

# The Healthcare Consortium

## Notes from the Board of Directors Meeting of October 9, 2025

### I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by President Becky Polmateer at 3:05 p.m.

The following members were present at Roll Call: Karen Amanna, Nina Benvenuto, Toni Carroll, Bob Gibson, PJ Keeler, Theresa Lux, Jack Mabb, Victoria McGahan, Marielle McKasty-Stagg, Maria Ostrander, Amanda Pierro, Becky Polmateer, Jolene Race.

The following members were absent at roll call: Dan Almasi, Art Proper, David Rossetti, John Thompson, Dorothy Urschel.

Also present were staff members Claire Parde and Lisa Thomas.

### II. Development and Communications Update

See attached slide presentation.

*Dan Almasi arrived at 3:21 p.m.*

### III. Reminder of the Duty to Disclose

Becky reminded the group to please remember their duty to disclose any interests that may give rise to a conflict. No disclosures were made at this time.

### IV. Consent Agenda

The Board considered the following meeting minutes:

- Board of Directors Meeting of June 4, 2025
- Budget and Finance Committee of July 22, 2025
- Executive Committee Meeting of September 3, 2025
- Budget and Finance Committee Meeting of September 23, 2025

***The motion to accept the minutes/actions of the regular Board of Directors meetings of June 4, 2025, and all Committee meeting minutes was made by Amanda Pierro, seconded by Karen Amanna, and unanimously approved.***

## **V. Treasurer's Report**

Jack Mabb reviewed the Fiscal Highlights Report. He noted that there was a dip in cash on hand in July, but it has since recovered. Investments are up by 14% or \$68,000.

## **VI. Executive Director's Report**

Claire provided verbal highlights from her more detailed written report:

### **Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP):**

This is due by the end of the year. There is a lot of writing to do, but it is in a good place. The priorities have been selected, which are nutrition security, tobacco/e-cigarette use and suicide. Food insecurity is an emerging issue allowing for collaboration with other agencies. Next steps involve drilling down on interventions and identifying performance measures.

### **Rural Health Transformation Program:**

This is a federal funding opportunity providing \$50 billion over five years for rural areas. New York will receive \$100 million per year with an opportunity for an additional \$100 million through a competitive process. Claire is the Chair of the Rural Health Council, and they discussed potential investments, including workforce and EMS as well as IT infrastructure. Public comment can be offered by emailing [RHTP@health.ny.gov](mailto:RHTP@health.ny.gov).

*Dorothy Urschel arrived at 3:33 p.m.*

### **Children and Adult Rural Transportation Service (CARTS):**

We are examining the program due to the loss of funding from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation. Medicaid service delivery is being looked at closely as we are losing money with almost every trip. Conventional thinking is no longer working. All options are on the table.

### **Other:**

Upon the recent hire of a new Navigator, we finally have what we think of as enough staff in that program.

We will be spending about \$30,000 on computer hardware this fall, which has been necessitated by the transition to Windows 11.

*David Rossetti arrived at 3:49 p.m.*

We are waiting for health insurance rates and anticipate at least an 18% increase. Others have reported seeing 26- 39% increases.

## **VII. President's Report**

- A.** The Executive Committee approved Policy 202: Cash Compensation, which the New York State Department of Health required in order to provide policy support for our decision-making around compensation, including wage adjustments and especially bonuses.
- B.** The Executive Director's evaluation and contract renewal is due this Fall. Becky will be sending the evaluation out to all Members. Becky will meet with Claire to review her evaluation once it is complete.
- C.** Aislinn Smith has left Pine Haven, thus she has resigned from the Consortium's Board of Directors. It has been decided to leave this vacancy open to see what transpires at Pine Haven.
- D.** There is a proposal to create a Committee of the Corporation focused on Development with a request for Members to join. Members should let Becky or Claire know if interested. Non-Independent members can participate as well as non-Board members. Becky will send out an email requesting membership. Nina volunteered to join the Committee.
- E.** The Strategic Plan was completed last year. Claire will provide an update on our progress relative to the strategic goals we outlined at the December meeting.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The business of the regular Board meeting being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m. following a motion made by Amanda Pierro.

**Respectfully submitted,**

*Maria Ostrander, RN*

**Maria Ostrander, Board Secretary**