

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Governor's Health Workforce Council**  
**Monday, March 25th, 10:00am-11:30am**  
**Indiana Government Center South,**  
**Conference Room B**

**Members Present:**

- **Don Kelso**, *Executive Director*, Indiana Rural Health Association
- **Deborah Frye**, *Executive Director*, Professional Licensing Agency
- **Ben Carter**, *Director of Workforce and Innovation*, Indiana Department of Education
- **Michael Barnes**, *Indiana Workforce Development*
- **Chairman Fred Payne**, *Commissioner*, Indiana Department of Workforce Development
- **Laura Heinrich (for Kristina Box)**, *Commissioner*, Indiana State Department of Health
- **Hannah Maxey** *Assistant Professor and Director*, Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research and Policy
- **Tina Darling (for Phil Morpew)**, *Chief Executive Officer*, Indiana Primary Health Care Association
- **Ken Sauer**, *Senior Associate Commissioner and Chief Academic Officer*, Indiana Commission for Higher Education
- **Andrew Vanzee (for Brian Tabor)**, *President*, Indiana Hospital Association
- **Allison Taylor (for Jennifer Walthall)**, *Secretary*, Indiana Family Social Services Administration

**Members Not Present:**

- **Kristina Box**, *Commissioner*, Indiana State Department of Health
- **Senator Ed Charbonneau**, *Senator*, Indiana Senate, Chair of Health and Provider Services
- **Logan Harrison**, *Director of State Affairs*, Anthem, Inc.
- **Jim McClelland**, *Executive Director for Drug Prevention, Treatment, and Enforcement*, State of Indiana
- **Representative Cynthia Kirchhofer**, *Representative*, Indiana House of Representatives, Chair of Public Health Committee

**Welcome**

Chairman Payne calls meeting to order at 10:06am

**Approval of Minutes from Meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Chairman Payne asks for a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes, which were distributed in advance of the Council meeting. Ken Sauer makes a motion to approve the minutes. Deborah Frye seconds this motion. All members approve. No opposition. Motion carries.

## **Workgroup Updates**

### ***Community Health Worker (CHW) Workgroup***

Laura Heinrich, representing Dr. Kristina Box from the Indiana Department of Health, provided an overview of the OB Navigator program that targets women in the Medicaid program that are living in or around the 13 highest infant mortality rate zip codes. The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) is partnering with Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) on this initiative. Laura Heinrich detailed the areas in which the OB Navigator program would be most helpful and also explained their methodology on creating their target population. Currently, ISDH is working with the State Budget Agency, Department of Child Services and the General Assembly to procure \$6.6 million in funding. Heinrich explains that this program ties nicely with the work of the CHW workgroup, and they plan to partner with other community-based providers, such as Nurse Family Partnership and community paramedics.

### ***State Loan Repayment Program (SLRP) Workgroup***

Heinrich also gives an update on the State Loan Repayment Program initiative, which is now a program housed at ISDH. Heinrich shares the goals of the program, participation criteria, and ranking process. Allison Taylor stated that the workgroup members shared a value that offering loan repayment makes Indiana a more welcoming environment for practitioners and supports workforce development. She adds that there was interest from the workgroup to pursue establishment of an expanded state program that allows more participation and state flexibility.

### **Update on Occupational Licensing Policy Learning Consortia**

The Core Team on this project continues to express interest in licensure compacts as a strategy to enhance portability of licensure. A Licensure Compacts Learning Lab was held in December through funding provided by the National Governors Association, National Conference of State Legislatures and Council of State Government. Experts from the Nurse Licensure Compact, EMS Compact (REPLICA), and Medical Licensure Compact came to provide objective information and answer questions from attendees. The event had 45 attendees, ranging from legislators, legislative assistants, professionals, and employers. In the course of the day, attendees engaged in discussion and requested as a follow-up that information on each compact be provided in a policy brief format. Two of these briefs are completed. There are a number of bills that were proposed this session around compacts: Nurse Licensure Compact (SB 436, HB 1344) and REPLICA/EMS Compact (SB 510). No Legislation was proposed for medical licensure compact.

### **Legislative Tracker**

Maxey introduces to the Council a resource that was created this session to support policy coordination: the Bowen Biweekly Bill Brief (B4). The B4 serves as a legislative tracker for stakeholders to be informed and monitor health workforce-related legislation. This resource is disseminated to all Council members on a biweekly basis. In addition to the full legislative tracker document, a resource referred to as the “barometer” visually displays these bills’ progress throughout the session.

- Chairman Payne asks if there is an ability to quantify the reach of these resources Maxey responds that this information is quantified through click rates and downloads. It will be reported in an annual impact report at the end of the fiscal year.

## **Overview of 2019 Indiana Health Workforce Summit**

Maxey shares information about the Indiana Health Workforce Summit that will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup>. One track will be focused on Occupational Regulation and will have national experts sharing best practices in regulation. The overall theme for the Summit is Workforce Alignment in the Health Sector. The full Summit agenda was provided to Council members.

## **Information gathered from Health Professionals at License Renewal**

Chairman Payne states that the Council will serve as a reviewing body for questions to health professionals during the license renewal process. This work is done in partnership with the Professional Licensing Agency (PLA). Deborah Frye states that these surveys have been distributed to professionals during the licensing process for years on a voluntary basis. 2018's Senate Enrolled Act 223 transitioned the collection of this information to be required. The bill expanded the questions to include a requirement of "healthcare services provided" by licensees. This law went into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 and the first professionals affected are physicians and registered nurses. The Council will review the proposed list of services that was sent in advance of the meeting and will vote to adopt a finalized list. Frye states the values to consider include ensuring survey length is not overly burdensome but collects information that meets the needs of the state.

The Council considered whether it was beneficial to separately identify the types of Medication Assisted Treatment that was provided.

- Tina Darling states that given the breakout would take only minimal amount of time to complete, capturing more information is better in the first round of implementation. She states this information would be helpful for agencies or other groups applying for grant funding.
- Michael Barnes asks if the specialty and services question is tied to the provider or if it will be asked for each separate practice location. Frye responds no, practitioners do not have to list specialties or services area for each location separately.
- Barnes asks what percentage of licensees participate in the voluntary surveys. Maxey responds that in the physician group, about 60% responded to one or more questions. In transitioning the voluntary survey to be mandatory, it was noted that not all questions may apply. Therefore, an additional response option of "not applicable" was offered for all questions so that licensees/respondents could always find an option that is suitable for them.
- Chairman Payne ask how Indiana compares to other states. Maxey responds that Indiana is serving as a best practice for health workforce data collection. Other states are reaching out to Indiana for advice. Other states may have a different administrative structure for licensing; Indiana's central licensing agency is an advantage, as the data collection can be done through the PLA instead of working with each licensing board separately.
- Sauer asks in regards to the specialties questions whether the assumption is that the practitioners have the same specialty in their practice throughout the state. Maxey responds that generally yes; providers self-report specialties once on the survey. Frye adds that the INSPECT program has recently began collecting specialty information on prescribers but the program didn't have that in the past.
- Maxey inquired whether here is there any value to capturing the population groups served by practitioners. The Council collectively agrees that identifying population groups

would allow for higher resolution information available for the state, especially in regards to pregnant women, geriatrics, and adolescents. For these population groups in particular, it may be important for the state to be able to identify MAT providers or number of specialty providers available.

Discussion on the survey was concluded and Chairman Payne asked for a motion to approve the expanded list of survey questions. Taylor makes a motion to approve. Sauer seconds this motion. All Council members in favor and no opposition.

Chairman Payne asks Frye what are next steps after reaching consensus on the survey questions. Frye responds that the survey gets sent to the Professional Licensing Agency's IT team to prepare/encode and disseminate surveys to licensees once the renewal period opens.

### **Other Business**

Chairman Payne presents information on an event from the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices on the topic of translating health workforce data to policy. This event will be held in Indianapolis in June. Indiana has been asked to lead a workshop on this topic. In addition to Indiana serving as speakers and national experts, each state has been asked to apply for five individuals to attend. If individuals are interested in attending, they can connect following the meeting.

### **Closing & Adjourn**

Chairman Payne notifies Council members that next Council meeting will occur on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Before closing, Payne opens the floor for any additional questions, comments, or concerns. Hearing none, Payne calls the meeting to adjournment at 11:29am.