

**MINUTES**  
**CMSP GOVERNING BOARD**  
Thursday, March 25, 2021

Via Zoom

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sanja Bugay, Health and Human Services Director, Kings County  
Birgitta Corsello, County Administrator, Solano County  
Richard Egan, County Administrator, Lassen County  
Richard Forster, County Supervisor, Amador County  
Elizabeth Kelly, Health and Human Services Director, Colusa County  
Leonard Moty, County Supervisor, Shasta County  
Jennifer Vasquez, Health and Human Services Director, Yuba County  
Brad Wagenknecht, County Supervisor, Napa County  
Christine Zoppi, Health and Human Services Director, Glenn County

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Patrick Blacklock, County Administrator, Yolo County  
Brendan McCarthy, Assistant Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency

**Welcoming Remarks and Request for Public Comments**

Board members introduced themselves as they confirmed their participation on the Zoom meeting, with the exception of Sanja Bugay and Elizabeth Kelly who joined the meeting later. Brad Wagenknecht, Board Chair, opened the meeting and asked if there were any public comments. It was reported that there were no public comments received through the email process and no members of the public asked to speak through Zoom.

**Agenda and Correspondence and Consent Calendar**

Mr. Wagenknecht invited a motion to approve the Board Agenda and the Correspondence and Consent Calendar.

ACTION MSC:           Governing Board approve the March 25, 2021 Board Agenda and Correspondence and Consent Calendar.

APPROVED           Votes:           Aye 7  
  Nay 0

**Report on Closed Session**

Cathy Salenko, CMSP General Counsel, reported that the Governing Board met in Closed Session and discussed contract and contract negotiations with health care providers and took no action.

## **Report from Legislative Representative**

Karen Lange of Shaw Yoder Antwih Shmelzer & Lange reported that the Legislature is about to go on spring recess. There are a lot of bills in process and as the Legislature has moved through the first part of the budget it is now focused on legislation. The one Budget Committee hearing process that is still going on pertains to the health subcommittees and consideration of the CalAIM Medi-Cal proposal. The Legislature and the Administration are leaving many items open as they work through issues.

The State's General Fund is performing exceptionally well due to higher income tax withholding and higher tax revenues coming in. Up to \$50 billion in surplus is potentially projected. In addition, billions are expected from the federal American Rescue Plan. Within this context, there is increasing information that the biggest cities in California will be asking the Newsom Administration for \$18 billion to address homelessness over a period of 2-3 years.

There are a variety of questions about what counties can spend the American Rescue Plan funding on, and the National Association of Counties (NACO) recently asked Treasury Secretary Yellon for clarity on this matter. While Congress passed the legislation the Secretary of Treasury still needs to write regulations for implementation. For rural counties that have broadband issues, there is a lot of money to address these issues in the American Rescue Plan but many questions remain.

In other news, Assembly Member Ash Kalra has introduced AB 1400, Guaranteed Health Care for All, with several co-authors. Lately, advocates for Health Care for All have been showing up at the homes of legislators that have not signed onto the legislation.

Paul Yoder reported that the State Budget and recurring funding issues have resulted in an era of perpetual budgeting. Presently, the Legislature is at the beginning of a 2-year session and so far has addressed major legislation on landlord and renter assistance, in addition to legislation on schools and anticipated wildfire legislation.

Soon, Mr. Yoder continued, the Legislature will be facing the May Revision, and it's anticipated that the Governor will authorize California residents to file state taxes at a later time, in line with the new federal tax due date. As a consequence, there will be less knowledge about the real level of revenues at the time of final budget adoption. But, because there's such a surplus of funding (state taxes and American Rescue Plan) there is less concern about available revenues.

In other news, the Governor nominated Assembly Member Rob Bonta to serve as Attorney General, and the Sacramento County District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert has announced that she'll run against him in 2022. The petitions for recalling Governor Newsom have been filed and it appears that roughly 80% of the signatures are likely to be validated, which means the recall is very likely to take place.

On the ballot there will be two questions: Do you want to recall Governor Newsom? If yes, which of the following candidates do you favor? Reportedly, some other high profile candidates, such as Tom Steyer and Antonio Villaraigosa, may be considering running.

Board member Sanja Bugay joined the meeting.

### **Board Member Special Election**

Kari Brownstein, Administrative Officer, reported that Governing Board Member Patrick Blacklock, Yolo County CAO, announced that he would resign from his position with Yolo County effective April 4, 2021 to become the Executive Director for the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC). As a result, Mr. Blacklock will no longer be able to serve as a member of the CMSP Governing Board. Ms. Brownstein asked the Board to direct its Legislative Representative to conduct an election for the open County Administrator position on the Governing Board.

ACTION MSC:                      Governing Board direct the Board's Legislative Representative to conduct a special election for a County Administrator representative to replace Patrick Blacklock, Yolo County CAO.

APPROVED	Votes:	Aye 8
		Nay 0

### **Specialty Care Access**

Alison Kellen, Program Manager, stated that the Governing Board previously approved funding for Specialty Care Access Expansion Grants as part of the Board's outline of strategic priorities for the County Medical Services Program in April 2019. Two projects were funded under this effort:

- Champion for Health: A 6-month planning grant in the amount of \$29,574.50 for a review of options and alternatives for development of specialty care access in Imperial County; and,
- Operation Access: A 5-year implementation grant in the amount of \$5.7 million to expand access to specialty care services in 19 CMSP counties.

Ms. Kellen introduced Adama Dyoniziak, Executive Director, and Jaime Carrillo, Strategy and Planning Consultant, with Champions for Health, who presented their findings and recommendations to the Board (see attached).

Ms. Kellen introduced Jason Beers, President/CEO, Operation Access, who presented a report on current efforts and activities.

Board Member Richard Egan left the meeting.



FY 2020-21 Administrative Office Budget Expenditures Year-to-Date

Ms. Forrest presented a report on year-to-date actual versus budgeted Administrative Office expenditures. As of January 31, 2021 there were expenditures of \$2,141,495 (accrual basis). As of February 28, 2020 there were expenditures of \$2,478,939 (accrual basis). The approved Administrative Office Budget for FY 2020-21 is \$5,447,000.

**Independent Auditor Request for Proposals**

Ms. Forrest reported that the Governing Board previously approved release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an independent certified public accounting firm for the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 CMSP Annual Audit. Following release of the RFP and scoring of the submitted proposals by a review committee composed of the Administrative Officer, Accounting Manager and the Policy and Planning Consultant, two firms were selected for interviews via Zoom: Moss Adams, LLP and Crowe, LLP.

Ms. Forrest stated that the CMSP Financial Statements have been audited by Crowe LLP (formerly Perry-Smith LLP) since 2009, and there have been three partner rotations during this time period. She noted that the federal Sarbanes-Oxley Act, passed in 2002, requires publicly traded companies to have partner rotation every 5 years, but does not require a rotation of auditing firms. She also noted that under California law, only Local Education Agencies are required to have partner rotation every 5 years.

Ms. Forrest stated that the review committee determined Crowe LLP to be the higher scoring firm and therefore recommends that the Governing Board continue to utilize the services of Crowe LLP for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Audit. She also stated that both firms are fully qualified to provide the expertise needed to complete the Annual Audit. Board member discussion ensued.

ACTION MSC:           Governing Board approve a continuation of auditing services by Crowe LLP for the FY 2020-21 CMSP Program audit.

APPROVED           Votes:           Aye 8  
  Nay 0

**Organizational Review Request for Proposals**

Ms. Brownstein stated that the Governing Board, at its meeting of January 28, 2021, approved release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an organizational review in which the preferred vendor will make recommendations to the Board on all of the following:

- Overall organizational structure and staffing composition of the Board’s Administrative Office;
- Current employee position classifications and compensation for all positions, including a review of salaries and benefits of comparable positions in government and the private sector in the Sacramento, California regional market; and,



Ms. Kellen presented the Committee's recommendation that certain benefit expansions be adopted for two CMSP benefit programs – Standard CMSP and Connect to Care (see attached). She also presented the Committee's recommendation that no changes to benefit coverage under Path to Health be made at this time because it is a pilot project and the final evaluation report on the project is expected from UCLA in May, at which time the Board may consider whether and how the project may be continued. Discussion among Board members ensued.

Board Member Richard Forster left the meeting.

ACTION MSC:       Governing Board approve the proposed expansion of benefits under the CMSP and Connect to Care benefit programs recommended by the Planning and Benefits Committee.

APPROVED           Votes:        Aye 7  
  Nay 0

### Healthcare Workforce Development

Laura Moyer, Program Analyst, reported that the Planning and Benefits Committee also considered the status of the health care provider loan repayment programs the Governing Board currently funds at its last meeting. These programs include:

- CMSP Loan Repayment Program (CMSP LRP) with a focus on primary care physicians, psychiatrists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, and dentists in CMSP counties and at CMSP provider locations; and,
- Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program (AHLRP) with a focus on various allied health care personnel needed in medical offices, clinics and hospitals in CMSP counties and at CMSP provider locations.

Ms. Moyer stated that both programs recently accepted applications for their fifth and final funding round, and that there are no remaining award funds for future application rounds for either AHLRP or CMSP LRP. Up to \$8 million over five years was approved for CMSP LRP awards; up to \$2.5 million over five years for AHLRP awards; and, up to \$1.9 Million over five years was approved for OSHPD program administration.

Ms. Moyer said that the Committee took action recommending that the Governing Board continue both loan repayment programs for three additional funding cycles at the current rate of funding (\$2 Million per year for CMSP LRP and \$500,000 per year for AHLRP). Additionally, the Planning and Benefits Committee took action recommending that Chiropractors be added to the list of eligible providers under the AHLRP if their services are added as a covered benefit under the CMSP Standard benefit program.

ACTION MSC:       Governing Board approve the proposed continuation of the CMSP LRP (up to \$2 million) and AHLRP (up to \$500,000) programs for three additional funding cycles. Further,





### **Connect to Care Update**

Karalyn Foster, Eligibility Analyst, reported that the Connect to Care Program has expanded to 23 clinic systems with 95 locations in 20 counties. Presently, there are 61 members, and the median age is 45.

### **Path to Health Pilot Project Update**

Paradis Pourzanjani, Program Analyst, reported that UCLA would be presenting their final Path to Health Pilot Project evaluation findings to the Governing Board in May. Presently, there are 22 participating health centers with 100 locations in 21 counties. In addition, 15 health centers participate in both Path to Health and Connect to Care. Approximately 10,600 members are currently enrolled in Path to Health.

### **CMSP Marketing Plan Update**

Ms. Kellen reported that CMSP staff has been working with its contracted marketing firms, Wallrich and Upstreamers, which are proposing to do a joint marketing campaign for all three CMSP benefit programs. A presentation regarding the marketing plan is planned for the May Governing Board meeting.

### **Public Comments**

Mr. Wagenknecht asked for public comments. There were no public comments.

The next meeting is May 27, 2021.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:33 pm.