



RURAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMISSION

NEBRASKA OFFICE OF RURAL HEALTH
P.O. BOX 95026 • LINCOLN, NE 68509-5026 • PHONE (402) 471-2337 • FAX (402) 471-0180

MINUTES of the Rural Health Advisory Commission

Wednesday, May 27th, 2020

Via Adobe Connect

Members Present: April Dexter, N.P.; Marty Fattig; Jessye Goertz; Michael Greene, M.D.; Lynette Kramer, M.D.; Rebecca Schroeder, Ph.D.; Mike Sitorius, M.D.; Linda Wittmuss (attending on the behalf of Sheri Dawson).

Members Not Present: Gary Anthone, M.D.; Cherlyn Hunt; Ben Iske, D.D.S.; Sandra Torres, M.D.; Roger Wells, PA-C.

Staff Present: Margaret Brockman; Nancy Jo Hansen; Tom Rauner; Deb Stoltenberg; Rachael Wolfe

1. Call Meeting to Order; Open Meetings Act and Agenda Posted; Adopt Agenda.

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. with the following members present: April Dexter, N.P.; Marty Fattig; Jessye Goertz; Michael Greene, M.D.; Lynette Kramer, M.D.; Rebecca Schroeder, Ph.D.; Mike Sitorius, M.D.; Linda Wittmuss (attending on the behalf of Sheri Dawson).

DHHS Staff announced that the Open Meetings Act and today's Agenda were posted and downloadable within the Adobe Connect meeting.

Rebecca Schroeder moved to adopt the May 27, 2020, meeting agenda with no changes. Michael Sitorius seconded the motion. Motion carried. YES: Dexter; Fattig; Goertz; Greene; Kramer; Schroeder, Sitorius. NOT VOTING: Wittmuss. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. EXCUSED: Anthone; Hunt; Iske; Torres; Wells.

2. Guidelines for Loan Repayment/Student Loan Forgiveness Providers During COVID-19 Pandemic

Rachael Wolfe presented on the proposed guidelines, discussing how they were developed and referencing source documents. The guidelines were read out and the intention behind each one was explained.

3. Discussion by Rural Health Advisory Commission and Opportunity for Public Comment

Commission members discussed the guidelines and determined that the phrase “up to one year” should be removed from item 2. They also determined the word “state” should be added before the phrase “public health emergency”. Additionally, they discussed that those making payments associated with a contract default should be given a suspension of this requirement for the length of the public health emergency. The notion of a subcommittee was discussed and determined not to be appropriate; the commission itself will approve any requests in association with these guidelines. The words “in Nebraska” were added to item 3. There was no public comment.

Marty Fattig moved to adopt the temporary guidelines with changes as discussed. Michael Sitorius seconded the motion. Motion carried. YES: Dexter; Fattig; Goertz; Greene; Kramer; Schroeder; Sitorius. NOT VOTING: Wittmuss. NO: None. ABSTAIN: None. EXCUSED: Anthon; Hunt; Iske; Torres; Wells.

4. Other Business

Marty Fattig remarked that he, April Dexter, Jessye Goertz, and Lynette Kramer had all been confirmed by the Legislature.

Rachael Wolfe thanked him and mentioned that the next commission meeting would also take place virtually, on Friday June 26th.

5. Adjourn

Marty Fattig moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m. Meeting adjourned.