

INTERAGENCY PHARMACEUTICALS PURCHASING COUNCIL

Meeting November 29, 2021
Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams Meeting
9:00 am to 10:00 am

1. CALL TO ORDER

John Garcia, Cabinet Secretary Designate and Director of the Interagency Pharmaceuticals Purchasing Council called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams Meeting. A quorum was established with introductions.

ROLL CALL

Designee, Department of Health, Dr. Thomas Massaro
Designee, Children, Youth, and Families Department, Terry Locke
Designee, Corrections Department, Wenceslaus Asonganyi
Acting Director, Risk Management Division, General Services Department, Randall Cherry
Executive Director, Retiree Health Care Authority, David Archuleta
Designee, Albuquerque Public Schools, Valerie Atencio
Designee, University of New Mexico, Joey Evans
Designee, New Mexico Counties, Kamie Denton

ABSENT/EXCUSED

Designee, Human Services Department, Kari Armijo
Designee, New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority, Richard Valerio

Mr. Garcia introduced himself to the group and gave a brief background.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Mr. Archuleta moved to approve the agenda with a second from Mr. Locke. The motion passed unanimously.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2021

MOTION: Dr. Massaro moved to approve the minutes with a second from Ms. Denton. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Interagency Benefits Advisory Committee (IBAC) Randall Cherry

Mr. Cherry updated the Council on the RFP. It was released and there were six responses. The contracts should be finalized by March 31, 2021. The target is to go live by July 1, 2021.

Mr. Archuleta explained what IBAC was and how it started. They are required to issue joint procurements for benefits. They aren't required to make the same selections. They try to purchase where they can together. The goal is to have a bigger pool.

Mr. Garcia discussed the recent newspaper article regarding the Build Back Better Bill. There were some ideas about how to change it at a state level. Mr. Garcia asked if there has been any studies.

Mr. Archuleta recalls the LFC has done several cost studies he will send him a copy. Dr. Massaro explained a consultant conducted an analysis on the opportunities available.

Mr. Garcia asked if there is an MOU to purchase from Canada. Dr. Massaro explained an application has been submitted. They have received a letter from the FDA. NMDOH is part of a multistate group that meets monthly to discuss status updates. Dr. Massaro stated the group hired an attorney to finish the application. The big pharma group has gone to court to have the final rule dismissed, the FDA replied. They cannot count any savings at this time.

Mr. Garcia asked which the other states in the group are. Dr. Massaro explained it is Colorado, Florida, New Hampshire, Vermont and New Mexico.

Dr. Massaro explained Florida was very aggressive, Colorado is in the process of hiring their Drug Wholesaler. For New Mexico to get approved they need to have a wholesaler, however it seems to violate the state procurement code. Canada may not be able to supply those six states. There are some European countries that can compete.

Mr. Garcia stated there are some states that pay for their citizens to go to Mexico for their drugs.

Senator Steinborn stated the goal of the Council is to get a better deal for New Mexicans. A small savings can equate to bill money for the State. He is happy to help and will join the meetings when he can.

5. Payer Subcommittee Work Progress

Mr. Cherry stated there was not an update, this item was covered at the last meeting.

6. Purchaser Subcommittee Work Progress

Mr. Asonganyi explained the group worked together and came to the conclusion it will be challenging to unify a single contract. Corrections and CYFD has a clientele to buy medications based on what providers want.

Senator Steinborn asked if they have engaged a PBM to see if there can be some joint purchasing?

Mr. Asonganyi explained they have not, they came back to the larger group to ask for more ideas.

Mr. Garcia stated in the statute it reads it for the State as a whole, there may some changes to the procurement code.

Senator Steinborn stated it is great to hear the two agencies are working together, there are more agencies that work outside of the IBAC. He suggested they conduct a review.

Mr. Garcia asked if there was in inventory or categories of users? If members can send him a list of who they believe is on the list. Also, they would like to discuss the vacancy of the PBM.

Mr. Asonganyi explained he was not part of the group since the inception. They started off with six agencies but have since lost several.

Mr. Garcia stated he is committed to getting a benefit to the citizens and making it work.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were not any public comments.

8. NEXT STEPS FOR IPPC

9. ADJOURN

With all business conducted the meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m.



John Garcia, Chairman

5/26/2022

Date