

Lake County Illinois

*Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center
3010 Grand Avenue
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Conference Room #3112*



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Tuesday, September 12, 2023

5:30 PM

3010 Grand Ave., Waukegan, IL 60085

**Lake County Community Health Center Governing
Council**

1. Call to Order

Chair Fornero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call of Members

Present 7 - Chair Fornero, Vice Chair Smith-Taylor, Secretary Lara, Member Bejster, Member Hernandez, Member Ross Cunningham and Member Tarter

Absent 2 - Member Argueta and Member Chuc

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Fornero called upon Member Ross Cunningham to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1

August 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [GC Minutes 8.8.23 - DRAFT](#)

Chair Fornero called for a motion to approve the minutes of August 8, 2023, as presented. Motion by Member Ross Cunningham, second by Member Tarter. Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Aye: 7 - Chair Fornero, Vice Chair Smith-Taylor, Secretary Lara, Member Bejster, Member Hernandez, Member Ross Cunningham and Member Tarter

Absent: 2 - Member Argueta and Member Chuc

5. Public Comment to the Council

None

6. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Mark Pfister reported on the following:

1) Access Lake Launch Event: The press conference is tomorrow, Wednesday, September 13, at 5:30 p.m. Access Lake will assist eligible and uninsured Lake County residents receive low-cost specialty healthcare services and other medical assistance. Through this collaboration, participating health systems will provide healthcare services to low-income, uninsured individuals.

2) Congratulations to Member Manuel "Manny" Hernandez on his new position with Family First Center (FFC) as the Director of Programs. In this position he will be involved in FFC's Infant, Child and Youth Program, Senior Services, Mental Health & Trauma Education and Access to Services, Women's & Men's Health, Emergency Resources Assistance, and Community Health Worker Trainings and Services.

3) The Lake County Board and the City of Highland Park City Council, at their most

recent respective meeting, declared September as Suicide Prevention Awareness month. Vice Chair Smith-Taylor was present at the Highland Park City Council meeting and shared with Mark Pfister and the Governing Council the Proclamation they issued.

Chair Fornero commented that he read in the Sun Times that the City of Chicago is going to be giving out free COVID-19 vaccinations and asked if the Health Department will be doing something similar. Mark explained that the City of Chicago is different in that they receive funding directly from the CDC. The Health Department's hope is that the federal government will provide funding to Walgreens, CVS, and other pharmacies, to administer no cost COVID-19 vaccination because they are more accessible. The Health Department will continue to provide its clients with COVID-19 vaccinations at all of its FQHC sites. Mark also informed the Council that the forthcoming vaccine is one dose which is protective against the currently circulating variants and the Health Department will be recommending it. Chair Fornero asked if there is an increase in the number of cases. Mark reminded the Council that it's the number of hospitalizations that is being monitored as home testing and self testing results are not reported and therefore it is unknown what the infection burden is but COVID-19 hospitalizations were increasing. Mark also reminded the Council that we are coming into respiratory illness season and the Health Department is also recommending the new RSV vaccine for children and flu shots.

This matter was presented

7. Action items

7.1

Licensed Independent Practitioner (LIP) Privileging/Credentialing - Burke

Kim Burke, Director of Healthcare Operations, informed the Council that the Personnel Committee met just prior to this regular meeting to review the providers eligible for privileging/credentialing and recommends approval.

Chair Fornero called for a motion to approve the privileging/credentialing of: Joshua Nathan MD, Suketu Patel APRN, Jenna Rawski APRN, Teresita Rodriguez-Florida APRN. Motion by Member Ross Cunningham, second by Member Hernandez. Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Aye: 7 - Chair Fornero, Vice Chair Smith-Taylor, Secretary Lara, Member Bejster, Member Hernandez, Member Ross Cunningham and Member Tarter

Absent: 2 - Member Argueta and Member Chuc

7.2

Licensed Independent Practitioner (LIP) Reappointment - Burke

Kim Burke informed the Council that the Personnel Committee met just prior to this regular meeting to review the providers eligible for reappointment and recommends approval.

Chair Fornero called for a motion to approve the reappointment of: Susan Felsenthal MD, Amy Holmgren APRN, Kathy Sonenthal MD. Motion by Member

Smith-Taylor, second by Member Bejster. Voice vote, all in favor, motion carried.

Aye: 7 - Chair Fornero, Vice Chair Smith-Taylor, Secretary Lara, Member Bejster, Member Hernandez, Member Ross Cunningham and Member Tarter

Absent: 2 - Member Argueta and Member Chuc

7.3

Approval of FY2024 Proposed FQHC Budget - Riley

Attachments: [FY24 Budget Narrative](#)

Diane Pelli, Physical Health Business Manager, reviewed the budget narrative provided in the agenda packet.

Chair Fornero called for a motion to approve the Section 330, H80CS00119 Grant funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration in the amount of \$4,974,007 as detailed in the attached Budget Narrative and the non-federal funds of \$36,188,522 totaling the Physical Health/FQHC FY24 budget amount of \$41,162,529. Motion by Member Tarter, second by Member Bejster. Motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Aye: 7 - Chair Fornero, Vice Chair Smith-Taylor, Secretary Lara, Member Bejster, Member Hernandez, Member Ross Cunningham and Member Tarter

Absent: 2 - Member Argueta and Member Chuc

8. Presentations

None

9. Discussion Items

9.1

CQI Update - Hayes

Attachments: [UDS Measures](#)

Christina Hayes, Strategic Planning and Quality Improvement Manager, reviewed the report provided in the agenda packet. Chair Fornero noted that the number of patients for HIV Linkage to Care is zero. Christina explained that so far in 2023 the FQHCs have not identified anyone with HIV which is a very good thing.

10. Director of Healthcare Operations Report

10.1

Director of Healthcare Operations Report - Burke

Attachments: [FQHC Healthcare Operations Metric Dashboard 09.23](#)

Kim Burke reviewed the report provided in the agenda packet. Member Ross Cunningham asked what the individuals on the new client wait list do for health care. Mark explained that in Lake County more and more providers are leaving for more lucrative specialty or concierge care positions and are not being replaced. He reminded the Council that there

are only two FQHCs in Lake County, Erie Family and the Health Department, and Erie Family has not been taking any new patients for quite some time so individuals who would seek care with them are turning to the Health Department. The Health Department continues to take new patients but can't keep up with the demand. Unfortunately, what those individuals are having to do if they get sick is go to an acute care facility. Northwestern and other hospitals have created acute care facilities, but it's exacerbating the problem because they are generally staffed by APRN's and hired at a rate greater than what the Health Department can pay. Acute care is also not a patient centered medical home where an individual can get all of their other health care issues addressed and monitored.

11. Director of Finance Report

11.1

Director of Finance Report - Riley

Attachments: [FQHC Jul 23](#)

Diane Pelli, Physical Health Business Manager, reviewed the report provided in the agenda packet. She also informed the Council that the audit has been finalized and submitted. Mark added that the audit firm will present a report to the Council at the October 10, 2023 meeting, and that the audit delay was due to some other departments within the County, not the Health Department. There were no questions.

12. Added to Agenda

None

13. Old Business

None

14. New Business

None

15. Executive Session

None

16. Adjournment

Chair Fornero adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.