

New Mexico Telehealth Commission
Thursday, November 1, 2005
TVI Workforce Development Center, Albuquerque, NM
Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 9:14 a.m.

Roll call/quorum

Present: Commissioners: Steve Adelsheim, Richard Lueker, Jane Breen Pierce (afternoon session), John Tiernan, Tony Davis, Kathleen Manygoats, Dale Alverson, Dwayne Jordan, Terry Maness, Tomas Torres, Mark Duran, Craig Wingate, Danice Picraux, Edward Lopez, Robert Mayer, Lowell Gordon (in attendance for Pam Hyde), Stephen Easley, Danny Sandoval, Lynne Anker-Unnever, Frank Pullara, Patricio Larragoite

Absent: Commissioners: Paul Ehrlich, Jeannette Velarde, Charles Ferrell, Ferdi Serim

Staff Attendance:

Dorothy Danfelser
Deb Gallegos
Karen Gonzales
Teresa Henke
Camille Maes

Audience Attendance:

Matt Bailey - NM Chile
Julie Fulcher - NM Chile
Jeff Blair - NM RHIO
Maggie Gunter - NM Health Information Commission
Renee Martinez
Debra Hall, MD - Project REACH
Shelley Carter – NM Health information Collaborative
Morgan Seaborn – NM RHIO
Patrick Chavez
Arturo Gonzales – Sangre de Cristo Community Health Partnership
Paul Nelson – Sangre de Cristo Community Health Partnership
Al Sandoval – ABBA Technologies
Terry Boulanger – NM Telehealth Alliance
Steve Cooper

• **Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Duran welcomed the Telehealth Commission and members of the audience to the fourth meeting of the NM Telehealth Commission. Members of the audience and staff were invited to introduce themselves and the organization that they represent. The Chairman acknowledged the commitment of the Commissioners. The Commission is working diligently to put together legislation. Governor Richardson has put together entities that will have influence during the upcoming budget session. The Commission extended a special thanks to Dr. Gordon for his insight into the budgetary issues of HHS. The major objective after this meeting is to approve legislative recommendations.

• **Business Items**

- The agenda was reviewed and approved by the Telehealth Commission with no changes.

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- The Commission reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous meeting with no changes. A distinction between absent and excused will be addressed in the Bylaws, in the interim, non-attendance will be noted as an absence.
- The THC has established a good rapport with the Information Technology Commission.
- Commissioner Wingate and Chairman Duran presented at the Information Technology Oversight Committee (ITOC) in an effort to establish good rapport for future work. ITOC is responsible for overseeing technology in NM. ITOC, an interim committee, is the legislative entity that legislative proposals must go through. Entities report to this committee annually to give the legislature a running idea of what other programs are doing. Endorsement by this interim committee is needed.
- The Commission will go before the Appropriations Committee once we get approval from the Governor regarding funding.
- The purpose of the THC stakeholder meeting was to hear from the public entities involved in telehealth.
 - Quest expressed interest in developing a fiber infrastructure.
 - Abba Technologies will present at a later date.
 - Dynamic Cities is a facilitator for bringing fiber into cities and is not affiliated with any vendor. They were invited back to present to the THC once they begin work in NM.
 - NM Telehealth Alliance provided information on their role and how they can collaborate with THC. The Alliance provides support to the 4 Corners Telehealth Consortium, Con Alma, and REACH Program.
 - NM RHIO described what is being done to standardize the cooperation between healthcare organizations at the state and federal level.
 - Sandoval County Broadband Commission is providing wireless networks in Sandoval County. Initiatives that involve health will be able to access broadband service free of charge.

● **Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report**

A diagram describing the “Sweet Spot” Overlap of Responsibilities between tele and health was presented and Commissioners made corrections/suggestions to the diagram. Goal of diagram is to point out areas of overlap between areas of tele and health and not create adversarial roles or reactions. This diagram is important because it represents the political picture for the Commission. Forward any additional suggestions to Craig Wingate for discussion at future meeting.

- Center circle should include legislation, priorities, procedures, and policy
- The areas from Governor to THC and from Governor to Legislature (proposed legislation and funding) are areas of overlap. THC’s role is between “tele” and “health” looking for leverage point
- Add ITOC to list of agencies under TELE heading
- Add IHS to list of HHS agencies
- EMR is not meant to reside off to side, but was meant as a placeholder.
- Rural community needs to be factored into diagram
- Advocacy will be added to central circle

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- Issues of training for telehealth user and support need to be addressed. UNM has developed extensive curriculum to help other agencies incorporate into their practices.
 - Need to have a box for consumers and how the THC relates to them
- **Approve 2006 New Mexico Telehealth Legislative Proposals (Adoption vote)**
 - The Commission was presented with two proposals to amend the Telehealth Commission Statutory Legislation to give the Commission policy and statutory authority.

Proposal 1: Adopt and promulgate rules setting technical standards for telehealth capital projects including the type of equipment and technical infrastructure needed to provide the highest quality of service or encounter for the function required and the community size;

A roll call vote was taken with 8 in favor and 11 opposed.

Proposal 2: Establish policies and procedures and rules to Certify telehealth projects, regardless of funding sources, to ensure that they satisfy criteria established by the Commission and are phased in and that an agency's authority to proceed to the next phase of a telehealth project is contingent upon completion of the prior phase. The policies, procedures, and rules shall require the identification of one or more specific deliverables for each phase.

A substitute motion was offered to change the language from "Establish" to "Recommend". The substitute motion fails with a vote of 13 opposed to 7 in favor.

A roll call vote on Proposal 2 with changes in the language that were agreed upon prior to the substitute motion was taken. Proposal 2 passed a vote of 13 in favor and 7 opposed.

- Commissioner Easley presented a proposal from the Standards subcommittee for an Electronic Health Network. The Commission reviewed the information and questions were asked and answered. The Commission unanimously approved this proposal.
- Commissioner Adelsheim presented a proposal from the Program Subcommittee on the Children, Adult, Family Telehealth (CAFT) proposal. The Commission reviewed the information and questions were asked and answered. The Commission voted unanimously to adopt the CAFT proposal.
- John Martinez advised that the mission of the IT Subcommittee is to identify the range of existing and emerging technology, the location and telecomm capacity being used, and the inventory of existing equipment locations. A spreadsheet of inventory locations and research of telecom circuits was presented. An overlay was created of telehealth sites in relation to Wire New Mexico. Circles on the overlay indicate buffer zones around the digital microwave. If communities fall

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within that circle, they may be able to get digital microwave. Existing sites could be anywhere from dial up connection to a much faster connection. The first charge of this Commission was to inventory the locations of existing sites. GSD is currently working with NM Tech and NM State to establish a contract to secure the fiber. The State has a contract for Silver City, a route to Farmington, Raton, and Denver.

- There was discussion around selection of sites. Commissioners expressed concerns that it may be premature to select sites and more research needs to be done. Chairman Duran advised that the Inventory and Technology subcommittee and Program, Services, and Learning subcommittee meet to fine-tune.

- **Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be held on November 21, 2005, at the TVI Workforce Development Center from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.