SUMMARY MINUTES
November 9, 2020

Pursuant to Governor Steve Sisolak’s Emergency Directive 006 as amended and extended by Emergency Directive 029, there will be no physical location for this meeting. The meeting can be listened to or viewed live over the internet. The agenda, minutes, meeting materials, and audio or video recording of the meeting are available on the Commission’s meeting page or by request.

Agenda Item I - Call to Order
Chairman Khan called the regular meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. Those in attendance and constituting a quorum were:

Commission Members Present:
Dr. Ikram Khan, Chairman
Dr. Howard Baron
Theresa Bohannan
Bobbette Bond
Jessica Flood
Flo Kahn
Dr. John Packham
Yarleny Roa Dugan
Shaun Schoener
Dr. Anthony Slonim
W. Mason Van Houweling

Advisory Commission Members Present:
Executive Director Heather Korbulic, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange
Insurance Commissioner Barbara Richardson, Nevada Division of Insurance (Department of Business and Industry)
Director Richard Whitley, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)

Commission Staff Present:
Sara Cholhagian, Executive Director
Gregory D. Ott, Chief Deputy Attorney General
Lezlie Mayville, Administrative Assistant/Policy Coordinator

Agenda Item II - Public Comment:
Charles Duarte, Dementia Care Director for the Alzheimer’s Association in Nevada.
Their goal is to raise awareness around Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias, and to increase the numbers of patients and caregivers who receive an early and accurate diagnosis. He would like to suggest the Patient Protection Commission consider the implications of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias on our long-term care and acute medical systems, as well as on the lives of those living with the disease or caring for someone with dementia.
Agenda Item III - Presentation from Patient's about their health care experiences in Nevada
 Director Cholhagian informed the commission and the public of a new feature on the PPC website for patients to share their stories with the commission. There is now a tab located on the ppc.nv.gov website called “Patient Stories and Testimonials”, she encouraged patient feedback and indicated she would routinely report on any submissions.

Agenda Item IV - Approval of the August 31, 2020 minutes
 Chairman Khan presented the Commission with a draft of the summary minutes of the August 31, 2020 meeting.

MOTION was made to approve minutes of the August 31, 2020, meeting as presented, by Commissioner Van Houweling. Commissioner Baron Seconded. Carried without dissent.

Agenda Item V - Opening Remarks - Overview of Agenda and Welcome
 Chairman Khan
 Welcomed everyone to the meeting and wants to move along accordingly to finish by noon or before and would like all commissioners to engage.

Agenda Item VI - Update on Reports to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau
 Director Cholhagian
 Reminded the commissioners that our next report is due on or before January 1, 2021. She invited commissioners to make suggestions for specific recommendations to include and indicated she would like to have a draft by mid-December prior to the Christmas holiday. Commissioner Bohannan indicated a sample outline of what would be in the report would be helpful. Director Cholhagian responded she would be happy to share an outline and would aim to send it by the following week. She further encouraged commissioners to reach out to engage at any time.

Agenda Item VII - Presentations of Commission’s Ranked Priorities and Identified Top Priorities for Future Deliberation
 Chairman Khan
 A discussion was held regarding the top priorities identified by the commission through a Priorities Indication Worksheet in which commissioners ranked their priorities and a summary of those ranking provided the following top four priorities:

a. Review and examine the cost of health care and the primary factors impacting those costs
b. Review health care workforce issues in Nevada and consider recommendations to improve access and delivery of health care
c. Review the effect of any changes to Medicaid including the cost and availability of health care and health insurance in this state.
d. Review the roles of the PPC and consider how to improve future coordination and collaboration efforts.

Each Commissioner had the opportunity to express opinions on the identified topics. The majority of the commissioners agreed to this ranking with no objections. Some suggestions were made including but not limited to licensure and reciprocity across state lines, loan forgiveness for medical students to keep them in the state because COVID is burning out health care workforce, currently in the midst of a shortage in workforce, identify
groups that can help commission move forward with the data for APCD and continue with the Governor’s request to review issues related to the health care needs of Nevada residents and the accessibility, affordability and quality of health care were mentioned.

**Agenda Item VIII - Presentation on Nevada’s Uninsured Population and Current Status of Health Insurance Enrollment Numbers**

a. Meredith Levine, Director of Economic Policy, Guinn Center
b. Suzanne Bierman, J.D., M.P.H., Administrator, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy, DHHS
c. Heather Korbulic, Executive Director, Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

Discussion, questions and comments to the presenters were held until the presentations were completed. They included but were not limited to: do we know how much the out of pocket expenses are for the under and uninsured? The commissioners were informed the answer requires a lot more data and analytics and there is no specific information at this time. Director Korbulic explained the difference between bronze, silver and catastrophic plans being lower actuarial, lower premium, higher deductible and cat plans are only available to those under 30 years old. A question was asked about specific data on the delay of access to care and was told Medicaid monitors data and there is a lot of information regarding this on their website. Administrator Bierman indicated she can send a link to access the reports. She further specified that she is working on getting updated numbers on Medicaid enrollment projections as the public emergency requires continuous enrollment with everyone still being covered. The emergency order will most likely be in place through Q1 of 2021. They expect to see an uptick of increase in 2021. Someone asked if there was a quality comparison between Medicaid and the Exchange and was told they have a side by side comparison on price, coverage, etc. Director Korbulic stated she could share the page with the PPC.

**Agenda Item IX - Update on Collaboration and Coordination between the Commission and other State Entities**

Director Cholhagian

a. The Nevada Department of Health and Human Services regarding the Peterson-Millbank Program for Sustainable Health Care Costs. Director Cholhagian indicated this item is a follow-up to the information she shared with commission about this program. She briefly highlighted the program as a unique opportunity for Nevada to collaborate and obtain dedicated support to measure total health care costs and growth rates. She asked the commissioners if the PPC would like to offer support to Director Whitley and DHHS with this opportunity.  

**MOTION** was made to support Director Whitley with this effort by Commissioner Bond. Commissioner Baron seconded. Carried without dissent.

b. The Office of the Attorney General’s Bureau of Consumer Protection regarding Review of Health Care Related Mergers and Acquisitions. Director Cholhagian informed the commission that three commissioners attended a virtual meeting with the OAG. The Bureau of Consumer Protection section has very limited resources but indicated they will continue to collaborate with the commission however they can. The possibility of a presentation or another meeting was suggested.
Agenda Item - X Status Update on Commission’s Bill Draft Requests

Director Cholhagian informed the Commissioners that the bill language was still going through the legislative drafting process. There were no comments, questions, or discussion.

Agenda Item - XI Standing Agenda Items

a. Recommendations for Commission Activities and/or Report to the Governor and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau
   Reminded Commissioners the next report is due January 1, 2021. Some suggestions from commissioners included taking a closer look at the Silver State Solutions: Expanding Medicaid Access in Nevada report mentioned by Administrator Bierman, also the SCR10 report, and the drug price study from Senator Yvanna Cancela was mentioned to be of interest as well. NO ACTION TAKEN

b. Presentations for Future Meetings
   Some commissioners mentioned they would like to see a presentation on workforce issues, AG presentation to help with transparency questions and HIE presentation NO ACTION TAKEN

c. Discussion of Potential Agenda Items included but were not limited to understanding how uninsured population affects costs when they walk through the door, what are the drivers of costs of health care during the pandemic and how does it effect the rest of us, recommendation of an in-depth report for each of the top four priority topics, cost factor value of consortium cost drivers (Commissioner Kahn will send Director Cholhagian all information on “consortium”. A brief discussion was held on other BDR’s related to topics within the scope of the commission’s review. NO ACTION TAKEN

d. Discussion of Future Meeting Dates
   November 30, 2020 at 9:00 am has been scheduled

Agenda Item - XII Public Comment

No public comment

Agenda Item - XIII Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:43 a.m

Respectfully submitted,

Lezlie Mayville
Office of the Patient Protection Commission

APPROVED BY:

Dr. Ikram Khan, Chair
Date: 11/30/2020
### Meeting Materials

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