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MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION
FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 3, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 302
San Francisco, CA 94102

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner James M. Illig, Ed.D. Chair
Commissioner Edward A. Chow, M.D., Member
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ex Officio Member

Excused: Commissioner Sonia Melara, Member

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm. Commissioner Illig introduced himself and stated that the Committee would hear the HealthShare item first. He also invited everyone in attendance to introduce themselves.

2) APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 5, 2011 FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Action Taken: The minutes of the April 5, 2011 Finance and Planning Committee meeting were unanimously approved.

3) MONTHLY CONTRACTS REPORT

Jacque Hale, Director of Office of Contract Management and Compliance, gave the report.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Illig asked for clarification of the reason for the UCSF contract for surgical services at Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH). Ms. Currin, Executive Administrator of SFGH, stated that this contract provides for surgical clinics through retaining of UCSF specialists to provide care as necessary at Laguna Honda Hospital to decrease the need to transport Laguna Honda residents to SFGH for minor surgical procedures.

Commissioner Chow asked for clarification for the modification of the PB Strategies contract. Ms. Hale stated that this contract provides funds for Mark Primeau to consult with DPH on capital projects.

Action Taken: The Committee recommended that the May Contracts Report be approved by the Full Health Commission.

4) FY 2010-2011 THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Gregg Sass, Chief Financial Officer, gave the report.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked whether the \$15M LHH surplus will only exist for this budget cycle. Mr. Sass stated that it is anticipated that the \$15M Laguna Honda surplus will be ongoing and will be built into future budgets.

5) NOTICE OF RELOCATION FOR THE WOMEN'S COMMUNITY CLINIC

Alice Gleghorn, CBHS/County Alcohol and Drug Administrator, gave the presentation.

Action Taken: The Committee recommended that the full Health Commission approve the request for relocation of the Women's Community Clinic.

1) HEALTHSHARE BAY AREA

Arieh Rosenbaum, M.D., Co-chair of HealthShare and a hospitalist at CPMC, gave the presentation. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that HealthShare is meant to assist in the sharing of pertinent patient medical information for hospital staff treating a patient associated with another hospital or provider. He stated that approximately ten percent of DPH/SFGH patients access care at CPMC facilities.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Illig asked whether the current DPH budget includes the \$125K participation fee associated with this project. Mr. Sass stated that the current budget has the fee included in an IT-related line item.

Commissioner Illig stated that it seems that large physician groups pay a lower participation fee than the DPH. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that physicians in an individual practice will be charged \$17 a month which is approximately half of what physicians that are employees of hospitals will be paying.

Commissioner Illig asked whether Kaiser will be participating in HealthShare. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that Kaiser is a closed system and will not be participating in HealthShare and will instead participate in a national health information exchange which will contain much less information. Although Kaiser is not participating, it is on the governing board of HealthShare.

Commissioner Illig asked whether the "opt in" is for one use or for lifetime use during the patient's life. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that this issue continues to be debated among local, state and federal groups and is currently unresolved.

Commissioner Chow asked how HealthShare fits in with other DPH IT efforts. Dave Counter, DPH Chief Information Officer, stated that the DPH currently has no infrastructure to send and link information to external sources to meet the Meaningful Use phase II criteria. He also stated that if the DPH participates in HealthShare, the integration process will be complex but feasible.

Gregg Sass, DPH Chief Financial Officer, stated that he questions the sustainability of HealthShare after the grant funds have been spent. He is concerned about the ongoing cost to the DPH for participating in the system and thinks it will be possible to meet the Meaningful Use phase two criteria in other ways.

Commissioner Chow stated that there is a history of failed health exchanges that were not sustainable and asked whether the DPH should participate in the national health exchange. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that the Federal Health Exchange is simply a set of standards with no master patient index. Instead, it enables messages to be sent from provider to provider. In comparison, a local health exchange will enable providers to access patient-level data and community-level data.

Dr. Rosenbaum also stated that HealthShare has built a plan for being sustainable within its business plan. Although insurance companies are hesitant to participate, Blue Shield has been exploring how it may participate in the system. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that the system must have a critical mass of entities participating for it to be useful and viable.

Ms. Garcia stated that the DPH is excited about the project but has concern about the ongoing cost to the DPH of participation.

Commissioner Tierney stated that he is concerned that if data shows poor outcomes for hospitals, some may stop participation. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that hospital outcome data is already available in various forms. HealthShare will enable hospitals to conduct better analysis of their outcome data to assist in improving problem areas in their operation.

Mr. Sass stated that he is concerned that information in the system could be used by hospitals or insurance plans to filter out people based on their medical history. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that audit records of the system are sent to the patient so they can review who has accessed their information.

Ms. Currin stated that members of the Hospital Council are concerned about the sustainability of the system and that not all hospitals and relevant local entities will be participating.

Commissioner Chow stated that he would like the DPH to continue to be part of HealthShare because it is an important project for the safety-net population.

Public Comment:

A member of the public who wishes to remain anonymous asked whether patients will be able to “opt out” of the system. Dr. Rosenbaum stated that the system gives patients a choice as to whether they wish to participate.

2) REVIEW OF COMMUNITY PROGRAMS BUSINESS OFFICE INTEGRATION

Michelle Ruggels, Director of Operations for Community Programs, gave the presentation.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Tierney asked whether the amount of time it takes to certify a contract has been reduced since the Business Office reorganization. Michelle Long, CTDA Director, stated that the pre-negotiation process has increased efficiency of the contracting process.

Commissioner Tierney asked how the COOL system is working. Ms. Long stated that it has been helpful to DPH staff; contractors are not obligated to use the system but instead are asked to send contract drafts in an electronic format to upload into COOL.

Commissioner Illig asked how contract negotiation project timelines are managed. Ms. Long stated that she manages the contract negotiation process timelines using an Excel spreadsheet.

Commissioner Illig asked how the reorganization has changed the Contracts Units. Ms. Hale stated that the reorganization has enabled the Standard-of-Care staff to focus on policy.

Barbara Garcia said that Michelle Long is leading the Cross Departmental Program Manager meetings. At the first meeting, the group discussed contracting processes including the use of a corrective action plan (CAP). Commissioner Illig suggested that Ms. Long invite City Attorney Dennis Herrera to a meeting to give Program Managers a context of the legalities involved in contracting with the City of San Francisco.

Commissioner Illig asked whether the DPH has withheld payments as an incentive for a contractor to improve on their CAP. Duane Einhorn, Director of Contract Compliance, stated that the DPH has not had to withhold payment on a contract. Ms. Garcia stated that the DPH is finding that working with a contractor's Board of Directors is an effective part of the CAP process.

Public Comment:

A member of the public who wishes to remain anonymous stated that the DPH puts big emphasis on cultural competency but thinks fiscal integrity and the quality of service delivery is more important.

Jacob Moody, CEO of Bayview Hunter's Point Foundation stated that his agency's experience with CDTA has been positive.

8) COMMITTEE ANNUAL CALENDAR

There was no discussion of this item.

9) EMERGING ISSUES

There was no discussion of this item.

10) PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

11) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm.