

NAFC BOARD MINUTES

Date: January 24, 2017

Time: 10:00 AM. EDT

Location: Teleconference

Meeting called by:	Board Chair	Type of meeting:	Regular
Facilitator:	Board Chair	Note taker:	Board Secretary

Attendees: NAFC Staff, L. Robins, F. Bauermeister, S. Foley, S. Garris, K. Gottlieb, J. Henz, N. Hudson, B. Kapur, L. Wilkinson, A. McLaughlin, S. Watson, S. Wood

Minutes

Call to Order/Board Chair Remarks

Meeting was called to order by Larry Robins at 10:08 AM.

Approval of Board Minutes

Nancy Hudson made the motion to approve the December 19, 2016 minutes. Stephanie seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes carried unanimously. Larry, Linda, Bobby and Johanna abstained. The motion was approved.

Larry asked for comments or modifications to CEO report.

No comments or modifications to CEO written report.

Public Policy Report

Staff reported that on Friday, January 20, 2017, President Trump signed an executive order calling for the “prompt repeal of the Affordable Care Act”. The order states the following:

- The order gives agencies and states flexibility to limit or delay the implementation of the Affordable Care Act.
- To the maximum extent permitted by law, the Secretary and the heads of all other executive departments and agencies with authorities and responsibilities under the Act, shall exercise all authority and discretion available to them to provide greater flexibility to States and cooperate with them in implementing healthcare programs.
- To the maximum extent permitted by law, the head of each department or agency with responsibilities relating to healthcare or health insurance shall encourage the development of a free and open market in interstate commerce for the offering of healthcare services and health insurance, with the goal of achieving and preserving maximum options for patients and consumers.

Staff reported that the House of Representatives and the Senate passed a Budget Resolution that established powerful reconciliation procedures to shield an Affordable Care Act repeal from Senate filibusters. The legislation contains instructions for the relevant committees to proceed with the drafting of repeal implementation legislation, and to have

that ready to submit back to the Budget Committee by January 27th (though this deadline was missed by many in Congress).

While there is not total unity within the Republican party on how and when to proceed on an ACA repeal, President Trump and Congressional Republicans hope to move Repeal and Replace legislation together.

Speaker Ryan and Representative (soon to be HHS Secretary) Price both have introduced health care reform plans that are being considered in the House of Representatives. In the Ryan and Price plan, there are some areas that are of great interest to NAFC, for example:

- This bill repeals the ACA.
- Allows for purchasing of insurance across state lines.
- Medicaid block grants – efforts are underway to actively make sure that Charitable Clinics (those who bill Medicaid) are included in this legislation; this will be done on the state level.
- Preventative and wellness block grants. Efforts are underway to actively make sure Free and Charitable Clinics are eligible for these funds

Better Choices for Affordable Health Care Plan

Senators Collins and Cassidy introduced the Better Choices for Affordable Health Care Plan. The NAFC is closely reviewing the legislation, titled The Patient Freedom Act of 2017. Per the Senators, the PFA would take power from Washington and return it to state capitols in order to increase access to affordable health insurance and improve patient choice, while preserving important consumer protections. This proposal empowers patients by eliminating costly and burdensome mandates, making enrollment easy, requiring price transparency, and restoring state authority to set rules for their health insurance markets and giving patients power to make their own health care decisions.

- In this legislation, the Block Grants would be BOTH Medicaid and Preventative Wellness block funding.
- This bill repeals the ACA.
- Allows states to decide if they would like to continue with the ACA or develop something else.

Title X Funding

Staff reported that both the President and the majority of Republican Members of Congress have stated that they will defund Planned Parenthood. It should be noted that Planned Parenthood does not have a line item in the Federal Budget; they are funded through Medicaid reimbursement and then through Title X funding. The NAFC is concerned that an unintended consequence of the defunding of the Title X program will be the elimination of the Breast and Cervical Cancer Screening program that many of our clinics use to treat their patients. Additionally, staff reported that the legislation developed by Representative Black from TN is to defund Planned Parenthood for 1 year and allocate \$265M to Community Health Centers.

Staff and the Board discussed at length if the NAFC should actively try to secure federal funding for our clinics. After much discussion about placing our patients first, concern over clinics ability to do the reports necessary and what, if any, perception issues this may bring, the Board and staff agreed that staff should continue considering opportunities.

Medicaid Expansion/ Block Grants

Staff explained that as Republican lawmakers debate a path forward on Medicaid reform, Republican governors and state insurance directors are asking Congress to make it easier for states to tailor their Medicaid expansion programs by reducing wait-times for waiver approvals, lowering the eligibility threshold and eliminating essential benefits requirements. Governors who expanded Medicaid also want to keep the enhanced federal match rate for those covered under the Affordable Care Act's expansion even though some Republican lawmakers say they want that match rate reduced.

At this time Congress, has stressed under both the Price and the Ryan plan that the federal match rate will not continue. Congress has also stressed that they have not yet decided if there will be a wellness and prevention block grant program AND a Medicaid block grant or if they will be rolled into one program or if there will only be a Medicaid block grant program.

Staff expressed that our concern is if the federal Government does not continue their match, then lower income patients will need a place to receive their care and this will the cause strain on our clinics. A Republican proposal to fund Medicaid through block grants could save the federal government more than \$100 billion over five years, according to a new analysis released Monday.

Staff also stressed that it is imperative that our clinics who accept Medicaid payments are named specifically as eligible sites to provide and receive care in each state. Staff stressed the importance of State Associations having meetings with their State Medicaid directors now to make sure that Free and Charitable Clinics are included in the Block Grant discussions on the state level. Given that each state has structured their Medicaid programs differently, there unfortunately will not be a one size fits all conversation.

There was discussion about how State Associations can get involved in this process and staff reported that the NAFC would be providing State Associations with a draft letter to send to their state Medicaid Directors along with a contact list for the directors.

Letter Writing Campaign

Staff reported that the NAFC was launching a letter writing campaign and the NAFC would provide to the membership a draft letter that can be personalized and then emailed, faxed or mailed. Staff also is developing a Congressional Relationship indication form for members to identify the relationship they have with policy makers. Board members will receive links to both items electronically.

Board Commitment Acknowledgment (Policy 2.6 and Policy 2.5)

- A. Board Commitment Letter (B1)
- B. 2017 NAFC Board List with terms (B2)

Monitoring CEO Performance (Policy 4.4)

Policy 3.0 General Management Constraint - Fred Bauermeister moved to approve the monitoring report as submitted, Nancy Hudson seconded and motion carried unanimously with no discussion or abstentions.

Policy 3.3 Financial Conditions and Activities - Stephanie Garris moved to approve the monitoring report as submitted, Johanna Henz seconded and motion carried unanimously with no discussion or abstentions.

Review of Financial Reports (Policy 3.5)

Johanna Henz reviewed financials as presented. She reported that the December 2016 donations were \$65,000 but the January donations were upwards of \$245,000 - many of the donations that were expected to come in December were given in January.

Johanna reminded the board that as staff has been reporting since the summer, the NAFC will end the year with a large deficit mainly due to the election. To combat these budget challenges in 2017, the Board has approved a much smaller organizational Budget, which curbed some of the larger spending areas such as:

1. The sun-setting of the C.A.R.E. Clinic program (\$350,000 - \$700,000 savings annually)
2. A core staff of 3 people instead of 4 people (\$70,000 savings annually)
3. Negotiated a lower rent savings (\$65,000 savings annually)
4. A dramatically scaled back Symposium which includes the speakers paying half price, raising prices after the early bird rate, etc.
5. Staff continues to work on other ways to save money.

Fred Bauermeister moved to approve the treasurer reports as submitted, Angie McLaughlin seconded and the reports carried unanimously with no discussion or abstentions.

Board Committee Appointment (Policy 2.9)

Larry Robins confirmed that committees are full with the exception of the Audit/Investment committee and extended the invitation for another participant on that committee. The members and responsibilities of the following committees were review and discussed:

- A. Nomination Committee
- B. Public Policy Committee
- C. Executive Compensation Committee
- D. Audit/Investment Committee

Karen Gottlieb made a motion to approve the Committee Appointments as submitted, Sheri Wood seconded the motion and the committee appointments were approved unanimously with no discussion or abstentions.

Board Comments

Karen Gottlieb thanked Nicole for coming to the opening of the new Stamford Clinic.

Larry Robins congratulated on Shannon Watson's sabbatical from the labor force. Let the record show that Shannon IS NOT RETIRING! She is moving to Colorado and actively looking for employment.

Larry Robins extended the board's condolences to Nancy Hudson on the passing of her sister.

Executive Session – (CEO Evaluation 2.8.3)

Thank you everyone!

Meeting Adjourned @ 11:00 A.M. EDT

Executive Meeting adjourned @ 11:38 A.M. EDT