



DRAFT Summary
Low Income Pool (LIP) Council
Wednesday, August 17, 2011
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Members Present

Phil Williams, LIP Chairman
Hugh Greene
Steve Short
Charlotte Mather
Dee Schaeffer
Dr. Joseph J. Tepas, III
Mike Hutchins
Patrick A. Schlenker
Scott Hawig attending for William Robinson

Members Attending by Phone

Lewis Seifert
Steve Mason
Mike Marks
John Benz
Mark Knight
Kevin Kearns
Dr. Karen Chapman
Dr. Mark McKenney
Stephen Purves
Clark Scott
Dr. Ron Wiewora
Michael Gingras

AHCA Staff and Presenters

Tom Wallace
Lecia Behenna
Bill Perry
Ryan Perry
Shannon Bagenholm
Bill Roberts

Members Absent

Dave Ross
Steve Harr
Gary Uber

Welcome

The Low Income Pool (LIP) Council meeting was conducted at the Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) in Tallahassee, Florida. Phil Williams, LIP Council Chairman and Assistant Deputy Secretary for Medicaid Finance, opened the meeting with a welcome and a brief roll call. Gary Uber, Dr. Karen Chapman, Dr. Ron Wiewora and Patrick Schlenker were introduced as new members to the LIP Council for State Fiscal Year 2011-12.

Review of Sunshine Law

Bill Roberts, from the Agency's General Council Office, provided the Council and listening audience with an overview of Florida's Sunshine Laws. Mr. Roberts discussed the Sunshine

Laws and highlighted their importance in guiding Council actions. A handout was provided for members and the listening audience to follow along with the presentation.

Adoption of Previous Meeting Minutes

For State Fiscal Year 2010-11, three LIP Council meeting were held during the month of January, 19th, 24th and 27th. Due to time constraints the minutes for those meetings were never approved. At the August 17th meeting, under review of the Council, the previous three LIP Council meeting minutes were approved with no objections.

Updates

Mr. Williams provided the first update to the Council regarding the 1115 Wavier Renewal. Mr. Williams began by giving the history of the creation of the LIP Council and LIP program which came as part of the 1115 Wavier passed by Legislature to Florida in 2006. This wavier consisted of a five year period that ended June 30, 2011. On June 20, 2011, due to ongoing negotiations with federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Systems (CMS), the Agency requested an extension of the 1115 Waiver. The extension request was granted and made way for meetings and discussions regarding the future of the Low Income Pool Program. The renewal of the 1115 Waiver and its official terms and conditions specific to the Low Income Pool Program continue to be a part of the ongoing discussion between the Agency and federal CMS. CMS has proposed to implement new milestone reporting requirements, one such milestone report requires the top 20 hospitals receiving Low Income Pool funding to implement three new programs and provide additional reporting.

Following the update on the 1115 Wavier, Mr. Williams gave an update on CS/House Bill 7107 and CS/House Bill 7109 from the 2011 Legislature session. Together, they essentially direct the Agency to move forward with the establishment of a statewide Medicaid Managed Care Program. As with those bills, there are some specific provisions that relate to the Low Income Pool Program. Mr. Williams noted that unlike previous state fiscal years, the Legislature has directed the Agency to set hospital rates for SFY 2011-12 only once a year, July 1st of each year. In addition, there are provisions that require any changes to the hospital rates that would occur during the fiscal year must be made by September 30th of the year.

Lecia Behenna provided a brief overview of the Medicaid Supplemental Hospital Funding Program for State Fiscal Year 2011-12. A handout was provided that gave details from the General Appropriations Act (GAA) as well as additional detail specific to the actual distribution. She explained the tables included in the handout and gave details in relation to each table listed.

Mr. Williams discussed the update regarding hospital reimbursement changes with the Council. He reiterated that the July 1st rates must be incorporated in a Letter of Agreement (LOA), along with any changes, no later than September 30th. Since the July 1st rate setting, the Agency has experienced a number of adjustments. Hospitals are now aware of the August 10th posting of the new rates. With respect to the September 30th deadline, LOAs are due back to the Agency by September 15th.

An update on the LOAs was given to the Council by Lecia Behenna. She mentioned that LIP LOAs have been sent out for State Fiscal Year 2011-12. The Letters of Agreement regarding the Buybacks are scheduled to be sent out by Friday August 26, 2011, by the close of business. She also reminded everyone that anyone who has not received a LOA to please contact the Agency as soon as possible. In addition, Lecia Behenna asked that those participating in LIP needed to keep the Agency up to date if the amount of Intergovernmental Transfers (IGTs) listed in the LOAs could not be met. The Agency agreed to look for options to provide the shortage of IGTs which would ensure the LIP Program to be fully funded.

Member Discussion of Timing and Substance of Council Recommendations for 2012 Legislative Session

The Legislature will begin session on January 10, 2012. Mr. Williams explained key points to the Council about this year's recommendations. With the legislature having an earlier session, Mr. Williams felt it was necessary to start the LIP Council meetings earlier in the year to allow for the proper amount of time for model presentations and discussions to take place. Mr. Williams stated that he would like the Council to submit their recommendations to the Governor and Legislature in early December due to the early session.

Future LIP Meeting Dates

A handout containing the proposed LIP Council meeting dates for the 2011-12 was provided as a part of the meeting materials. Mr. Williams explained the proposed dates and with no objections from the Council, the proposed meeting dates became official.

Closing Comments

In closing, Mr. Williams made note of significant staff changes at the Agency. Medicaid Director, Roberta Bradford, has resigned from the Agency. Secretary Elizabeth Dudek has announced that Justin Senior from the Agency's General Council will assume the role of acting Medicaid Director. Michele Morgan is no longer the Bureau Chief for Medicaid Program Analysis, with Tom Wallace currently acting as Bureau Chief.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.