

Health Works Commission Minutes  
Tuesday, August 13, 2019  
1:30 p.m.

Claiborne Building, 1201 North Third Street  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Conference Room, Baton Rouge, LA

Call to Order

Chair Bienemy called the meeting of the Health Works Commission to order at 1:38 p.m., on August 13, 2019, in the Board Conference Room 6-242, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Ms. Carolyn Blanchard, Executive Assistant. A quorum was established.

**Members Present**

Nick Albares, Governor's Office  
Tari Dilks for Kathy Baldrige, Nurse Practitioners  
Cynthia Bienemy, LA State Bd of Nursing \*  
Sandra Brown, Southern University System \*  
Karen Denby, Board of Regents \*  
Wes Hataway, LA Nursing Home Assoc \*  
Jim Henderson, Univ of LA System \*  
Tina Holland for Stanton McNeely, LAICU \*  
Wendi Palermo, LCTCS \*  
Demetrius Porche, LSUHSC-NO \*  
Paul Salles, LA Hospital Association \*  
Dennis Wissing, LSUHSC Shreveport \*

**Members Absent**

Lynn Ansardi, Practical Nurse Examiners  
Rep. Pat Haynes-Smith, Occup Fcasting Conf  
Chaquetta Johnson, Department of Health  
Ragan LeBlanc, Family Physicians \*  
Karen Lyon, State Board of Nursing  
Rep. Dustin Miller, Hse Comm Hlth/Welfare  
Sen Fred Mills, Jr., SenComm Hlth/Welfare  
Ram Paragi, Medical Education Commission  
Kellie Taylor-White, LA Workforce Comm  
Jeffrey Williams, LA State Medical Society \*

**Ad Hoc Member Present**

Alison Davis, Simulation Council  
\* Members of the Executive Committee  
\*\* Ad Hoc (Non-Voting)

**Ad Hoc Member Absent**

Henry Gremillion

**Guests Present**

Mark Berger, LA Nursing Home Assoc.  
Chris Vidrine, LSU and A&M College

Dana Clawson, Northwestern State Univ.  
Lisa Deaton, LA State Nurse Association  
Tabitha Jones-Thomas, FranU

## Results of Election of New Chair of the Health Works Commission

Chair Bienemy announced that the Executive Committee met at 1:15 p.m. today. She said two nominations were offered – Dr. Demetrius Porche, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center at New Orleans and Mr. Paul Salles, Louisiana Hospital Association. After a ballot of votes, Mr. Paul Salles was elected as the new chair of the Health Works Commission. He will begin his term at the next meeting.

## Approval of the July 16, 2019 Minutes

**On motion of Nick Albares, seconded by Paul Salles, the Health Works Commission voted to approve the minutes of July 16, 2019.**

## 2019-2020 Capitation Funding for Nursing Education Capacity

- Recommendations from the Sub-Committee

Dr. Karen Denby, Board of Regents, said that at the end of the 2019 Legislative Session, \$2.5M was allocated in House Bill 105 to the Board of Regents (BoR) for distribution as determined by the Health Works Commission “for the limited and specific purpose of increasing the number of students admitted to and graduating from CNA, LPN, ASN, BSN, MSN, and DNP programs of study.” She said the funds are in the budget for FY 2019-2020.

Dr. Denby said the Health Works Commission subcommittee was charged with developing a survey/application to determine interest and capacity for starting up a capitation program to increase LPN, ASN, and BSN students in Fall or Spring of this academic year due by Friday, August 9. She noted that funding was based on funding of \$7,000.00 per student per year.

Dr. Tina Holland, LAICU, inquired if the Subcommittee sent the survey/application to the independent institutions for participation. After finding out it was not submitted to LAICU institutions, Dr. Holland made the request and Dr. Jim Henderson agreed.

A spreadsheet/chart was prepared by the Board of Regents’ staff that contained all Round 1 Nurse Capitation Grant award applicant information. Mrs. Mellynn Baker explained to the Commission the summary of applicant information, including funding projections and scenarios for spending.

Discussions centered around:

- Eligibility of CNAs for funding, length of program, and cost of CNA programs;
- Eligibility of Nurse Practitioners for the program;
- Cost of criminal background check;
- \$7,000 being a reasonable cost per student per year;
- The program beginning in fall 2019 or spring 2020; and
- Region of state with most profound need in nursing.

After much discussion, it was decided to keep the \$7,000 per student per year for the funding and to begin the program in spring 2020. A meeting would be held in early September to make final decisions.

#### 2019-2020 Funding for Special Projects

- LACANE - Tuition Reimbursement for Nurse Faculty

Chair Bienemy explained that for the past several years the legislature has appropriated \$100,000 to the Board of Regents for the Health Works Commission to distribute. A request was submitted with a deadline of July 30, 2019 for submission to the Board of Regents. The Louisiana Council of Administration of Nursing Education (LACANE) submitted the only proposal, and it was entitled “Expanding the Louisiana Nurse Educator Workforce.”

Chair Bienemy had emailed the proposal to all Commission members prior to the meeting, but she briefly explained the purpose of the project and how the project will address the healthcare workforce needs of the state of Louisiana.

After further discussion,

**On motion of Paul Salles, seconded by Sandra Brown, the Health Works Commission voted unanimously to accept the proposal from the Louisiana Council of Administration of Nursing Education (LaCANE) and receive the entire \$100,000 funded through the Louisiana Legislature.**

#### House Concurrent Resolution No. 60 by Representative Dustin Miller

- Safer Workplace Environments for Physicians, Nurses, and Social Workers

Chair Bienemy said that HCR 60 by Representative Dustin Miller was designed to create a safer workplace environment for physicians, nurses and social workers after the death of a nurse by a patient at the Baton Rouge General Medical Center.

Dr. Bienemy said HCR 60 requests the Louisiana Health Works Commission, with assistance and guidance from the Nursing Supply and Demand Council and the Department of Children and Family Services, to study and make recommendations concerning potential policy changes for creating safer workplace environments in the state. She said the Louisiana Health Works Commission shall submit a written report of the recommendations to the House Committee on Health and Welfare, the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare, the House Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations, and the Senate Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations on or before February 1, 2020.

Paul Salles suggested that the Nursing Supply and Demand Council should take the lead on writing the report. He said Mr. Kenneth Alexander, Louisiana Hospital Association, is a member of the Nursing Supply and Demand Council and can assist. Ms. Dana Clawson, Northwestern State University, suggested that Teresita McNabb of the Louisiana Organization of Nurse Executives, be included in the workgroup.

## Other Business

- Announcements/Consent Agenda
  - Dr. Jim Henderson thanked Dr. Cynthia Bienemy for her leadership as chair for the past few years on the Health Works Commission.
  - Dr. Dennis Wissing is leaving the LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport to assume a Dean's position at LSU Shreveport in September. Dr. Sharon Dunn will be the representative to take his place.
  - Dr. Cynthia Bienemy reviewed the items on the document entitled *Louisiana Center for Nursing/Louisiana Action Coalition Update* along with reminding the Commission of the Louisiana Action Coalition 2019 Culture of Health Summit. The summit will be held Tuesday, October 8, 2019, at Pennington Biomedical Research Center in Baton Rouge.
  
- Public Comments
  - Dr. Karen Denby announced that Ms. Carolyn Blanchard is retiring on August 30, 2019, after 38 ½ years at the Board of Regents. Ms. Cara Landry, Executive Assistant, will begin working with the Health Works Commission at this time.
  - Mr. Mark Berger, Louisiana Nursing Home Association, noted that the presentation from Health Works Commission to Senate Finance was favorably received this past spring. He encouraged "success stories" be presented to the legislature at its next session.
  
- Next Meeting Date
  - The next meeting will be held in early September 2019 and decided by Doodle Poll.

## Adjournment

There being no further business, Chair Bienemy adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.