

CMSP GOVERNING BOARD

December 12, 2024

In-Person and via Zoom

Governing Board Conference Room
1545 River Park Drive, Suite 435-A
Sacramento, CA 95815

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Egan, County Administrator, Lassen County (in person)
Richard Forster, County Supervisor, Amador County (in-person)
Elishia Hayes, County Administrator, Humboldt County (remote)
Elizabeth Kelly, Health and Human Services Director, Colusa County (remote)
Jennifer Vasquez, Health & Human Services Director, Yuba County (in-person)
John Vasquez, Supervisor, Solano County (in-person)
Jennifer Yasumoto, Health and Human Services Director, Napa County (remote)
Mike Ziegenmeyer, Supervisor, Sutter County (remote)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kimberly Chen, Assistant Secretary, California Health & Human Services Agency
Deborah Martinez, Social Services Director, Madera County
Christina Rivera, County Administrator, Sonoma County (attended meeting remotely at alternate location as member of the public)

CLOSED SESSION

The Governing Board met in Closed Session.

PUBLIC SESSION

Introductions and Public Comments

Richard Forster, Board Chair, opened the meeting and invited Board Members attending the meeting in person to introduce themselves, followed by Board Members participating remotely. Then CMSP staff introduced themselves. Mr. Forster asked for any comments from the public. There were no public comments.

Correspondence and Consent Calendar

Mr. Forster requested a motion to approve the December 12, 2024 Governing Board Agenda and Correspondence and Consent Calendar.

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve the December 12, 2024 Governing Board Agenda and Correspondence and Consent Calendar.

APPROVED

Votes:

Aye 8

Nay 0

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 delegated authority to the Board Chair to carry out the evaluation within parameters set by Board.

Report from Legislative Representative

Karen Lange of Shaw, Yoder, Antwih, Schmeltzer and Lange greeted the Governing Board. Ms. Lange reported that the Legislature convened to open the 2025-26 session and to open a Special Session to consider the Governor's proposed actions, including the proposal for an appropriation of \$20 million to support legal actions by state departments in the coming year. The Legislature will come back on Jan 6 to reconvene and the governor will introduce his January 10 State Budget. All of this will take place before the new federal administration is inaugurated. The uncertainty about potential future actions by the new federal administration on healthcare, including Medicaid, has created a new context for CMSP and indigent healthcare. At the county-level, there is growing concern about what potential proposals may come forward.

There are currently two legislative vacancies, including one Senate seat and one Assembly seat, both of which were held by Republican members.

Yesterday afternoon the cash receipts report showed that receipts are up by \$7.4 Billion, which is about 10% more than anticipated. However, expenditures are up by \$11 Billion, which is about 13% above the budget. The Legislative Analyst has called for \$2 Billion in reductions to balance the budget.

Board Member Terms and Elections

Ms. Lange and Kari Brownstein, Executive Director, reported on the election of new and returning Governing Board members:

- Scott De Moss, CAO, Glenn County (newly elected)
- John Vasquez, Supervisor, Solano County (reelected)
- Ed Valenzuela, Supervisor, Siskiyou County (newly elected)
- Deborah Martinez, Social Services Director, Madera County (reelected)

Board Member Recognition

Ms. Brownstein reported that the terms of Richard Forster, Amador County Supervisor, and Richard Egan, Lassen County CAO, come to an end December 31, 2024. Ms. Brownstein and Jennifer Vasquez, Governing Board Vice Chair, jointly recognized both Board members for their contributions to the Board and CMSP counties during their terms. Richard Forster has been Board Member since 2012 and Richard Egan has been a Board Member since 2016.

Both Richard Egan and Richard Forster expressed thanks for the opportunity to serve CMSP counties on the CMSP Governing Board and for recognition of their work while serving on the Board.

Election of Officers

Ms. Brownstein stated that the Governing Board needed to elect a Chair and Vice Chair for calendar year 2025. She asked for volunteers.

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve John Vasquez, Solano County Supervisor, as Chair for 2025.

APPROVED Votes: Aye 8
Nay 0

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve Jennifer Vasquez, Yuba County Health and Human Services Director, as Vice Chair for 2025.

APPROVED Votes: Aye 8
Nay 0

Election of Executive Committee

Ms. Brownstein stated that the Executive Committee includes the Chair and Vice Chair and two additional members. Discussion among Board members ensued about Board Members Elishia Hayes and Deborah Martinez continuing to serve on the Executive Committee in 2025.

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve John Vasquez, Jennifer Vasquez, Deborah Martinez, and Elisha Hayes as Executive Committee for 2025.

APPROVED Votes: Aye 8
Nay 0

Approval of 2025 Governing Board Meeting Dates

Ms. Brownstein asked the Board to review and approved the proposed Board meeting dates for 2025.

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve the proposed CMSP Governing Board meeting dates for 2025.

APPROVED Votes: Aye 8
Nay 0

Healthcare Workforce Development

Ms. Brownstein briefly provided background on the Governing Board's healthcare workforce development efforts over the past year, including the release of the UCSF Healthforce Center report "The Healthcare Workforce Landscape in County Medical Services Program (CMSP) and Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) Counties," the CMSP Healthcare Workforce Development stakeholder convening in April 2024, and the proposed workforce development strategies developed by CMSP staff in response to stakeholder recommendations.

CMSP Building the Healthcare Workforce Grant Program

Ms. Brownstein outlined the proposed CMSP Building the Healthcare Workforce (BHW) Grant Program Request for Proposals for the Board's consideration. Ms. Brownstein presented the BHW grant program, which is composed of two components:

- *Coalition Planning Grants*

Funding would be available to support existing and new workforce coalitions in assessing and documenting local healthcare workforce needs; identifying and engaging local partners; preparing a written plan of workforce development strategies to achieve an increase in needed local health professionals; and, linking and integrating existing healthcare workforce development efforts in the county.

Total funding of \$2 million would be allocated toward Coalition Planning Grants through two funding rounds, with grant amounts ranging from \$60,000 to \$85,000 dependent upon the number of counties involved.

- *Initiative Grants*

Funding would be allocated to support the following types of initiatives:

- Establishing or expanding educational pathways for healthcare professions and para-professions development in high schools, community colleges, and universities;
- Establishing or expanding internships, fellowships, residencies, apprenticeships or other clinical training for health professions education for health system employers in CMSP counties, including private sector, county, and non-profit provider organizations;
- Expanding educational opportunities for enrollment of residents in CMSP counties in medical school, physician assistant (PA) school, nursing school, professional dental programs, and professional behavioral health programs through targeted recruitment and support;
- Expanding opportunities for expedited medical education in primary care and psychiatry for physicians, PAs, and nurses intending to serve rural areas of California;
- Expanding the footprint of medical school, PA school, and nursing school education in CMSP counties so that education and clinical training are provided in these counties;

- Creating new or expanded stipend or other programs for licensed healthcare providers to take on clinical training responsibilities in CMSP counties;
- Facilitating and supporting efforts of healthcare providers in CMSP counties, including county health, public health and behavioral health departments, to obtain H-1B Visa healthcare employees to address workforce shortages;
- Facilitating and supporting efforts of healthcare providers in CMSP counties to increase the community health worker and peer support specialist workforce; and/or,
- Establishing or expanding provider recruitment and retention strategies focused on any of the following: the needs of bilingual/bicultural employees; addressing racial equity; and, mitigating secondary trauma experienced by employees.

Total funding of \$12 million would be allocated toward Initiative Grants through multiple funding rounds, with maximum grant amounts ranging from \$450,000 to \$750,000 dependent upon the number of counties served.

CMSP Loan Repayment Programs

Ms. Brownstein stated that since 2016 the Governing Board has provided \$13.4 million in funding for two healthcare provider loan repayment programs administered by the Department of Healthcare Access and Information (HCAI). These loan programs have been focused on CMSP contracting providers in CMSP counties. Ms. Brownstein presented proposed agreements with HCAI to continue these loan repayment programs as outlined below:

- *CMSP Loan Repayment Program (CMSPLRP)*

Provide up to \$50,000 of educational debt relief to healthcare professionals in exchange for a two-year service obligation at a contracted CMSP provider site; with two one-year extensions available at up to \$25,000 each year. Eligible providers include Physicians in Family Medicine, Internal Medicine, Psychiatry or OB/Gyn, General Dentists, Primary Care Nurse Practitioners and Primary Care Physician Assistants working for a contracted CMSP provider.

- *Allied Healthcare Loan Repayment Program (AHLRP)*

Provide up to \$16,000 of educational debt relief to healthcare professionals in exchange for a one-year service commitment of practicing direct patient care at a contracted CMSP provider site; with additional awards available at the same rate and obligation. Eligible providers include 44 different types of Allied Healthcare Professionals working for a CMSP contracted provider.

Total funding of \$7.1 million would be provided, of which \$5.85 million would support loans and \$1.25 million would support HCAI administrative costs.

CMSP Health Education Scholarship Program

Ms. Brownstein reported that HCAI administers several health education scholarship programs in the areas of primary medicine, nursing, behavioral health, and oral health. These scholarship programs align with the Governing Board’s interests and offer an established administrative mechanism for providing scholarships to qualified residents of CMSP counties in various healthcare fields.

Ms. Brownstein presented a recommendation that the Governing Board authorize CMSP staff to proceed with developing an agreement with HCAI for an expansion of their existing scholarship programs in selected professional areas, to be determined jointly by CMSP staff and HCAI representatives, and that CMSP staff present a final recommendation to the Board at their January 2025 meeting on the structure and focus of these scholarships.

Professional Development and Continuing Education for County Public Health and Behavioral Health Staff

Ms. Brownstein stated that, in response to stakeholder input at the April 2024 healthcare workforce convening, CMSP staff previously presented a proposal to the Governing Board that called for UC Davis Continuing Education and Professional Services (UCD- CE/PS) to develop and carry out a training program for county public health and behavioral health staff. CMSP Governing Board Members on the ad hoc committee reviewing the set of workforce development concepts developed by CMSP staff saw the potential for overlap of this training program with existing training programs being carried out by individual counties or offered through the County Health Executives Association of California (CHEAC) and expressed interest in seeing a broad range of training providers be considered.

Ms. Brownstein presented a proposal to withdraw the UCD-CE/PS training program and refer the matter of professional development and continuing education for county public health and behavioral health staff to the CMSP Planning and Benefits Committee for consideration and development in 2025.

Discussion among Board members ensued on the various workforce development components. Board Members John Vasquez and Richard Forster expressed appreciation for the work carried out by CMSP staff and the ad hoc workgroup.

ACTION MSC: Governing Board approve the four components as set forth below:

- Approve the “Building the Healthcare Workforce” grant program RFP with a budget of \$14 million;
- Approve the proposed Services Agreements with HCAI to continue the CMSPLRP and AHLRP programs with a budget of \$5.85 million for loans and \$1.25 million for HCAI administration;

ITEM	September 2024	October 2024
Total CMSP Funds	\$312,170,826	\$312,675,385
Total Assets	\$314,734,756	\$313,387,468
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$314,734,756	\$313,387,468

FY 2024-25 Program Budget Expenditures Year-to-Date

Mr. Celentano presented a report on year-to-date actual versus budgeted Program expenditures. As of September 30, 2024 there were expenditures of \$5,146,043 (accrual basis). As of October 31, 2024 there were expenditures of \$6,955,351 (accrual basis). The approved Program Budget for FY 2024-25 is \$28,139,000.

FY 2024-25 Administrative Office Budget Expenditures Year-to-Date

Mr. Celentano presented a report on year-to-date actual versus budgeted Administrative Office expenditures. As of September 30, 2024 there were expenditures of \$928,465 (accrual basis). As of October 31, 2024 there were expenditures of \$1,337,542 (accrual basis). The approved Administrative Office Budget for FY 2024-25 is \$5,363,000.

CalTRUST Update

Ms. Brownstein reported that Sonoma County made a change to their investment policy and CMSP staff have asked county staff how that change would affect the transfers. If there is no loss, then the remaining funds at Sonoma County will transfer to CalTRUST in January 2025. If there continues to be a loss, monthly transfers will continue.

Public Employee Performance Evaluation

Board Chair Richard Forster reported that the Governing Board gave him, as Board Chair, the authority to revise the terms of compensation for the Executive Director; and, he reported that the amount granted shall be a 5.5% increase, effective January 1, 2025.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Brownstein asked Alison Kellen, Program Director, to report on development of the CMSP eligibility system for community health centers through mCase. Ms. Kellen reported that the development continues with the RedMane mCase enrollment system for CMSP enrollment through community health centers. As a part of this development, the new system will need to have a system linkage with the DHCS MEDS system. This work is underway.

On the DHCS side, there has been a high level of engagement (four meetings per week with DHCS) and efforts are now focused on making it possible to exchange files and for the MEDS system to send response alerts. DHCS has set up two new Aid Codes for the new CMSP cases in a manner that does not in any way impede County eligibility

processing for CMSP and/or Medi-Cal. DHCS also has to make some modifications to enable RedMane's system to securely interact with MEDS.

With the involvement of DHCS, there is a link to their work cycle and system updates, so implementation of the system linkages has taken longer than originally anticipated. Importantly, system logic with mCase and MEDS is being thoroughly checked to ensure the integrity of the system is appropriately structured and tested.

Ms. Brownstein provided the following additional updates:

The Governing Board's office has updated security cameras due to a break-in in a neighboring suite in the office building. CMSP staff attended the CSAC Annual Conference and met with representatives from over 25 CMSP counties. The annual CMSP audit will commence early in the new year. In October, there was a CMSP Local Indigent Care Needs (LICN) grantee convening and a Healthcare Infrastructure Development (HID) webinar. Finally, AMM is updating provider payment rates.

Public Comments

Mr. Forster asked for public comments. There were no public comments, and Mr. Forster adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is January 22, 2025.