

**Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission
(VCOMMCC) dba Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP)
Commission Meeting Minutes
June 27, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dial called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. in Suite 200 at the Ventura County Public Health Building located at 2240 E. Gonzales Road, Oxnard, CA 93036.

ROLL CALL

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

David Araujo, MD, Ventura County Medical Center Family Medicine Residency Program
Maylee Berry, Medi-Cal Beneficiary Advocate
Anil Chawla, MD, Clinicas del Camino Real, Inc.
Lanyard Dial, MD, Ventura County Medical Association
Laurie Eberst, RN, Private Hospitals / Healthcare System
John Fankhauser, MD, Ventura County Medical Center Executive Committee
Robert Gonzalez, MD, Ventura County Health Care Agency
Rick Jarvis, Private Hospitals / Healthcare System
Roberto S. Juarez, Clinicas del Camino Real, Inc.
Kathy Long, Ventura County Board of Supervisors
Catherine Rodriguez, Ventura County Medical Health System

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Earl Greenia, CEO

Tin Kin Lee, Legal Counsel
Traci R. McGinley, Clerk of the Board
Charlie Cho, MD, Chief Medical Officer
Andre Galvan, Project Management Specialist
Guillermo Gonzalez, Government Affairs Director
Lupe Gonzalez, Health Educator
Darlane Johnsen, Chief Financial Officer
Pamela Kapustay, RN, Health Services Director
Steven Lalich, Communications Director
Candice Limousin, Human Resources Director
Audra Lucas, Administrative Assistant
Paul Roberts, Provider Relations and Contracting Director
Aimee Sziklai, Operations Director

Language Interpreting and Translating services provided by GCHP from Lourdes González Campbell of Lourdes González Campbell and Associates.

PUBLIC COMMENT / CORRESPONDENCE

Denis O'Leary, Oxnard School District, expressed his concern that the 16,000 students he represents have not had sufficient time to complete the Primary Care Physician (PCP) selection forms.

Antonio Alatorre, COO, Clinicas Camino de Real, Inc., and member of the GCHP Auto-Assignment Study Group, recommended that the Commission adopt the first recommendation from the Study Group or have the Study Group meet again.

David Cruz, HELA President, expressed concern that 55,000 GCHP members are not yet enrolled (as reported in the Ventura County Star Newspaper). Mr. Cruz advised the Commission that he would be filing a petition with the County Board of Supervisors with over 100 GCHP members' signatures supporting the removal of Maylee Berry from the Commission for being silent as a Community Advocate. He requested that the Commission reconsider going live on July 1st.

The Chair allowed Commissioner Berry to respond; she declared that she is a non-biased community member with 40 years in the field and she reconfirmed her commitment as a Commissioner.

Marie Cruz, League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), expressed her concern regarding adolescents, young adults and young mothers that qualify for Medi-Cal, but do not understand the process. She requested that GCHP work on educating these young adults.

In response to David Cruz' earlier comment, Communications Director Lalich explained that approximately 70% of the total GCHP members must select a PCP within the first 30 days or it will go into Auto-Assignment, the remaining 30% are Administrative members and do not select a PCP.

Margaret Sawyer, Executive Director, Mixteca / Indigenous Community Organizing Project, expressed that her organization was originally concerned about the changes, but GCHP staff has been very responsive and has remained available. She foresees challenges, and is very glad to have the assistance of GCHP staff. She added that many members have a difficult time re-enrolling because they move in and out of the County.

Marco Benitez expressed his dissatisfaction with GCHP not using the Mixteco show, Lazer Broadcasting, to advertise to the 30,000 Mixteco members and asked why GCHP did not contract with Lazer.

Adela Vargas asked why doctors not accepting patients are listed in the directory, to which CEO Greenia responded that while some doctors are not "accepting new members" they have agreed to continue to see their current Medi-Cal patients.

Juan Ramirez expressed his concern regarding the difficulty families have obtaining Medi-Cal benefits. CEO Greenia responded that eligibility is handled by the State, and offered to have a GCHP staff member speak with him after meeting.

Dr. Josh Valdez, Rightway Health Care, voiced his support of GCHP. He added that he went through a similar process in Northern California. He was Senior Vice-President of WellPoint, and has spent his entire career helping the underserved. He expressed that managed care is the best type of care and multiple states are currently in the process of forming managed care. He gave accolades to GCHP employees and management.

Victor Fernandez indicated that the migrant workers he has spoken to have not received GCHP paperwork and many people don't know what to do; he asked that the filing date for the PCP selection be extended. He expressed his support of David Cruz's request to remove Maylee Berry from the Commission.

Operations Director Sziklai explained that GCHP is doing outreach and working with clinics. She hoped members update their address and any new contact information. Commissioner Juarez countered that some members do not have addresses because they live in garages. Communications Director Lalich reiterated that GCHP continues to offer community outreach and radio ads to enhance awareness.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MAY 23, 2011

Chair Dial moved to approve the May 23, 2011 minutes; Commissioner Long seconded. Commissioner Juarez requested the motion for 4.a. be amended to read as follows: "...moved to accept Items 1-4 of the Auto Assignment Study Group recommendation, amend the language of Item 5 to a three-to-one ratio as was proposed by the study group in its first meeting." The motion carried as amended. **Approved 10-0.**

2. ACCEPT AND FILE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

CEO Greenia thanked the Commission for recognizing the GCHP team. He highlighted efforts and accomplishments over last 8 months.

CEO Greenia discussed the Auto-Assignment and return mail issues. He added that if a PCP was not selected and a patient has been auto-assigned, a different provider may see the patient if the patient has not yet seen the auto-assigned doctor. The provider may call Member Services with the patient to select them as their PCP and the assignment will become retroactive to July 1st. If the patient has seen the auto-assigned doctor, and then wants to change PCP, the member may call member Services to change the PCP and the selection will become effective on the first day of the following month.

Commissioner Chawla asked for clarification as to when patients will be turned away if a PCP has not been assigned. CEO Greenia responded that management would develop reference materials for providers that answer these types of questions.

A member of the audience asked if a doctor may charge a differential and if not what the consequences would be. CEO Greenia responded that they cannot, and requested that GCHP be advised if this occurs.

3. ACCEPT AND FILE FINANCIAL REPORT

a. Cash Flow

CFO Johnsen explained that this is a forecast out through June. There has been little change over the last few months, except that the payment from ACS has been included. CFO Johnsen added that she is finalizing the line of credit agreement with Rabobank.

No Commission action was required.

b. Reinsurance

CFO Johnsen stated that reinsurance is standard for health organizations and especially important to startup entities. From the quotes received, GCHP chose Beacher as broker and then the Finance Committee selected Beacon as the Insurance Company, pending approval of the Commission. Without reserves, this type of reinsurance is extremely important. CFO Johnsen added that GCHP may get a partial refund at the end of the year, depending on what we experience.

Commissioner Juarez moved to accept and authorize Management to purchase the reinsurance. Commissioner Chawla seconded. The motion carried. **Approved 10-0.**

4. MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Auto-Assignment

Counsel Tin Kin Lee advised the Commission that due to conflict of interest regulations, there are issues that should have been considered when this item came before the Commission at the last meeting; a legal analysis is included in the packet.

The Political Reform Act (PRA) requires a Commissioner that has a direct or indirect economical gain to abstain from participating and voting on the particular matter as it would be a conflict of interest.

Direct or indirect economical gain and such economical interest were further discussed. It was re-iterated that due to economic interest, the PRA does prohibit certain members from casting a vote on the Auto-Assignment Policy as was brought forward, amended and then voted on during the May 24, 2011 Commission Meeting.

Further discussion was held on the conflict for Safety-Net and Traditional Providers. Counsel Lee added that some providers may have a more diffused impact; but they must still meet the standard described in his analysis.

John Polich (legal counsel for the County) responded to a question from Commissioner Long; that in general, determination of conflict would vary depending on the item. Ventura County would argue no conflict exists because of PRA referencing "private material" therefore County Representatives do not have conflict. Being a private entity would suggest there was conflict, being public there is none.

Counsel Lee noted that he disagreed with Polich's opinion, because "source of income" affiliation to the extent the Commissioners' position or employment by a government entity is getting income from the source, this would be a conflict of interest.

It was noted that the two legal opinions differ, but the conclusion from GCHP Legal Counsel Lee is that there are too few members without economic interest and therefore the Commission should delegate the decision on this to the CEO.

Commissioner Juarez moved to delegate authority to establish Auto-Assignment Policy to the CEO. Chair Dial seconded. It was requested that CEO Greenia meet with the Auto-Assignment Study Group again before making his decision. The motion carried. **Approved 10-0.**

b. Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee Appointment

Commissioner Araujo moved to accept the Pharmacy & Therapeutics Committee Appointments. Commissioner Gonzalez seconded. The motion carried. **Approved 10-0.**

c. Credentials Committee Appointment

Commissioner Eberst moved to accept the Credentials Committee Appointment. Commissioner Juarez seconded. The motion carried. **Approved 10-0.**

d. Quality Committee Appointment

Commissioner Araujo moved to accept the Quality Committee Appointment. Commissioner Chawla seconded. The motion carried. **Approved 9-1**, with Commissioner Juarez voting nay.

e. Provider Advisory Committee Appointment

Commissioner Juarez moved to accept the Provider Advisory Committee Appointment. Commissioner Long seconded. The motion carried. **Approved 10-0.**

f. Formulary

CMO Cho reviewed and provided highlights of the formulary. The Commission provided positive comments on the formulary. The format and distribution of the Formulary was discussed. Electronic versions would be on the GCHP website and will be included on CDs to providers.

Commissioner Gonzalez moved to approve the formulary. Commissioner Araujo seconded. The motion carried. **Approved 10-0.**

g. Response from ScriptCare

CEO Greenia noted that ScriptCare has made tremendous efforts in addressing challenges and is holding open houses for pharmacies to attend and discuss any issues.

COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Juarez stated that with over 100 health clinics in the system, tremendous efforts to ensure continuity of care need to be taken; electronic information needs to be transportable.

Further discussion on Auto-Assignment and methods to cross reference member assignment.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

APPROVED:



Traci R. McGinley, MMC, Clerk of the Board