

Rural Health Collaborative Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

August 25, 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

Ken Kozel, MBA, FACHE

Fredia Wadley, MD

Sherry Perkins

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, RN, CPN, Intern, PHF

Welcome and Review of Agenda

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

Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm by RHC President Joseph Ciotola, MD.

Review and Approval of May 11, 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 May 11, 2020 RHC Executive Committee meeting. No additions or corrections were provided. Fredia Wadley, MD, made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Roger Harrell, MHA, seconded the motion. The RHC Executive Committee approved the minutes.

Revised Criteria Related to the Rural Health Complex

A. Review of Draft Criteria

B. Confirming Assumptions:

- i. The population to be served by a rural health complex is defined as the population within a specific geographic area**
- ii. A rural health complex should build on the existing infrastructure in a community before creating something new**
- iii. The following could collectively address all of the criteria for a rural health complex:**
 - 1. Choptank Community Health System**
 - 2. Colocation of Health and Social Services as in Queen Anne's County**
 - 3. Hospital Systems**
 - 4. Mobile Integrated Community Health**
 - 5. Senior Care Programs as in Talbot County**

Ron Bialek, MPP, RHC Executive Director

- RHC Executive Director Ron Bialek, MPP, reviewed the revised draft of criteria that a community must meet to establish a rural health complex and criteria for the rural health complex.

- RHC Executive Committee members discussed the revised draft of criteria that a community must meet to establish a rural health complex and criteria for the rural health complex. Discussion included the need for flexibility in requirements, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, success of Choptank Community Health System, value of partnerships, health equity, assumptions underlying the criteria, the federally qualified health center model, the local health improvement coalition, and how to identify community health needs.

Wrap-Up and Next Steps

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

RHC Executive Director staff will send the revised draft of criteria to the RHC Executive Committee for additional feedback and further refine the draft based on feedback received. Dr. Wadley will share content for the December 2020 RHC report.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:51pm.