

**Medicaid Reform Council
Minutes
October 28, 2009**

Members Present (10): Doris Karloff (Chair), Jim Blue, Wanda Caffrey, Senator Kathy Campbell, Gayle-ann Douglas, Mary Lee Fitzsimmons, Coby Mach, Kathy Mallatt, Dr. Jessica Meeske, Pat Snyder

Members Absent (1): Cheri Hubert

The meeting was convened by Chairperson Karloff at approximately 9:05 a.m. in Conference Room 1Y of the Nebraska State Office Building in Lincoln, Nebraska.

The council conducted a working session to discuss and develop recommendations to give the Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care, Department of Health and Human Services.

Senator Campbell shared the legislative idea of this Council and gave some background information. She said the Medicaid Reform Council (MRC) is advisory to the Executive branch of the government with reports sent to the Legislature. The Council will meet four times per year at which time the MRC will review the progress so they can look at any issue needing to be brought forward. The guideline is the revolving original Medicaid Reform Plan report and how we look at it. We need to keep our focus on the original plan. The original Medicaid Reform Council (MRC) made a great deal of recommendations on what they saw in that original report. The MRC has followed those recommendations and the progress that has been made. The Department submits an annual report, which details progress, to the Legislature.

Council members discussed Mr. Mach's recommendations, as well as recommendations from Ms. Mallatt and Ms. Caffrey. They discussed services – dental, vision-related, physical, speech and occupational therapy, chiropractic, substance abuse, school based administrative – as well as electronic submission of claims, the RFP for transportation, ER co-pays when there are non-emergency services provided, Medicare Supplement Plan F for Medicaid recipients over 65, and “spend down” issues.

Motion made by Mach, second by Caffrey: That the Council accept Mallatt's, Caffrey's, and Mach's recommendations to the Department for a list of pros and cons for each idea and present at the next scheduled meeting. Voting Yes: Snyder, Meeske, Fitzsimmons, Mach, Caffrey, Douglas, Mallatt. Voting No: Blue. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mach, and seconded: That the Council accept the September 15, 2009 Medicaid Reform Annual Report. Voting Yes: Karloff, Blue, Snyder, Meeske, Fitzsimmons, Mach, Caffrey, Douglas, Mallatt. Voting No: none. Motion carried.

Dr. Meeske discussed CHIP, rights and responsibilities of Medicaid recipients, access to care, ease to determine eligibility, performance measures, quality of care and health outcomes.

Motion made by Meeske, and seconded: That the Council accept Meeske's recommendations to the Department for a list of pros and cons for each idea and present at the next scheduled meeting. She will send an email listing the recommendations. Voting Yes: Karloff, Snyder, Meeske, Mach, Douglas. Voting No: Fitzsimmons, Caffrey, Mallatt. Abstain: Blue. Motion carried.

The next Council meeting will be Thursday, March 18, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

There was no further business. There was no public comment. The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Karloff at approximately 11:35 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Department of Health and Human Services staff. Minutes are intended to provide only a general summary of council proceedings.