

Morgan County Healthcare Horizon Council

February 19, 2010

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was hosted by Eben Ezer Lutheran Care Center.

Council Members Present

Martha Bieber	Sandi Garcia
Barbara Bradshaw	Gavin Carmichael
John Crosthwait	Alan Dahms
Kerry Hart	Dale Ingmire
Kari Linker	Ron Marshall
Mike Patterson	Kevin Rogols
Linda Thorpe	Suzanna Spears
Laura Teague	

Guests:

Denise Denton, Coordinator

Jack Westfall, Presenter

Thank You from Martha Beiber

Martha Bieber thanked Barb Bradshaw, Alan Dahms, Kerry Hart, Laura Teague, and Suzanna Spears for their efforts and making the council's job easier.

Welcome New Members

The Council Members welcomed Gavin Carmichael, the new CEO of EMCH, Kevin Rogols, the new CEO of CPMC, and Dr. Ken Keller, who has agreed to provide a physician's presence on the council.

Minutes

The minutes of the January 2010 meeting were approved.

Contract with Denny O'Malley for Visioning Session

The Council Members reviewed the proposal submitted by Denny O'Malley to provide facilitation for the Council's first visioning session. There was consensus that Denny's demeanor, his knowledge, and the reasonableness of his consulting fee would benefit the session and the contract was approved.

Discussion ensued about the timing of the meeting with the following options:

A. After four RHW meetings are finished and a final educational meeting with Steve Ward, Colorado Hospital Association. In this scenario the Council would present the vision to the public at a public meeting to be scheduled after the

visioning meeting. The vision could also be posted to the website so the public could review ahead of time.

B. Having a debriefing discussion with the public and RHW participants PRIOR to the visioning, to give them the opportunity for open discussion. Previous meetings have been structured and guided, not really giving the participants opportunity to brainstorm. This session should be facilitated in order to be an effective information gathering session. This public session might make the vision more relevant. It was also suggested that the public be given the opportunity to provide “anonymous” information to the council—in the form of unsigned written information, for example.

After discussion, the Council Members decided on option “B” - to schedule an additional public session, to be facilitated by Denise Denton, on Thursday April 15th, 2010, at 12-1pm, at Morgan Community College for an information gathering discussion. The Council also agreed to have an additional public meeting after the visioning meeting to provide its product of the visioning session and the product of the Council’s work to the public.

Rural Health Works Meeting

Kari Linker agreed to MC the March Rural Health Works Meeting if Howard Wickham did not wish to.

Change in Leadership at Colorado Health Foundation

Denise Denton reported to the Council Members that Tim Cortez is no longer the project officer for our grant. The Colorado Health Foundation will let the Council know when they have assigned a new project officer to us. When that happens, the Council will give an update to the Foundation on our work.

Educational Presentations

Upcoming Educational Presentations

A representative from the North Colorado Health Alliance will present on March 19th. John and Martha agreed to serve as the council’s representatives in preparing and welcoming the presenter. Denise provided them with background information and will introduce them through an email.

Steve Ward, Colorado Hospital Association, will present on April 16. Barbara and Mike agreed to serve as the council’s representatives in preparing and welcoming him. Denise will introduce them through an email.

Guest Presenter

Jack Westfall, MD, Associate Dean for Rural Health for the CU School of Medicine and Director Colorado AHEC System, provided the educational presentation. He discussed:

- His own rural roots – born in Akron, lived in Otis, high school in Yuma – how he became interested in medicine, and the encouragement he received from the local community.
- The community-based research projects in northeast Colorado through the High Plains Research Network focused on asthma, cancer, cardio-vascular disease, and women’s health.
- How the medical school is encouraging students to consider practicing in a rural area including local community immersion experiences and the rural track (150 students applied last year; they could only take 12).

He also encouraged the Council members to consider how their facilities and the county could encourage an interest in health careers (125 different health careers) by developing shadowing opportunities, providing small local scholarships, and hosting a medical student for a four-month rotation.

Next RHW Meeting – Thursday March 18, 2010 12:00 to 1:00

(LATER CHANGED TO Wednesday March 17, 2010)

Next MCHHC Meeting – Friday March 19, 2010 7:00-9:00am

Minutes prepared by: Laura Teague and Denise Denton