Health and Human Services Oversight Committee draft minutes 4.22.2022

Meeting called to order @ 10am.

Present: Sen. Rosenwald, Sen. Giuda, Sen. Gray, Rep. M Pearson, Rep Edwards, Rep. Salloway, Rep. McMahon, Rep. Nelson, Rep. Marsh (alt)

Absent: Rep. Murphy (alt)

Minutes of 3/25 approved with revisions (McMahon, Salloway) VV Sen Giuda abstained.

DHHS Commissioner Update – Commissioner Shibinette

3rd party contract for mental health services at Hampstead Hospital tabled at Executive Council This may result in a delay in closing.

Reps Pearson and Edwards discussed payment in lieu of taxes for Hampstead Hospital

Sen Rosenwald asked about Recovery Solutions and Wellpath. Most issues have been with their correctional division. Oversite is in place to insure quality care.

The department is currently negotiating another contract with HCA.

COVID cases are rising. UNH will implement wastewater testing thru November.

Proposals are forthcoming about workforce recruitment and retention.

Discussion ensued about SB 458 and violence in healthcare facilities

HB 1290, establishing a task force on precision medicine and biomarker testing, committee discussion on establishing a subcommittee or similar entity under RSA 126-A:15 – Representative Jeffrey Salloway.

Draft report presented

Discussion about shrinking the Task Force so work actually gets done

Rep. Salloway will redraft that section.

Rep Pearson asked the task force be specifically charged with making recommendations to Oversite.

Sen Rosenwald clarified only legislative members should get mileage.

Amended report accepted (Salloway/Giuda) 7-0

Tom Prasol informed the committee that Sen Prentice' forthcoming legislative cancer caucus about biomarkers is relevant.

HB 4 (2019) Plan for Dental Care for Medicaid Recipients Status Update – Henry Lipman, FACHE, Medicaid Director, and Sarah Finne, DMD, MPH, Medicaid Dental Director, Division for Medicaid Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Senate approved HB103 24-0 yesterday.

Measure goes to Finance next.

Sen Giuda asked that costs be well documented.

Sen. Rosenwald asked about a waiver and a state plan amendment.

The department is committed to meeting deadlines and implement this during the biennium.

Sen Giuda asked about missed appointments.

DD System Work Update – Melissa Hardy, Director, Division of Long Term Supports and Services, and Nancy Rollins, Executive Manager - Special Projects, Division of Long Term Supports and Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

December 2016 CMS advised NH was out of compliance with CMS rules

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CMS says any Medicaid provider can direct bill

1915(c) waiver requires separate case managers from those providing the services.

2020 DHHS contracted Alvarez and Marsal re how to increase efficiencies in LTSS system. Currently there is poor relationship between needs and expenses.

1915(c) waiver is being updated to improve supply and consistent delivery of services.

A new rate methodology is being developed based on needs.

Transition to direct bill is being implemented.

A modernized IT system is being developed for the bureau. Rep. Edwards asked about details.

Rep. McMahon asked about cis scores and qualification for funding.

Rep Marsh asked about the Corrective Action Plan to implement separate case managers which is due June 2023.

Sen. Rosenwald asked about individualized rate setting and cherry picking.

Sen. Rosenwald asked how we can increase rates, not cut services, and not change the budget. We do not yet have the data to answer the question.

Sen. Rosenwald brought forward concerns about quality of services and asked if the Department has responded to the March 16 letter from the Developmental Services Quality Council.

Rep. Edwards asked about the timeline for implementation.

Rep. Pearson asked about 18-21 years olds and the access to services.

SB 477 (2018) Therapeutic Cannabis Medical Oversight Board Annual Report – Michael Holt, Administrator, Division of Public Health Services, New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Annual report presented.

Rep. Salloway asked about legalization of recreational cannabis and this program.

Rep. Marsh thanked Board for its work developing warning posters and pamphlets.

Rep. Edwards asked about long term financial viability of the ATCs.

At 11:57 pm, Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,
Rep. Marsh, clerk

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