

Rural Health Collaborative Executive Committee Meeting Minutes – Draft

December 14, 2020

Time: 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Location: Virtual Meeting

The following Rural Health Collaborative (RHC) Executive Committee members were in attendance:

Joseph Ciotola, MD

Sara Rich, MPA

Roger Harrell, MHA

Timothy Shanahan, DO

Matthew King, MD

Fredia Wadley, MD

Ken Kozel, MBA, FACHE

William Webb, MS

Also in attendance: Sara Seitz, MPH, Director, State Office of Rural Health, Maryland Department of Health (MDH); Lindsey Snyder, Esq., Assistant Attorney General, MDH; Ron Bialek, MPP, Executive Director, RHC, and President, Public Health Foundation (PHF); Kathleen Amos, MLIS, Assistant Director, Academic/Practice Linkages, PHF; Anastasia Brennan, BSN, RN, CPN, Intern, PHF

Welcome and Review of Agenda

Joseph Ciotola, MD, Queen Anne’s County Health Officer

Meeting was called to order at 5:04pm by RHC President Joseph Ciotola, MD. Dr. Ciotola welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Review and Approval of October 19, 2020 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Joseph Ciotola, MD, Queen Anne’s County Health Officer

Dr. Ciotola requested any changes to the draft minutes for the October 19, 2020 RHC Executive Committee meeting. No additions or corrections were provided. The RHC Executive Committee approved the minutes.

Status of Rural Health Collaborative Report

Ron Bialek, MPP, RHC Executive Director

RHC Executive Director Ron Bialek, MPP, provided an update on the RHC’s December 2020 report to the Governor and General Assembly. The report was submitted to MDH on November 24, 2020. Confirmation that the report was transmitted to the Governor and General Assembly has not yet been received. The report was also submitted to the Department of Legislative Services and confirmation was received, and the report was shared with Senator Hershey and his chief of staff. The report will be shared with Senator Eckardt, and the Secretary of Health will be informed that it has been submitted.

Report Follow-up and Implementation

Joseph Ciotola, MD, Queen Anne’s County Health Officer

The RHC Executive Committee discussed transitioning the RHC to the local health improvement coalition (LHIC). William Webb, MS, is leading the LHIC effort. The LHIC will focus on diabetes prevention, and a group will be convened. The RHC Executive Committee discussed plans for the LHIC and having the LHIC be the vehicle to implement the RHC’s recommendations. The RHC Executive Committee expressed its thanks to PHF for providing Executive Director Services and agreement for terminating the contract for RHC Executive Director Services as of January 31, 2021 and moving into the LHIC for implementation.

Next Steps and Wrap-Up

Joseph Ciotola, MD, Queen Anne's County Health Officer

Dr. Ciotola thanked everyone and wrapped up the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:29pm.

DRAFT