



Meeting Minutes

Joint Commission on Health Care

October 5, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Senate Room A – Pocahontas Building

Members Present

Delegate M. Keith Hodges

Delegate Patrick A. Hope

Delegate Robert Orrock, Sr.

Senator George L. Barker

Senator Barabara Favola

Senator Siobhan S. Dunnavant

Senator David Suetterlein

Members Absent

Delegate C.E. (Cliff) Hayes, Jr.

Staff Present

Jeff Lunardi

Agnes Dymora

Kyu Kang

Estella Obi-Tabot

Stephen Weiss

Brittany Acors

Call to order and welcoming comments – Senator Barker

Roll Call - Agnes Dymora

JCHC Executive Director, Jeff Lunardi, provided an overview of the draft JCHC policy on remote participation and virtual meetings. Members discussed the policy and voted to make the following changes to the draft:

- Removed the provision allowing members who reside more than 60 miles from the meeting location to attend meetings virtually an unlimited number of times;
- Amended the policy to prohibit Members from voting if they are attending a meeting remotely. This provision will apply to any all-virtual meetings as well, so there will be no voting during all-virtual meetings.

There was a question about how much specificity Members must provide when notifying staff and the Chair that they will be attending remotely for a personal matter. The reason for remote attendance due to a personal matter must be listed in the meeting minutes, so Members were concerned about being required to provide personal details. Members directed JCHC staff to seek advice from the FOIA Council about how to ensure unnecessary personal details are not required to be provided.

Members also asked whether work-related commitments or unforeseen circumstances were covered as a personal reason under the policy. Staff indicated that yes, the personal matter is broadly interpreted to cover work, family, or any other personal matter that keeps

a Member from being able to travel to the meeting in person. This is consistent with guidance from the FOIA Council, which includes “business trip” and “business emergency” as examples of personal reasons for remote meeting attendance.

Staff were directed to make the necessary changes to the draft policy and then provide it to the full commission for review and approval at the November meeting.

Jeff Lunardi presented eight topics that were listed as potential study topics for 2023. The Members discussed the topics and narrowed them down to three studies and two topics for updates.

Staff Studies

- Prevention, detection, and treatment of obesity and eating disorders
- Vertically integrated health insurance carriers
- Team-based care approaches to improve patient health literacy

Ongoing, Annual Tracking

- Health care workforce development

One-time briefing on key questions

- Prescription drug price regulation by the federal government and state ability to regulate third-party administrators

Meeting adjourned.