

Idaho Immunization Assessment Board  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 12, 2011  
Department of Insurance

**Board Members Present:**

- Richard Rainey, M.D. – Regence BlueShield of Idaho – Chair
- Jack Myers – Blue Cross of Idaho – Vice Chair
- Josh Sears – AmeriBen/IEC Group
- Bill Deal, Director DOI
- Rep. Jeff Thompson – Idaho House of Representatives
- Christine Hahn, M.D. – Department of Health & Welfare

**Board Members Absent:**

- Gina Mulkey - WinCo Foods
- Ted Epperly, M.D. - Family Practice Residency
- Pat Armstrong – Idaho Sand and Gravel
- Sen. Melinda Smyser – Idaho Senate

**Others Present:**

- Sandy Metro – DOI
- Mitch Scoggins - Immunization Program Manager (H&W)
- Tamarie Olson – Immunization Program
- Lincoln Smyser
- Rene Martin – DAG

**Call to Order:** Chairman Rainey noted that Rep. Thompson had not arrived yet, and there was no quorum present. He proposed that any action items be postponed until Rep. Thompson had joined the meeting.

Ms. Metro presented an update on surveys and billings. She noted that one additional provider had come forward to respond to a survey and was prepared to pay its assessment. She also noted that she had not received any information from the Simplot company carrier for either 2010 or 2011. Mr. Myers noted that Blue Cross had recently become Simplot's carrier, but, had not been its carrier until recently and recommends pursuing this issue.

Ms. Metro announced that the DOI had transferred \$1,220,824 to DHW.

Ms. Olson presented a handout (a copy is attached) which showed the current status of the Immunization Fund. She believes that the fund is where it was projected to be at this date. She noted that DHW did not have sufficient spending authority for the fourth quarter of the fiscal year, so the first quarter will reflect increased spending as a result of delayed payments.

The Chairman inquired whether funds were being spent for additional flu vaccines as anticipated. Ms. Olson said that the amounts designated for flu vaccines were very close to the projected amounts. Dr. Hahn noted that DHW expected an increase in need for flu vaccines. Mr. Myers inquired about the need for a contingency fund if actual spending was close to projections.

Rep. Thompson arrived at the meeting and a quorum was then present. The Chairman announced that action items would now be considered.

### **Approval of Minutes from 6/6/11**

**MOTION:** Rep. Thompson moved that the minutes of the meeting of 6/6/11 be approved as written. Mr. Myers seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

### **Reports – Update of survey & billings**

The Chairman quickly reviewed Ms. Metro's presentation, and the update presented by Ms. Olson and Dr. Hahn.

**MOTION:** Mr. Sears moved that both reports be accepted as presented. Dr. Hahn seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

### **Tricare update from DHW**

Mitch Scoggins updated the Board on continuing efforts to obtain Tri Care compliance with Assessment Board requirements. He noted that he had drafted a letter (a copy is attached), which was by Director Deal, and was delivered to Idaho's congressional delegation. Ms. Metro noted that a copy had been mailed to Rep. Labrador, and Senators Crapo, Risch and Rep. Simpson had all received copies personally delivered by Director Deal. The Chairman requested that Ms. Metro follow up within a month to ensure that all members of the Idaho congressional delegation understood the situation.

Mr. Scoggins noted that the Board had given permission to pursue action through a joint effort with other states who were also dealing with Tri Care's refusal to provide information. He said that Washington State had assigned a person to pursue this problem. He had also been made aware of a lobbying group representing TriCare who believed that Tri Care would be willing to participate in the immunization program, but was prevented from doing so by a contract issue.

Mr. Myers noted that the Federal Employees Benefit Program also presented a similar problem. This group has not paid its relatively large assessment for either last year or this year. The Chairman recommended that Mr. Scoggins pursue this additional federal group; Mr. Myers agreed. Dr. Hahn requested that Mr. Myers send her information by email on this program.

### **Review proposed changes to Plan of Operations**

The Chairman presented a revised Plan of Operations with correction/additions noted – a copy is attached. He said it incorporated date changes which would allow projections to be based on CDC vaccine prices for the coming year. It also incorporated all applicable legislative language included in HB130 including clarification that the Board has authority to consult with experts and the Department of Health & Welfare for purposes of carrying out its functions.

DAG Rene Martin also suggested the following clarifying language be added after the first sentence on Page 4, Article 8, Section A (3 – violations); "The Department of Insurance may impose sanctions as appropriate."

**MOTION:** Rep. Thompson moved that the Plan of Operation as presented and discussed be adopted. Mr. Myers seconded the Motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

### **ACIP meeting (Atlanta) update**

Dr. Hahn presented materials from the meeting. A copy is attached. She noted that ACIP had not yet changed from a "permissive" to a "full" recommendation for HPV immunization of males. She believes that ACIP had projected that there soon would be a large enough percentage of females who had been vaccinated that the entire population would be protected so that there wouldn't be a need for male vaccination in addition to female vaccination. She pointed out in another handout (a copy is attached) that the percentage of vaccinated females in Idaho and the U.S. was much lower than anticipated. In response to an inquiry from the Chairman, Dr. Hahn stated that she could not foresee any upcoming changes in other vaccine recommendations that would affect the Board's vaccination expenditures.

## **Election of Officers**

The Chairman noted that the current directors' terms are staggered. As the current staggered appointment terms end, appointments will be for three-year terms. He noted that the bylaws currently require election of only the Chairman (Dr. Rainey) and Vice Chairman (Mr. Myers). Director Deal suggested that the Board re-elect the current officers with the next election after the March meeting.

**MOTION:** Rep. Thompson moved that the next term for officers run until June 2012, which would be a 2 years since the initial election of officers. The Board should hold elections for new officers at that time. Mr. Sears seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

**MOTION:** Mr. Sears nominated the current officers to serve on the Board until June of 2012. Rep. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote. The current officers were then re-elected for this term.

The Chairman noted that the Board should initiate the process for nominating new officers at the March meeting for elections in May or June.

## **IIP request to purchase additional flu vaccine w/contingency funds**

Mr. Scoggins presented a proposal that some contingency funds currently being held in reserve be used to purchase additional flu vaccine for program eligible children in Idaho. He noted that when the original flu vaccine budget was prepared, it was based on inaccurate information, and his forecast for future needs was considerably less than what was really needed.

Mr. Myers asked Dr. Hahn if she thought there might be other needs for contingency funds. She replied that she did not believe so. The budget figures had included a small increase in cost, and other variables had been accounted for.

Director Deal pointed out that it appeared insured children may be negatively impacted if these funds were not used to provide additional flu vaccine.

**MOTION:** Mr. Myers moved that the Board approve the use of up to \$300,000 of contingency funds to provide additional flu vaccine for insured children in Idaho. Rep. Thompson seconded the motion. Motion passed on a voice vote.

## **Recently released rates: ID Childhood and Teen Immunization Rates**

Dr. Hahn presented a report from Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. She pointed out Table 3 on pages 1160- 1161. She suggested that the Board as well as the Policy Commission study these results. The Chairman asked to confirm whether Dr. Tom Rand (Chairman of the Policy Commission) was on the Board's distribution list.

## **Next meeting**

The next meeting will be February 27, 2012 probably at 3:00 p.m., (time to be verified). The Board will meet at the Department of Insurance Conference Room 3A.

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Dr. Hahn moved that the Board adjourn. Mr. Sears seconded. Motion passed on a voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.  
Minutes by Teresa Jones  
Idaho Department of Insurance  
Revised by Dr. Rich Rainey, Chairman

