

**Regional Health Cooperative  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, January 20, 2009  
- MEETING NOTES -  
Via Conference Call**

**Present:** Steve Healy, Darcie Paradies, Rosanne Bump, William Rubin, Myron Schuster (a director on CHC's interim board) and Andy Lisak (a director on CHC's interim board).

A conference call meeting of the steering committee commenced at 8:04 a.m. on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

Steve Healy, chair of the steering committee, and chair of CHC's interim board of directors, led the discussion.

**Communique from a Steering Committee Member**

Healy announced that Pam Grove, an original member of the regional health cooperative and one of the interim directors on the Cooperative Health Choices (CHC) board, said she would no longer be able to be part of the organization, due to additional job duties as well as a personal matter. Her contributions will be missed and Healy asked that the meeting notes reflect the committee's appreciation of Pam's many contributions.

**Additional Volunteers**

Healy asked those present about additional volunteers willing to assist. He suggested someone in benefits, healthcare, insurance or law. He asked committee members to submit suggested recommendations as soon as they can. Myron Schuster, one of CHC's interim directors, said he would consider offering names, but given his other roles with an insurance operation, he needed to exercise caution. Rosanne Bump suggested the president of the River Falls Area Hospital.

**Update on Articles of Incorporation (Cooperative Health Choices of Western Wisconsin)**

Rubin said CHC's articles were recently recorded with the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions in Madison and the recorded copy was returned to St. Croix EDC's offices. The St. Croix County Register of Deeds also recorded CHC's Articles and returned the copy to the EDC. Everything is in order.

**Update on CHC's Review by the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI)**

Rubin said CHC's Articles and By-Laws were mailed to OCI in early December for their review. A corrected copy of CHC's Articles were sent to OCI a couple of weeks later. Rubin sent an e-mail note to OCI a week before this conference call meeting. OCI's reviewer, Mike Honeck, indicated OCI still needed to complete its review and issue the order. He would try to speed things up.

Healy said that unfortunately, OCI's review could take longer than expected as OCI is not supportive of health benefit cooperatives. He said he would touch base with the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives to ensure a timely review.

**Future Committee Meetings**

Healy said the steering and CHC's interim board must abide by a tight schedule in order to expect a 'Go Live' date of July 1, 2009. The committee will meet again on January 27<sup>th</sup> and will continue to meet on a regular basis.

'Healthy Wisconsin' which is the state's mandated healthcare plan, funded by a 14-15% tax on payroll, has been in the news again. It is doubtful that the legislator can pass it given these difficult economic times. Healthcare legislation at the federal level appears to be a year away.

**Timeline**

Healy said the steering committee needs to nail down a timeline. He would get a copy of proposed timeline from Pam Grove, and it would be revised as necessary.

Corporate fund raising needs to be addressed. Healy thought the Wisconsin Federation of Cooperatives was expected to receive some federal funding, and part of the funds were to be distributed to health cooperatives like CHC and Healthy Lifestyles, etc. He will contact the Federation to confirm this.

Healy asked about other committees, such as wellness and rewards for achieving health benchmarks.

**Next Meeting**

The committee will meet again on Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 for a conference call session.

Healy reviewed his notes from today's meeting:

- contact Pam Grove about CHC's timeline and Request for Proposals (RFP)
- contact Linda Hines, Linda Skoglund, and Carol Bulman for an update on the RFP (this can be reviewed by Myron Schuster and others)
- suggestions for additional steering committee members (suggestions from Andy, Rosanne, and Myron)
- broker training (Linda Hines)
- fund raising (via Matt Krumenauer at the Federation of Cooperatives)
- additional committees
- revised timeline
- meeting next week (January 27<sup>th</sup>)

**Adjourn**

The meeting of CHC's steering committee adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

~William Rubin