**OHIO HEALTH CARE ASSOCIATION**

**Home Care and Hospice Board Meeting**

**July 28, 2022, 1:00 p.m.**

**Zoom Conference Call**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Chair David Walsh opened the meeting and welcomed board members. Mr. Walsh reminded members of the antitrust, conflict of interest and confidentiality policies located in the online folder.

Ms. Heidi McCoy mentioned that minutes from the last meeting were not available. Mr. Pete Van Runkle stated he would look for minutes from the last HCH only board meeting held in March and also pull minutes from the board meeting held at the OHCA Convention in May and add them to the folder.

Ms. McCoy provided a membership report and confirmed that it was mostly unchanged.

Mr. Van Runkle proposed we skip over the Advocacy Suggestions and return to it later in the meeting.

Mr. Josh Anderson gave a summary of draft Home Health Licensing Rules and a recent stakeholder meeting held by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) to solicit feedback. Mr. Anderson stated the top 3 issues discussed in the rules were around who is required to submit a licensure application and who is not, the definition of a sub unit, and background checks. Mr. Anderson explained that a stated motivation for instituting this process is to capture service providers who are currently unregulated and provide some level of oversight. ODH stated they are trying to minimize increased burden on those providers who are already regulated by federal and/or state agencies. ODH said that the software application should be available mid-August. ODH also stated they are aware of the looming statutory deadline of October 1 and still hope to meet it. However, Mr. Anderson stated they indirectly indicated its possible that the deadline won’t be met. ODH said they will have internal discussions and make updates to the rules and redistribute for further comment.

Mr. Anderson also gave an update on CMS’ Proposed CY 2023 Home Health Payment Update Rule. He briefly described the proposal and then mentioned legislation introduced by the US Senate to delay the implementation of payment cuts until 2026. He mentioned a forthcoming companion bill in the House and that OHCA will continue to monitor progress of these bills and their impact on members.

Mr. Van Runkle then asked that we return to the advocacy suggestion agenda item. He asked board members if they had any ideas/topics/targets that we should be pursuing. Mr. Walsh stated that most of the home care and hospice advocacy takes place at the national level. He was happy with OHCA’s efforts to keep members informed on what’s happening at both the national and state level. Mr. Van Runkle said he had some ideas of his own, one of which was a retention bonus payment proposal, but it needed further development before he would be ready to share.

Ms. McCoy asked the board if there was interest in a HCH conference to be held in 2022. Board members agreed that it would not be necessary and should be canceled.

Ms. McCoy brought up regular HCH Hot Topics member calls and asked for suggestions on greater attendance. Board members stated that they are helpful but may be needed less frequently. It was agreed to change them from monthly to bi-monthly going forward.

Ms. McCoy then broached the CEHCH and Fundamentals of Home Care and Hospice trainings. It was agreed that a participant threshold needed to be set to determine if they should go forward. This is particularly true of CEHCH which includes speakers outside of OHCA staff. Ms. McCoy stated she and Mr. Anderson would discuss further with Kathy Chapman, OHCA’s Education Director.

Ms. McCoy asked to set a new schedule for future HCH board meetings. It was agreed to hold them quarterly going forward.

Mr. Walsh asked if there were any further topics to discuss. Hearing none, the meeting was adjourned.