

**Colorado Health Care Community Board**

**Minutes**

**Conference Call**

**November 24, 2008 (10:00am MT)**

**Board Members Present:** Brooks, Holloway, Lee, Pearl, Prado-Gutierrez and Westfall

**Others Present:** Tindall

I. Proposed Legislative Changes Including Change in Program Administrator

Ross Brooks provided a brief background on the proposed changes to SB-232 State Health Care Loan Repayment Program. CollegenInvest has administered the program and provided a \$50,000 gift for each of the first two years of the program. Due to the current economic conditions CollegenInvest will not be able to continue offering a gift to the fund. In addition, with the University of Colorado at Denver moving to the Federal Direct Student Loan program the incentive for CollegenInvest in the program has been dampened. CollegenInvest has also consulted with Senator Romer and he is not opposed to a change in the program administrator.

Ross proceeded to explain that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has indicated interest in administering the program within the Primary Care Office. The program administrator has to be a state agency and CDPHE would meet that requirement.

Ross requested discussion from the Board regarding this potential change in administrator.

**Motion:**

Prado-Gutierrez moved that the administration of the program be moved from CollegenInvest to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for the third year of the current program. Pearl seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Steve Holloway again stated that CDPHE was interested in administering the program and that it made some sense in light of his department's other responsibilities. He felt he would need a .50 FTE to assist in administering the program. Steve advised if the change in administration occurred that he would step down from the Community Health Board.

There was additional discussion on the following topics:

- Coordinating of all health care loan forgiveness programs in the state
- Efforts by Governor Ritter's Building Blocks to Health Care Reform
- Other changes to SB-232
  - Eliminate requirement that CollegenInvest hold the loan
  - Recommend additional appointees to the Colorado Community Health Board

**Vote on Motion:**

- Passed with one abstention

**Amendment to Motion:**

Prado-Gutierrez amended the motion by eliminating that the loans need to be owned by CollegenInvest (effective in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the program), expand the Colorado Community Health Board and that the Board explore beyond the scope of the current program including but not limited to the possible consolidation of loan repayment programs. Westfall seconded the amendment.

**Vote on Amendment:**

- Passed with one abstention

II. Future Funding Options

Potential options with several foundations and trusts have been identified as well as efforts to find additional state funds to be considered by Governor's Office.

III. New Health Board Position Appointee Considerations

**Motion:**

Westfall moved that the Community Health Board be expanded by considering individuals from the following areas:

- Behavioral health community
- Rural practicing physician
- Major foundation (health related)
- Small foundation (health related)

Prado-Gutierrez seconded the motion.

**Discussion:**

Generally, members favored the additional members but cautioned about making the Board too large and indirectly hampering efficiency.

**Vote on Motion:**

- Passed with one abstention

**IV. Open Meeting Laws**

Tindall reported that the Community Health Board is subject to open meeting laws. In conversations with the State AG's Office the program administrator should place in a public area (lobby) that a meeting is scheduled. This should be posted at least one day in advance. In addition minutes should be taken.

The AG's Office further recommended that the Board consider adopting some basic bylaws for guidance. Lynn will draft some bylaws for the Board's consideration.

**V. Non-HPSA**

Board discussed the board potential of offering up to one award a year for a non-HPSA provider/practice with a proven history of serving the underserved. No action was taken by the Board but agreed to explore options over the coming year.

**VI. Current Board Appointee**

Several names were mentioned as a possible replacement for Dr. Jack Berry on the Board. Recommendations should be coordinated with Ross as Board Chairperson.

**VII. Application Process for 2008-09**

The applications are now available with a deadline of January 13, 2009. CollegenInvest desires to have a list of candidates to the Board prior to the end of January. In order to ensure a smooth transition to CDPHE, assuming that occurs, CollegenInvest will want to wrap up the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the program by May 2009.

**VIII. Board Appreciation**

The Board stated its appreciation to CollegenInvest for being a partner in administering the program and for the two gifts of \$50,000.

**IX. Adjourned at 10:56am**