

Indiana Graduate Medical Education Board

Friday, July 30, 2021

11a Eastern

101 West Ohio Street, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, Indianapolis, IN 46204

**Meeting Minutes**

Board members present in-person: Clif Knight, Rachel Shockley, Curt Ward, Beth Wrobel

Board members calling in: Steven Becker, Paul Haut, Tricia Hern, Tim Putnam, Tom Sonderman, Michelle Howenstine

Advisory members present: Sarah Swiezy

Commission staff present: Josh Garrison

Administrative service staff present: Linda Bratcher

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 A.M. Eastern time.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

10 board members were counted as present. A quorum necessary to conduct business was confirmed.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Clif Knight, Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs and Associate Professor of Medicine at Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine (MU-COM), and Dr. Curt Ward, Designated Institutional Official and Director of Medical Education at Ascension St. Vincent, were introduced as new Board members. Sarah Swiezy, a fourth-year student at Indiana University School of Medicine (IUSM) was introduced as the new GME Board student advisor for IUSM. Mrs. Swiezy is a native of Carmel, IN and completed her undergraduate studies at Washington University in St. Louis. She will be specializing in obstetrics and gynecology after medical school.

**REVIEW OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

Minutes from April 30, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Mrs. Wrobel called for a motion to approve the minutes. Dr. Sonderman moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Shockley seconded. Motion passed 10-0.

**LEGISLATIVE AND UPDATE**

Mr. Garrison noted that the GME Fund received an increase in its appropriation from the Indiana General Assembly (IGA) during the most recent legislative session; he stated that CHE's Finance team was working to close out the end of the fiscal year and the current fund balance would change as CHE closed out outstanding invoices. Mrs. Wrobel asked if someone has not spent their funding could they do a carryover? Mr. Garrison stated that extensions can be granted in certain situations, and it would depend on the contract; it would be a situation-specific item. He stated an update would be available shortly.

Dr. Ward asked about the increased appropriation; he stated it'd been discussed in past meetings that the Board would hold on to funds until they could fund fully; Mr. Garrison stated that what CHE is waiting on is two-fold; what's been held for future years and how much is being spent. Mrs. Wrobel explained that they know what was funded by the IGA, but they did not know what was actually spent by a grantee to date.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Wrobel discussed consideration of funding non-primary care residency expansion. She noted that when the GME Expansion Plan was developed by the Board in consultation with Tripp Umbach, they worked to determine which specialties should be included, noting that they worked with many stakeholders, including Rep. Dr. Tim Brown, to make sure they would be funding residency expansions with the most need for physicians statewide. Dr. Putnam stated their question is what's the Board consideration for going beyond the current primary specialties being supported? Dr. Putnam noted that Dr. Becker has also been a Board member since its inception and involved in the GME expansion efforts prior to that. Dr. Becker stated that since day one, what should be funded has been a discussion. He noted that the recent subcommittee led by MU-COM student advisor Kaitlyn Brown concluded the Board should wait until they get significant data on graduating residents and how things are working before they add or remove programs. He stated that, in general, they should walk slowly if they were going to add programs, especially with funding being tight, until they saw what the data indicated. Dr. Howenstine concurred with Dr. Becker on needing to know where they are with meeting primary health care worker need and what decisions may need to still be made within those programs. She stated that if they do expand, the Board would need to communicate that it's willing to vet applications from other programs.

Mrs. Wrobel stated that the Board hadn't asked Dr. Hannah Maxey to provide information in a while and they might want to see those numbers. She stated she's interested in seeing, from IUSM and MU-COM, how many went into primary care and how many stayed in Indiana. Dr. Knight commented that he could give rough numbers for MU-COM, of 150 2021 graduates, 25% went to Family Medicine (FM), 20% went into Internal Medicine (IM), and around 6% who went into Pediatrics and 10% went into Emergency Medicine (EM). He was unsure how many stayed in Indiana, but close to 30% of graduates matched at a program in Indiana, with over 60% matching in Indiana or a surrounding state. Dr. Becker noted that he felt IUSM's numbers were stable. He commented that he wasn't sure they'd have any data coming from the new residency programs except for early numbers because of the number of graduates coming out and that data might not be so useful at this point; he did believe that looking at the Bowen Center ("Center") data was a good idea as the Board was at a roughly seven year mark since the first assessment on primary care needs in Indiana, and the Center will have statewide data. Mrs. Wrobel stated they'd want to see if the shortages identified in the original study have gotten better, worst, or are the same. Dr. Ward commented he'd like to understand where they are before they expanded the residencies being funded.

Mrs. Bratcher noted that keeping residents in-state after completion is a slow process. Mrs. Wrobel noted that from her perspective leading an FQHC, recruiting is getting tighter. She asked Mr. Garrison to reach out to the Bowen Center and Mr. Garrison confirmed CHE would. Dr. Sonderman agreed in seeing where the Board stands and how it's been successful with its the original mission, and with getting the Bowen Center's data before departing too far from the mission; Dr. Shockley agreed with Dr. Sonderman's and Dr. Ward's sentiments. Dr. Becker commented that they started out looking to add 500 residency spots, they ended on 350-400 spots, and those spots are required before they'd start

seeing more students staying in the state. Mrs. Wrobel summarized the discussion stating they'd get data from the Bowen Center and have a visualization at each meeting on the expansion status.

The Board discussed Parkview Health's consideration to add Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PMR) to the approved list for Expansion Grant funding. Gary Zwierzynski with Parkview noted Parkview's appreciation of grant funding that the Board has awarded funded to his organization including funding for their General Surgery (GS) program; he commented that this is not primary care. He commented that PMR is looked at as quasi-primary care, noting there's only one similar program in Indiana which is IU-based. He stated that it's a close collaboration between IM and PM&R and that transitional year is a pre-requisite for the program, and Parkview will be filing an application in September to start a transitional year program to feed into the PM&R program. He stated this program will be IM-based. He stated Parkview was asking if the GME Board would look to support this program at the Expansion Grant level, noting they would not need the level of funding that they received for their GS and IM programs. He commented that the program will start with two residents.

Dr. Putnam stated that GS was included in the Board's core list of primary care programs; he noted that speaking as a leader of a rural facility, GS is on the list of programs that are absolutely necessary, and that's how the Board landed on including it in its list of approved primary care programs. Dr. Becker commented that nationally, GS is considered primary care now in lots of places; he confirmed what Dr. Putnam said and noted that outside of major metropolitan areas it's a core function and there's a great need for more rural trained surgeons to be part of combination programs. He stated he remembers this being the case when they developed the eligible program list several years ago and the need remains.

Mrs. Wrobel stated that she felt the Board wanted to hear from the Bowen Center before they'd consider other programs. Other Board members agreed with this. Mrs. Wrobel thanked Mr. Zwierzynski; he stated his thanks to the Board and provided information on additional programs that could be forthcoming for funding consideration.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Garrison reviewed the Communications Plan that CHE put together, noting how the plan would be executed. He reviewed highlights of the plan and what its ultimate goal is. He stated the plan is flexible, allowing time to get the information out and having it out prior to upcoming legislative sessions. He asked if they were missing any areas; Mrs. Wrobel stated she'd like to get a story in the Indiana Primary Healthcare Association newsletter. He asked for additional thoughts; Dr. Ward asked if the reason for the plan about their work was to get statewide knowledge and support for the goals and outcomes of the plan, and to ultimately ensure continued support for the plan by the IGA. Mr. Garrison confirmed this was correct. Discussion continued about how expansion participants and stakeholders would educate residents on the role of expansion grant funding in providing residency opportunities which they benefit from. Dr. Ward noted that an audience for this information are the Program Directors and faculty for each program. He asked about communicating to rural areas; noting that Inside Indiana Business would address one part of the population, but noting other parts needed to be targeted too; he mentioned the Indiana Prairie Farmer as an example of a publication that could be targeted. Dr. Shockley agreed that the Prairie Farmer would be a good media source; she stated it would reach a different target population and likely target who their legislators are talking to.

Additional discussion continued on the level of understanding of how GME funding takes place. Mrs. Swiezy commented she felt it was important to target residents in new programs not so much on where funding is coming from, but the mission of the program. Dr. Becker commented that in July 2022,

Southwestern Indiana GME Consortium (SIGMEC) will have 85 residents in their program, with two of the three programs being exclusively rural and one being 50/50 rural/urban. He stated that IUSM and SIGMEC could provide information and resources are part of the Communications Plan. He added that their third and fourth-year medical students have the opportunity to do rotations with residents and physicians. Mr. Garrison stated he'd work with Eugene Johnson to begin executing the plan.

### **OUTCOMES REPORTING**

Mrs. Bratcher provided feedback on the status of the required end-of-residency reporting. She reviewed the copy of the reporting spreadsheet that respondents will utilize to provide outcomes of their grant-funded expansion by the August 31, 2021, reporting deadline. Mrs. Wrobel asked about other reporting requirement deadlines; Mrs. Bratcher noted that for Program Development and Expansion grants, a progress report is due by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year of the grant award. Mrs. Wrobel requested, for the next meeting, a report on whose received what funding and what is due by which date. Other Board members agreed with this request.

### **OTHER DISCUSSION**

Dr. Putnam informed the Board that he would be leaving his position as CEO of Margaret Mary Health and his final day would be August 31, 2021. He noted he was appointed by the Governor as an appointee of the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA) stating he'd notified the IHA. He commented he's able to remain on the Board thru the October 2021 meeting and in the role of Chair thru the end of the year. He asked members to consider who'd be a candidate to assume the role of Chair. Various members thanked Tim for his leadership, for his role in aligning the Board with the vision of the IGA and executing the Expansion Plan and for his assistance in helping acclimate them to their roles as Board members.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

No public testimony was offered.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting date was announced as Friday, October 29, 2021.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Wrobel asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Shockley moved to adjourn; Dr. Ward seconded. Motion passed 10-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:10p.