

**STATE OF NEVADA**  
**DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH)**  
**PRIMARY CARE ADVISORY COUNCIL (PCAC)**

**DRAFTMINUTES**  
March 4, 2020  
09:00 AM to Adjournment

Videoconference from:

NV Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
4150 Technology Way, Rm. 301  
Carson City, NV 89706

Videoconference to:

Health Care Quality and Compliance  
4220 S. Maryland Pkwy  
Bldg. D, Suite 810, Large Conf. Rm.  
Las Vegas, NV 89119

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Amir Qureshi, Chair (Call-In)  
Nancy Bowen (Call-In)  
Cody Phinney (Carson City)  
Susan VanBeuge (Call-In)  
Gerald J. Ackerman (Call-In)  
Julie Clyde (Call-In)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

**DPBH Staff Present:**

Joseph Tucker, Manager, Primary Care Office (PCO)  
Heather Mitchell, Health Resource Analyst, PCO  
Linda Anderson, DPBH Deputy Attorney General (Call-In)

**Others Present:**

Otieno Ombok (Call-In)  
Tina Figueroa (Call-In)  
Abhinaya Rao (Call-In)  
Glen Miranda (Call-In)  
Gayle L Halminiak (Call-In)  
Jaron Hildebrand (Carson City)  
Samuel Serniak (Call-In)

**1. Roll call and confirmation of quorum.**

J. Tucker read the roll call and stated that there was a quorum present.

**2. Approval of minutes:**

A. Qureshi asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the December 04, 2019 meeting. No recommendations were made.

Chair entertained a motion on item 2.

**First Motion: S. VanBuege**

**Second Motion: G. Ackerman**

**Motion: PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**3. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Abhinaya Rao.**

H. Mitchell presented summary handout of the completed application.

**Member Comment:**

A. Qureshi: Wanted to know if provider had responsibility to conduct inpatient work.

G. Miranda: indicated he did not.

G. Ackerman: There is a big need for providers in this discipline.

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 3.

**First Motion:** G. Ackerman

**Second Motion:** C. Phinney

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**4. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Mohamed Eltayeb.**

H. Mitchell presented summary handout of the completed application.

**Member Comment:**

A Qureshi: This facility is one of the biggest users of this program. This is a huge facility and there is definitely a need.

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 4.

**First Motion:** C. Phinney

**Second Motion:** J. Clyde

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**5. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Yousuf Syed.**

H. Mitchell presented summary handout of the completed application.

**Member Comment:**

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 5.

**First Motion:** C. Phinney

**Second Motion:** J. Clyde

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

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**6. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Asma Farooq.**

J. Tucker: Requested to table the application because there is paperwork pending.

A. Qureshi tabled the application

**7. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver Letter of Support for Dr. Tarun Malkani.**

H. Mitchell presented summary handout of the completed application.

**Member Comment:**

N. Bowen: Asked about the practice taking Nevada Checkup and didn't see any numbers reported.

J Tucker: shared that their Medicaid and Nevada Checkup are rolled into one category.

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 7.

**First Motion:** C. Phinney

**Second Motion:** N. Bowen

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**8. Recommendations of Jaron Hildebrand to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health to serve on the Primary Care Advisory Council, as a representative of the State Medical Association**

J Tucker presented a biography of Mr. Hildebrand

**Member Comment:**

A. Qureshi asked if this was an action item

J Tucker indicated it was.

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 8.

**First Motion:** G. Ackerman

**Second Motion:** S. VanBeuge

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**9. Recommendation to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding a J-1 Physician Visa Waiver eligibility for a Pediatric Endocrinologist.**

J Tucker presented a summary of the concerns surrounding a sliding fee scale and asked the UNR School of Medicine to present their case.

Samuel Serniak:

**Member Comment:**

N. Bowen: Asked about the practice taking Nevada Checkup and didn't see any numbers reported.

J Tucker: shared that their Medicaid and Nevada Checkup are rolled into one category.

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S. Serniak: Indicated that they would like to hire a pediatric endocrinologist to work in Renown outpatient clinics that don't have a sliding fee scale. The School of Medicine is trying to grow the pediatric endocrinology program by also allowing residents to get trained and fill the gap.

J Tucker: Explained that the site is responsible to provide a sliding fee for those at or below the 200% FPL. Being that this is a pediatric practice, all patients that meet that criteria qualify for Medicaid and would be covered without a sliding fee.

A. Qureshi Commented on how rare this specialty in Las Vegas.

G. Ackerman Indicated that he couldn't remember the last time they have had an applicant in this specialty and that there have been times when there has only been one provider in this discipline in the State. He also noted that he would abstain from voting because of the conflict of interest (he works for the School of Medicine).

S. VanBeuge inquired whether or not she was in a conflict of interest as well (She works at UNLV).

L. Anderson indicated that S. VanBeuge could vote if as long as S. VanBeuge felt like there was no conflict for her.

S. VanBeuge clarified that she could make a sound decision and that there was no conflict for her.

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 3.

**First Motion:** C. Phinney

**Second Motion:** N. Bowen

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**10. Recommendations to the Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health regarding proposed amendment updates to Conrad 30 J-1 Visa Waiver program regulations.**

J Tucker presented summary of the discussion in the December meeting and pointed to the packets for members to find the requested information.

**Member Comment:**

A. Qureshi wanted to know which state charges \$4,000 for an application.

J. Tucker replied that he believed it was Rhode Island.

N. Bowen asked how many J-1 applications we received from A-H

J. Tucker replied that 70% of the applications were specialty and 30% were primary care

N. Bowen clarified that she wanted to know what the average payment was

J. Tucker clarified that the average was around \$900

N. Bowen asked if there is a way to do a weighted increase

J. Tucker indicated that there is a clause in the regulations allowing the Administrator to waive a portion or all of the fee. This would be the best option based on the recommendations the PCO received.

S. VanBeuge asked if the cost for our office to process the application is the same

J. Tucker clarified that the PCO cannot differentiate the number of hours spent on Primary Care vs. Specialty applications and that the specialties are required to submit a couple of more documents. However, the number of hours to process the applications should be relatively the same.

G. Ackerman Indicated that he sees the difference being between nonprofit and for-profit businesses.

N Bowen agreed with G Ackerman.

S. VanBeuge also agreed with G Ackerman

J. Clyde also agreed

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S. VanBeuge stated that the it might be good to add a point about the Administrator being able to look at the fees for a nonprofit vs. for profit.

J. Tucker clarified that the office could look at further options and/or policy changes to help clarify the fees.

G. Ackerman: asked if there was something to vote on and what responsibility is up to the Administrator.

J. Tucker: Clarified the PCAC's role in providing a recommendation

G. Ackerman: Asked clarifications on how to proceed forward.

J. Tucker clarified what and how the PCAC would need to vote.

A. Qureshi asked if they need to open for public comments.

J. Tucker clarified that they did.

**Public Comment:** None

Chair entertained a motion on item 10.

**First Motion:** G Ackerman

**Second Motion:** J Clyde

**Motion:** PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

**6. Public Comment**

None

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 am.