graduate Medical Education (GME) issues and diversity demographics, and that medical colleges were surveyed about the characteristics of their pipeline programs over the past year.

IV. Discussion: Advisory Council Recommendations

Mr. Dunn reviewed the 2017-18 recommendations. It was agreed that he would update the recommendations status and send the recommendations to Council members for input, which will be included in the 2019 Physician Workforce Annual Report.

V. Next Steps and Future Goals

- a. Mr. Dunn presented that it is necessary for the Council's strategic plan to be approved through an official vote by Council members. The plan may be revisited in the upcoming months.
- b. The Council discussed the importance of residency programs within Florida for the state's medical college graduates. The goal is to increase the number of these newly graduated physicians staying to practice in Florida.

- c. Dr. Rivkees suggested the Council consider the way in which residents are currently being trained. Some physicians completing residencies may need additional training focused on Florida-specific issues such as working with patients with HIV/AIDS, geriatrics, opioid dependency and Medication-Assisted Treatments. He asked Council members to give thought to how Florida can work toward adjusting the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) required training to reflect Florida-specific issues.

VI. Public Comment

There was a request for public comment. There was no public comment for this meeting.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.