

December 18, 2015

10:00-11:00 a.m.



Florida Physician Workforce Advisory Council  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Council Members Present:**

- John Armstrong, MD, FACS, Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, Chair
- Dennis Saver, MD
- Edward Jimenez, MBA
- Thesla Berne-Anderson, MS
- Gary Goforth, MD
- Kevin Sherin, MD, MPH, MBA, FACPM, FAAFP
- Mark Gabay, DO
- Michael Curtis, MBA
- Jim Howell, MD
- Alma Littles, MD
- Michael Gervasi, DO
- Paul Seltzer, DO
- Linda Delo, DO
- Amy Beaven

**DOH Staff Present:**

- Nathan Dunn, Deputy Chief Operating Officer
- Duane Ashe, Financial Sustainability Director
- Debbie Reich, Health Resources and Access Supervisor
- Linda McMullen, Assistant General Counsel
- Jaime Briggs, Executive Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer
- Sarah Hofmeister, Director, Office of Executive Appointments

**Interested Parties Present:**

- Tom Wallace, Bureau Chief of Medicaid Program Finance, Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA)
- Jarrod Fowler, Florida Medical Association (FMA)

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Council members received all pertinent meeting materials. Board members participated via conference call and could actively and equally participate in the discussion.

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Nathan Dunn, Deputy Chief Operating Officer welcomed council members and public attendees to the meeting.

**II. Public Records and Government in the Sunshine**

The Public Records and Government in the Sunshine PowerPoint presentation was included in the meeting materials and was sent to members before the call. Linda McMullen, Office of General Council, provided the council with an overview and highlights of the presentation. Members asked questions regarding their activity with Physician Workforce Advisory Council

members when both are serving on other boards and councils not related to the Physician Workforce Advisory Council and that organization is discussing matters likely to come before the council in future meetings. Linda stated that a council member could provide both information from the council, which was public record, and individual opinion or remarks to the meeting which do not represent council policy as long as so identified. Linda requested more details of such circumstances and will seek further clarification with members, with follow-up report at the next council meeting. Linda clarified that council members should not discuss council business with another Physician Workforce Advisory Council member outside of a publicly noticed meeting. The Office of General Counsel is available for any questions regarding Public Records and Government in the Sunshine and can be reached at 850-245-4005.

### **III. Council Overview and Purpose**

John H. Armstrong, MD, FACS, Surgeon General and Secretary of Health, Chair, welcomed the council members to the meeting and thanked them for their willingness to serve in this advisory role.

Dr. Armstrong reviewed the role of the council members as outlined in statute:

- Advise the State Surgeon General and the department on matters concerning current and future physician workforce need in Florida
- Review survey materials and the compilation of survey information
- Annually review the number, location, cost and reimbursement of graduate medical education programs and positions
- Provide recommendations to the department regarding the survey completed by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459.
- Assist the department in preparing the annual report to the Legislature
- Assist the department in preparing an initial strategic plan, conduct ongoing strategic planning, and provide ongoing advice on implementing the recommendations
- Monitor and provide recommendations regarding the need for an increased number of primary care or other physician specialties to provide the necessary current and projected health and medical services for the state
- Monitor and make recommendations regarding the status of the needs relating to graduate medical education in Florida.

### **IV. Graduate Medical Education (GME) Statewide Medicaid Residency Program**

Dr. Seltzer inquired about the breakdown in funding for the GME funding for the state.

Dr. Armstrong welcomed Tom Wallace, Bureau Chief, Medicaid Program Finance, Agency for Health Care Administration to the call and asked him to provide an overview and update on the GME program.

The GME Statewide Medicaid Residency program was established in 2013 and is used to provide funding to qualified participating hospitals involved in graduate medical education. Over the last two years the number of residency spots has increased by 477. Mr. Wallace offered to send the council a spreadsheet on the number of residencies by specialty and hospitals. Council members requested to know more about the process for hospitals to apply for funding. Mr. Wallace explained that the formula used to determine funding was outlined in statute and the information was available on the AHCA website.

Mr. Wallace also discussed a new start-up bonus program that received \$100 million dollars. This program was created to assist underserved and shortage areas in the state. Information is due from interested hospitals by March 2016. Mr. Wallace thanked the council for the opportunity to present.

Council members requested that staff prepare a guide or overview of the council website and other salient on-line sources of information with which the council members should be familiar.

Program staff will forward information requested to council members.

#### **VIII. Objectives, Measures, Work Plan**

Dr. Armstrong presented the council with some areas of focus for discussion in future meetings:

- How to strengthen the Physician Workforce Annual Report
- Review and update the strategic plan
- Create specific milestones and measurable objectives supported by data

#### **IX. Future Meetings**

Dr. Armstrong asked the council to consider having an in-person meeting in January or February in a central location in the state. He reminded council members that per statute, council members were prohibited to receive compensation or reimbursement for per diem or travel expenses. Dr. Armstrong acknowledged the busy schedules for the members. Some members suggested to include weekend dates in the survey. He suggested program staff would send a survey for a couple of dates (weekday and weekends) for board members to choose from. The program staff will choose the date that works best for most of the members.

It was also suggested that after the in-person meeting, quarterly conference calls could be scheduled for the year.

#### **X. Public Comment**

Jarrod Fowler, FMA, thanked the council for the opportunity to speak. He expressed that FMA recognizes the importance of the annual report and survey. He suggested to incorporate additional questions on physician employment trends, alternative payment models, and participation in the accountable care organizations.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

Program staff will distribute the annual report, AHCA spreadsheet and website information, maps identifying underserved areas, council member resources, and meeting schedule survey to council members.

Dr. Armstrong expressed his enthusiasm for the upcoming year of activity for the council and wished everyone a very happy holiday season. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.