

Report on Closed Session

Alison Bassett, CMSP General Counsel, reported that the Governing Board met in Closed Session, discussed the Executive Director's performance evaluation and related staffing updates, and took no action.

Report from Legislative Representative

Karen Lange of Shaw, Yoder, Antwih, Schmeltzer and Lange greeted the Governing Board. Ms. Lange reported that the Legislature is wrapping up "house of origin" legislation. She said there are many bills that counties oppose, so there are many things to watch. Legislation of concern includes bills on vacancy rates of county employees, and a bill on contracting for services that were carried out by county employees in the past five years; it would establish reporting on how and why contracting was undertaken and place certain limits. In related news, the Legislature just eliminated thousands of state positions to shrink the number of budgeted positions.

Board Members Kimberly Chen and Jennifer Vasquez joined the meeting.

Ms. Lange stated that regular committee hearings will start again next week along with budget hearings. Earlier this year the Legislature took action on \$17 billion in cuts, and now the Legislature is beginning to assess the Governor's larger budget proposal that was presented just last week. Even into this week, as the Legislature has been conducting May Revision hearing, there has been a lack of information on various proposals put forward by the Governor. Notably, there is a pending \$8 billion reduction contained in the proposed budget for schools, and the California Teachers Association is launching a media campaign to reject the Governor's proposal.

The level of proposed cuts in the budget to health and human services programs is enormous. At the very top is the \$300 million previously approved for counties for public health, which has now been proposed for elimination. The Legislature has not yet taken action on the Governor's proposals, although the Assembly Budget Committee has slated a date of May 30 for closing out their actions. The Senate is expected to be in the driver's seat with negotiations between the Legislature and the Governor. It is also anticipated that most proposals will just be presented at the eleventh hour and advocates will have little opportunity to influence the outcomes.

In other pending action, the Legislature has until June 27 to determine what matters will go on the November 2024 ballot. One of the most popular things the Legislature could do is general obligation bonds. Currently, there could be three bonds under discussion for schools, housing, and climate/flood control. A maximum of \$20 billion in financing is potentially available for such bonds.

In other November ballot news, various measures may be on the ballot, including ACA 1 (would lower the threshold for public construction projects to 55%); the Business Roundtable proposal (which would require a 2/3 vote for new local taxes); and, ACA 13, an

alternative to the Business Roundtable proposal (which would require a 2/3 vote for any change to the Constitution that would impose a 2/3 vote for a local tax increase or other action); as well as a proposal to repeal Proposition 47 of 2014.

Finally, Ms. Lange stated that April state revenues seem to be matching projections, which suggests things may be leveling off. Further, everyone should expect that more state budgeting will take place in August to resolve budget issues. Finally, there is a proposal under consideration by the Governor to push back the start date of the health care mandatory minimum wage increase by one month.

Healthcare Workforce Development

Ms. Brownstein reported on the CMSP Healthcare Workforce Convening that was held April 3, 2024. At the convening, Dr. Janet Coffman of the UCSF Healthforce Center, presented findings from the report, “The Healthcare Workforce Landscape in County Medical Services Program (CMSP) and Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Counties,” and various health, behavioral health and oral health experts provided comments. A total of 88 people participated (55 attended in person and 33 participated via Zoom). As a part of the convening, small workgroups discussed the findings and developed recommended next steps the Governing Board could take to address CMSP county workforce needs.

Ms. Brownstein outlined a set of recommended actions developed by a small group process, separated into three broad areas:

- **Expand Educational Opportunities for Health Professions Education for Private Sector, County, and Non-Profit Organizations**
 - Provide stipends and fellowships to support health professions education.
 - Establish defined educational pathways for healthcare professions development in K-12, high schools, community colleges, universities and/or professional schools.
 - Provide internships and training stipends for health professions education.
 - Establish scholarships in addition to, or in lieu of, loan repayment for healthcare professionals.
 - Provide stipends for employees to serve as mentors to new healthcare professionals in their organizations.

- **Expand Professional Training Support for County and Non-Profit Health & Behavioral Health Organizations**
 - Create a regional training center for continuing education for county healthcare and behavioral health employees, including paraprofessionals.
 - Create a program, system or mechanism for county and nonprofit healthcare employees to fulfill licensing and/or certification requirements.

Proposed FY 2024-25 CMSP Budget

Program Budget

Ms. Brownstein presented the proposed CMSP Program and Administrative Budgets for FY 2024-25 for consideration by the Governing Board. Ms. Brownstein outlined the following major items in the proposed budget:

- Budget projects a Beginning Fund Balance of \$318,000,000.
- Budget projects an increase in Interest Revenue.
- Budget assumes no Realignment Revenue.
- Budget proposes to waive the County Participation Fees of \$5,991,905.
- Medical and Pharmacy Expenses are calculated using projected enrollment and cost trend growth.
- Total Healthcare Benefit Program Expenses are budgeted at \$5,695,000.
- Total Pilot Projects and Alternative Products are budgeted at \$16,825,000.
- Budget projects an Ending Fund Balance of \$298,116,000.

Administrative Office Budget

Ms. Brownstein then presented the proposed FY 2024-25 CMSP Administrative Office Budget. She outlined the following significant changes to the budget:

- Budget proposes an increase in Business & Professional Liability Insurance.
- Budget proposes the same amount for Staff Expenses to fill vacant positions.
- Budget proposes \$1,075,000 for CMSP Marketing including marketing vendors, media expenditures, and marketing materials.
- Budget includes the remaining approved Human Resources Consultant expenses of \$17,000 for calendar year 2024.

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve the proposed FY 2024-25 CMSP Budget.

APPROVED

Votes:

Aye 7

Nay 0

CMSP Grants Update

Laura Moyer, Grants Administrator, reported on the Local Indigent Care Needs (LICN) grant program. The next annual LICN convening will be held on October 23, 2024 in Sacramento at the DoubleTree Hotel. As of April 30, 8 LICN projects have completed their activities and presented their final reports.

In response to the most recent LICN Implementation Grant Program Request for Proposals, the Governing Board received four proposals and recommended proposals will be brought to the Board in July.

With regard to the Healthcare Infrastructure Development (HID) Grant Program, one county is now under contract (Glenn) and one county contract (Humboldt) is outstanding. The HID Grant Program will be open until December 31, 2024.

Finally, the CMSP Loan Repayment program recently granted awards for 2024. Fifty-five (55) providers were approved for loan repayments at a cost of \$1.2 million.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Brownstein provided the following informational report:

- The Path to Health transition continues; CMSP staff is working with Medi-Cal health plans on continuity of care matters (documenting where primary care was delivered).
- Development of the new community health center based CMSP eligibility/enrollment system (mCase) continues; CMSP staff is working with DHCS and RedMane on the data file transfer protocols and mechanisms.
- The CMSP Program Analyst left her position to move out of the area, and a process is underway to hire a new Program Analyst. Additionally, a new Administrative Assistant will start shortly.
- A "Connect to Care Enrollment Challenge" will soon be implemented for community health center application assisters. With the "Challenge" the most productive assisters (in terms of numbers of persons enrolled) will be given Silver Tier and Gold Tier status, along with a small gift card and travel mug.

Eli Cizewski-Robinson, CMSP Data Analyst, reported that the number of remaining uninsured (and not covered by Medi-Cal) in the 35 CMSP counties is estimated to be 211,000 (with a range of 23,000 to 400,000).

Public Comments

Mr. Forster asked for public comments. There were no public comments and Mr. Forster adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is July 25, 2024.