

**Washington Health Alliance
Board of Directors**

**MINUTES
March 25, 2014**

Board Members Present: *Dr. Mark Adams, Dr. Al Fisk, Dr. David Grossman (phone), Tom Hunt, Beth Johnson, Greg Marchand, Rich Maturi, Dr. Pete McGough, Larry McNutt, Yvonne Peters, Charissa Raynor (phone), Tom Richards, Dorothy Teeter (phone), Caroline Whalen*

Board Members Absent: *Dr. Jeff Collins, Dr. David Fleming, David Hansen, Steve Hill, Florence Katz, Ron Sims*

Guests: *Debbie Huntington (Group Health), Rachel Quinn (Washington State Health Care Authority)*

Staff Present: *Wendy Cox, Susie Dade, Teresa Litton, Jennifer Loyd, Mary McWilliams, Mark Pregler, Natasha Rosenblatt, Maria Wood*

Call to Order and Introductions

Caroline Whalen called the meeting to order in executive session at 2:30 pm. Ms. Whalen and other Board members recognized Beth Johnson and Mark Adams' service as Board members.

Consent Calendar

The Board unanimously approved all consent calendar items.

Election of Board Members & Officers

Mary McWilliams gave a summary of the professional background of four Alliance Board of Directors nominees, and she commented on the perspectives each will bring to the Board. The four nominees are Don Antonucci of Regence BlueShield, EJ Blanchfield of Point B, Leanne Bough of Zenith American Solutions for Sound Health and Wellness Trust, and Nancy Steiger of PeaceHealth NW Network. Ms. Whalen gave the Board the opportunity to discuss the nominees. The Board unanimously approved all four nominees.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. McWilliams recapped ongoing challenges with services from Milliman, the Alliance's data vendor. She shared the Alliance's strategy for addressing challenges due to Milliman delays. The Board discussed how the delays will affect the Alliance's 2015 dashboard milestone plans. The Board also discussed the cost/benefit of changing vendors or creating an internal data processing program.

Action: Alliance staff will present a forecast of projects affected by challenges with Milliman by the April Board meeting. Dorothy Teeter requested that Milliman give another presentation at the April or June Board meeting.

Data Center & APCD Legislation Updates

Susie Dade recapped HB 2572 that passed the legislature on March 13 which intends to establish a statewide All Payer Claims Database (APCD). She reviewed the bill's strengths, limitations and challenges and gave a detailed account of the Alliance's key concerns. The Board discussed clarifying roles of the Alliance and the Office of Financial Management (OFM). They expressed concern about the bill's limitations in collecting sufficient data, and agreed with the need to revise unworkable provisions in the bill in 2015.

Alliance APCD Vision Statement

Ms. McWilliams reviewed the Alliance's staff proposed vision for the APCD, which she planned to discuss with Marc Baldwin, Assistant Director Forecasting Division of OFM and later with Bob Crittenden, Senior Health Policy Advisor to Gov. Inslee.

Mark Pregler gave a status update on the Alliance's contract with OFM. He reminded the Board that the current contract ends in April 2014, and that there will be two more contracts before the grant ends in 2015. He also gave an overview of deliverables for the current contract.

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Ms. Whalen asked the Board to vote on the recommendations from the Alliance's management team. The Board unanimously approved the vision statement. The Board requested that Alliance staff keep the content of the statement the same, but shift the tone to more collegiality.

The Board discussed other staff recommendations for next steps. They concluded that the current APCD contains some good policy direction but has provisions that would be unworkable for producing meaningful reports or sustaining the APCD. Some fixes will be needed in the 2015 legislative session. They also concluded that State agencies, the Alliance and other supportive stakeholders should begin collaborating now to prepare for legislation in 2015 to fix unworkable provisions, especially the need for mandates on all insured business. The Alliance should continue to contract with OFM for APCD development under the data center grant and assess the feasibility of operating as the lead organization to implement the State APCD. A motion encompassing these positions was duly made and passed with one abstention.

The meeting adjourned to Executive Session at 4:00 pm

Ms. McWilliams announced her plans for retirement, and Ms. Whalen outlined steps for the search process.

Respectfully submitted by Wendy Cox

Caroline Whalen
Chair

Date