

OREGON HEALTH FUND BOARD – Eligibility & Enrollment Committee Meeting

January 8, 2008
9:00 a.m.

Salem Public Library, Anderson Room A
Salem, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT:

- Ellen Lowe, Chair
- Jim Russell, Vice Chair
- Felisa Hagins
- Robert Bach
- Jane Baumgarten
- Dean Kortge
- John Mullin
- Bill Murray
- Ellen Pinney
- Noelle Lyda
- Susan Rasmussen (by phone)
- Carole Romm
- Ann Turner, MD
- Eric Metcalf (by phone)
- CJ McLeod

STAFF PRESENT:

- Tina Edlund, Deputy Administrator, OHPR
- Nate Hierlmaier, Policy Analyst
- Paula Hird, Office Specialist, OHFB

ISSUES HEARD:

- Call to Order/Review of January 23 Meeting Minutes/Review of Revised Work Plan
- Update on Oregon Health Fund Board and Committee Activities
- Approval of Affordability Recommendations to the Oregon Health Fund Board (OHFB)
- Overview of Committee Direction from Health Oregon Act (SB 329) and ORS on Eligibility
- Development of Committee Recommendations on Affordability
- Next Meeting Agendas and Objectives
- Public Testimony

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| Chair | I. Call to Order, Approval of December 11 Meeting Minutes/Introduction of new members. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is a quorum.• Review and Approval of January 23 meeting minutes. |
| Tina Edlund | II. Update on Oregon Health Fund Board and Committee Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Information on upcoming OHFB meeting on February 19 was provided.• Recommendations from the E & E Committee and Health Equities Committee will be presented at the meeting. |
| Chair and Vice Chair | III. Approval of Affordability Recommendations to the Oregon Health Fund Board (OHFB) (See Exhibit Materials B) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes from last meeting were incorporated and presented.• Range of opinions are represented. |

- It was noted information had been received from Committee member Eric Metcalf regarding concerns might need to be in the document related to Indian Health. **(See Exhibit _____)**
 - Should material be presented through E & E recommendations or should it be referred directly to the HFB?
 - Material needs to be reviewed by members and related issues in other committees concerning Indian health need to be identified.
- Changes to Executive Summary include:
 - **Page 3** - Change "crowd-out" definition, second sentence, from "private coverage to public coverage" to "private funds to public funds."
 - Delete the word "document" from the last sentence of the first paragraph.
- **Page 5**
 - Benefits Committee recommendation – concern about expressly recommending no co-pays for some areas. Change to "low or no co-pays."
 - Finance Committee recommendation - remove the word "requirement" from first sentence and add participation to read "employer contribution and participation," as it has federal fund implications.
 - Employer contributions as a requirement and as a Federal Laws Committee (FLC) issue is discussed and will be sent to FLC as a recommendation.
 - Delivery Systems Committee – Add sentence reflecting "primary care model" as a way to improve outcomes and contain costs.
- **Page 4** – Changes to wording surrounding tax recommendations.
- **Page 10** – **"Equity" heading** - Delete last sentence that refers to "urban vs. rural Oregon" per agreement at last meeting.

Motion to adopt Affordability Recommendations to the Board as amended is **seconded**.

Discussion

- **Page 4** – Review of household gross income and Federal Poverty Level (FPL) percentages.
- Discussion of number of Oregonians that would additionally cover and the financial implications.
- Dissenting opinions expressed in the document.
- Chair Lowe will be presenting the document to the Board and relates that she will use the "frame of reference" reflected by the members and relate the range of opinions expressed.

Call for the question. Motion passed unanimously.

Chair and Vice Chair

IV. Overview of Committee Direction from Health Oregon Act (SB 329) and ORS on Eligibility

- Xxx

Carole Romm and Vice Chair

V. Review of Medicaid Advisory Committee Eligibility Recommendations (See Exhibit _____)

**Overview of the Medicaid Advisory Committee recommendations on eligibility. (2:29:40)
Carol Romm's comment on physicians not getting paid. Tina – who's in and who's out?**

Discussion of the problems with barriers of pre-existing condition? And effect on crowd-out. (2:43:41)

And Vice Chair

Heidi Allen

IV. Presentation of Health Equities Committee (HEC) Recommendations on Eligibility (See Exhibit Materials 8)

Staff to the HEC provided background information and presented recommendations to the E & E Committee.

- Discussion on immigrant populations as well as undocumented workers, audit performed by State of Oregon revealed that the large majority of Medicaid enrollees are legally eligible for these funds.
- Birth certificate requirement.
- Choice of verbiage regarding immigrants and undocumented workers and employer perspectives.
- Concerns that employers will not admit to employing immigrants and/or undocumented workers and California's response to this issue that allows health services to be offered on location for an exemption and viewed as a contribution.
- Agriculture businesses often hire companies, not individuals.
- Discussion on a separate pool for immigrant workers, obtaining data on workers with visas, and allocating funds based on percentage of a large pool rather than creating a separate pool.
- Discussion on what it would mean to small agricultural businesses.
- Obtaining data on employees with visas, etc.
- What is the cost of ineligibility? And where does that cost end up? Data pertaining to this issue is obtained through CAWEM data. Discussion on the overall cost of the uninsured in the current system.
- Documentation requirements and cost shifting effects on Native American clinics.
- The use of a blog on involving Oregonians in health coverage debates (Northwest Health Foundation) due to be set up soon. Will be read by staff routinely.

Chair

VI. Next Meeting Agendas and Objectives

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- xxx

Chair

VII. Public Testimony

No public testimony was offered.

Chair

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Next meeting is January 23, 2008.

EXHIBIT MATERIALS:

- January 23 Meeting Minutes
- Eligibility and Enrollment Committee Affordability Recommendations
- Overview of Committee Assumptions and Direction on Eligibility
- Definitions of "Oregon Resident" in ORS and OAR
- Fact Sheet RE Immigration Status and Public Health Care Coverage
- Medicaid Advisory Committee Recommendations on Eligibility

These minutes are in compliance with Legislative Rules. Only text enclosed in italicized quotation marks reports a speaker's exact words. For complete contents, please refer to the recordings.

- G. Health Equities Committee Recommendations on Eligibility
- H. Developing Consensus Document

DRAFT