

New Mexico Telehealth Commission
Thursday, September 29, 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, Paul Ehrlich, Jane Breen Pierce, John Tiernan, Tony Davis, Kathleen Manygoats, Jeannette Velarde, Dale Alverson, Terry Maness, Mark Duran, Craig Wingate, Danice Picraux, Edward Lopez, Robert Mayer, Lowell Gordan (in attendance for Pam Hyde), Stephen Easley, Frank Pullara, Ferdi Serim, Patricio Larragoite

Absent: Dwayne Jordan, Charles Ferrell, Lynne Anker-Unnever, Danny Sandoval

Staff Attendance:

Dorothy Danfelter
Ruby Ann Esquibel
Deb Gallegos
Karen Gonzales
Teresa Henke
Vin Kelley

Audience Attendance:

Meg Lueker – New Heart Center volunteer
Patrick Sandoval
Michelle Welby, Office of the Governor
Arturo Gonzales, CEO Sangre de Cristo Community Health Partnership

• **Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Duran welcomed the Telehealth Commission and members of the audience to the third meeting of the NM Telehealth Commission. Members of the audience and staff were invited to introduce themselves and the organizations that they represent. The Chairman acknowledged the commitment of the Commissioners noting that more than a dozen meetings have taken place, either in subcommittee or full Commission form, since the inception of the TH Commission. There will be extensive work through the mid-October meeting in order to finalize recommendations for the upcoming legislative session. The Commission will define the parameters that the subcommittees will work within. After legislative recommendations have been defined, the Commission will define the ecosystem within telehealth.

• **Business Items**

- The agenda was reviewed and approved by the Telehealth Commission with no changes.
- The Commission reviewed and approved the minutes from the previous meeting with the following changes:
 - Correction in spelling to Commissioner Adelsheim's name
 - Correction in spelling to Kelley Metzner's name
 - The THC will be the clearinghouse for all telehealth projects
 - Correction to Deborah Gallegos' email address
- Chairman Duran will schedule a major meeting with Governor Richardson where the Commission will present telehealth priorities for the legislative session. Chairman Duran anticipates scheduling the meeting between mid-October and

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November 1 to take place in Cabinet Room. All Commissioners are asked to attend.

- HHS Cabinet Secretaries (DOH, CYFD, HSD) along with Invest NM committee have joined to identify major innovative initiatives. The Commission will be on the agenda at each meeting.

Legislative Proposals

- The Standards Subcommittee and Program, Service, and Learning Subcommittee will generate a report within the framework established by the Commission that will give direction to the Technology and Inventory Capacity Subcommittee and the Strategic Subcommittee. Recommendations made by the Program and Technology subcommittees will be brought before the full Commission.
- Chairman Duran will take under advisement a proposal to develop a stakeholders subcommittee to create a forum for individuals and agencies involved in telehealth to express their interest/expertise.
- The Commission will move forward with proposal that would give THC authority to develop legislation. At the next meeting the Commission will identify the responsibilities associated with being a policy making body. The differences between a policy making commission and an advisory commission are: 1) a lot more procedure, 2) funding will need to be appropriated, 3) ability to promulgate law that goes into the NM Administrative Code, and 4) subject to Open Meeting Act.
- The Standards Subcommittee will develop blueprint for enterprise EMR and as proof of concept take on HCV Initiative as a pilot project. The Standards Subcommittee will address the clinical standards associated with EMR. A draft blueprint encompassing liability, licensure, supply, and physician reimbursement will be made available to anyone interested in seeing it. UNM and the Corrections Department have an integral program to provide HCV treatment. There are monthly meetings to discuss patients referred for treatment. For a pilot project, there needs to be a large patient base to demonstrate how a project works with and without electronic data transfer. The HCV Initiative is currently in place and has longevity and sustainability. Requested for funding should encompass design plans for how the system will be used and who would use it, network issues for connectivity, security issues, disaster recovery plans, business, accountability, reliability, governance and management of statewide system, programmatic requirements for system, who pays for all of this, and how to bridge private/public partnership. An estimated \$300,00 – 500,000 to build architecture.
- If authority is granted, establish a specific objective that the Commission can show that more funding is needed for provider reimbursement and storage system.
- The Program, Service, and Learning Subcommittee will identify specific details for funding issues for the 2006 legislative session with a focus on extending, within the framework of ECHO and SBIRT and REACH, in areas of behavioral health, diabetes prevention/intervention, and developmental disabilities.

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Action Item: Chairman Duran will invite all HHS Cabinet Secretaries to present on their telehealth initiatives and participate in THC discussion to formally approve recommendations for 2006 session.

Action Item: Standards Subcommittee will research national standards on interoperability of EMR.

Action Item: Standards Subcommittee will iron out details that would go into recommended legislation that would develop enterprise architecture to develop EMR.

- **Strategic Planning Subcommittee Report**

Three goals were identified. The short-term goal is to expand and leverage existing programs with a level of accountability and provide for outcome measures and data gathering. A project worksheet was developed with eight (8) primary categories. The short-term goal can be revised to focus on specific programs that meet the parameters discussed by the Commission. The mid-term goal is to define a community ecosystem by mapping of various communities and their involvement in telehealth. The long-term goal is to achieve a strategic business plan. Stakeholder involvement strategy is a high priority for work in the next few weeks.

Chairman Duran requested that the 3:30pm – 4:00-pm piece of the agenda be crossed out because it has already been covered.

- **Inventory and Technology Capacity Subcommittee Report**

There are tremendous gaps in telehealth availability, primarily in rural areas. There is an inverse relationship between a rural community and the cost of bandwidth. The more rural the community is the greater the cost of bandwidth service. The Inventory and Technology Capacity Subcommittee is exploring ways to reduce costs by: 1) examining existing practices, looking at the supply chain, working on mapping using GIS database to determine if the technology is affordable and available to the communities desiring the technology. At the mid-October meeting will present a map of the state denoting providers and their choice of technology. ERATE funding are educational funds used to support telehealth. Rural universal service funds can be used to purchase the equipment eliminating the need for school to front the money.

Action Item: The Strategic Planning and Inventory and Technology Capacity Subcommittees should have more information to present at the next meeting.

Review/approve document summarizing Telehealth Commission's short-term strategic plan

Chairman Duran introduced a document explaining how the Telehealth Commission was created, the structure of the Commission, and the parameters the Commission has been working within. After extensive discussion, Chairman Duran withdrew and tabled the document. He will continue to verbalize concerns with HHS Secretaries and bring back for discussion at a later meeting.

- **Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be held on November 1, 2005 at the TVI Workforce Development Center from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.