

Health Works Commission Minutes
 Tuesday, August 18, 2020
 1:00 p.m.
 via virtual Zoom Meeting

Call to Order

Chair Paul Salles called the meeting of the Health Works Commission to order at 1:04 p.m., on August 18, 2020, via virtual Zoom Meeting.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Ms. Cara Landry, Executive Assistant. A quorum was established.

Members Present Christine Constanza (designee), Practical Nurse Examiners	Members Absent Nick Albares, Governor's Office
Cynthia Bienemy, Nursing Supply & Demand Council *	Rep. Patricia Haynes -Smith, Occ. Forecasting Conf.
Sandra Brown, Southern University System *	Rep. Dustin Miller, Hse Comm Hlth/Welfare
Leanne Fowler(designee), Nurse Practitioners	Sen. Fred Mills, Senate Comm. On Health & Welfare
Wes Hataway, LA Nursing Home Assoc *	Ram Paragi, Medical Education Commission
Kenya Messer, LAICU *	Jim Henderson, Univ of LA System *
Chaquetta Johnson, Department of Health	Ragan LeBlanc, Family Physicians *
Wendi Palermo, LCTCS *	Susannah Craig, Board of Regents *
Demetrius Porche, LSUHSC-NO *	
Paul Salles, LA Hospital Association *	
Sharon Dunn, LSUHSC Shreveport *	
Jeffery Williams, LA State Medical Society *	
Karen Lyon, LA State Board of Nursing	
Kellie Taylor-White, LA Workforce Comm.	
Ad Hoc Member Present	
Alison Davis, Simulation Council**	Ad Hoc Member Absent

* Members of the Executive Committee

** Ad Hoc (Non-Voting)

Guests Present

Approval of the July 1st, 2020 Minutes

Mr. Paul Salles asked for a motion, that the minutes from the July 1st meeting be approved. On the motion of Dr. Demetrius Porche, seconded by Dr. Sharon Dunn, the Health Works Commission voted to approve the minutes of July 1, 2020.

Nurse Capitation 2020-2021

Mr. Salles introduced Ms. Mellynn Baker, Board of Regents, who presented the Commission with an update on 2020-21 Nurse Capitation program. Ms. Baker gave a high-level overview of the 2019-20 Nurse Capitation program and stated that due to enrollment challenges, \$300,000 of the funds were returned to the Board of Regents (BoR). Dr. Porche asked what happens to the returned funds. Ms. Baker responded that the funds are returned to the state general fund and do not reside in the BoR. Ms. Baker then briefed the Commission on the status of the 2020-21 Nurse Capitation. She stated that with the guidance of the subcommittee, this year's \$2.5 million will be distributed amongst all institutions. She explained that the nurse capitation subcommittee, which is composed of representatives from each System office, decided to continue funding for all those currently enrolled in the program through spring 2021 and allow them to apply for more funding. Ms. Baker also mentioned that institutions that are not currently in program will be able to apply for funding for the fall 2020 semester. She reiterated the program structure will allocate \$3,500 per student, per semester.

On the motion of Dr. Demetrius Porche, seconded by Dr. Sandra Brown, the Health Works Commission voted to approve the recommended funding allocation for Nurse Capitation 2020-21 and to allow the BoR staff to make amendments as needed.

Nursing Supply & Demand Council (NSDC) Overview of COVID-19 Recommendations

Mr. Paul Salles introduced Dr. Cynthia Bienemy, Chair of the Nursing Supply & Demand Council, who provided an overview of the key points and recommendations of the NSDC. Dr. Porche initiated the conversation concerning how to best put the recommendations into action and how to approach funding of the recommendations. The Commission decided to create a "action-oriented subcommittee." Ms. Baker suggested that those who wish to serve on the subcommittee please email her or Ms. Landry.

On the motion of Dr. Demetrius Porche, seconded by Ms. Karen Lyon, the Health Works Commission voted to accept the Nursing Supply & Demand Council's COVID-19 Recommendations and to create a subcommittee in response to the recommendations in order to create an action plan for 2021.

Commission Member Comments on Safe Re-opening Plans (Strengths, Challenges, Enrollment, etc.)

Mr. Salles opened the floor for Commission members to share their safe re-opening plans. Ms. Baker spoke on behalf of Dr. Susannah Craig, BoR staff, stating that the BoR has been working closely with the licensure boards and heads of allied health programs to discuss enrollment challenges due to the pandemic as well as working with the Louisiana Department of Health to establish safe re-opening plans for all higher education institutions. Dr. Dunn spoke on the challenges that LSU Health & Science Center in Shreveport has faced in the wake of the pandemic. She mentioned one obstacle faced was the ever-changing guidelines associated with re-opening. Dr. Dunn mentioned that it was also difficult to find the balance between helping students fulfill their graduation requirements and wanting to keep them safe in their required

clinical. Dr. Porche spoke to the amount stress that has been placed on faculty during this time. He stated his biggest concern was that the faculty would eventually burnout especially when working without an end in sight.

Other Business

Ms. Karen Lyon announced that Dr. Wendi Palermo has been appointed by the Governor to the LA State Board of Nursing. Being that there were no public comments, Ms. Baker informed the Commission that the next HWC meeting would be November 16,2020 and that meeting details would be forthcoming.

Public Comments

Ms. Danielle Vauclin, Dean of the Nursing Program, Fletcher Technical and Community College (FTCC), made the public comment that the Nurse Capitation funds are greatly needed. She also stated that the funding would benefit the community with helping FTCC expand their nursing program which would then aide with the nursing shortage in her area.

Adjournment

With no further comments or discussion, the meeting adjourned.