



MINUTES OF MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING  
March 13, 2019  
HCANJ Executive Offices, Hamilton, NJ

The meeting was convened at 1:10 p.m.

Bill Briggs of Platinum Sponsor MatrixCare gave a brief presentation about the services his company provides and why they hold value for our members.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the February 13, 2019 Business Meeting minutes.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the Associate memberships of:

- a. **Seasons Hospice and Palliative Care of NJ**, Hamilton, NJ 08690/Home Health/Hospice
- b. **SNF Metrics**, Brick, NJ 08723/Technology-Hardware/Software/Communications
- c. **BeyondPay**, Clinton, NJ 08809/Human Resources

Quality – There is a huge gap in knowledge about what has to be coded by nurses. The more your nurse understands about what should be assessed on admission and the more accurately they code, the better your reimbursement. Upcoming Five-Star changes could affect your rating. Effective April 14, this series of changes is in three domains – staffing, health inspection and quality measure. Members are urged to evaluate their staffing, particularly on weekends to ensure it is where it should be. Changes of Appendix Q and how they will affect IJ citations will be discussed on Thursday of the 20-Hour Symposium. A 26-page memo from CMS is out already but needs clarification. The president remarked that there is a lot that needs to be fixed in the regulatory arena.

Education – 15 attendees came through this year's 100-hour class. Register for this year's 20-Hour Symposium. Debby Gottlieb will be speaking about Appendix Q changes. Other speaker include PointRight's Steven Littlehale and a PDPM presentation by Zimmet Healthcare Consulting. SNF Top Gun (April 15 and 16) registration has opened. There will be a presentation on coding as part of this training. Online training for Infection Preventionist is available through AHCA. All buildings must have them in place by November 2019. The Assisted Living Conference is May 14. Make sure you register for any training with the name that is on your license. The president emphasized the importance of this.

Assisted Living – Alison Gibson will be retiring at the end of March. Jean Devitto has replaced John Calabria. Centers no longer have to report the outage that occurs when testing generators. Any other power outage must be reported regardless of how long it lasts.

Reimbursement - DHS has advised that they are delaying their "designation" of providers as qualified for MCO networking and suspending the requirement that providers participate in the completion of progressive accountability until further notice in order to coordinate the AWQP process with a possible Value Base Purchasing Program for nursing centers. CoreQ will continue. There was a meeting with the Medicaid director in February where the #1 issue was eligibility. The president remarked that the governor put \$10 million in his budget recommendation for the technology needed to expedite eligibility.

Legislative/Regulatory – Regarding the budget, the Governor's office said they are keeping us where we were. It may be a smoother budget this year. There was a comment made from the floor that AHCA is willing to help us. Our ask is \$30M for COLA and \$17M for minimum wage. Public hearings are next week and the following week. Members must make noise and speak with their legislators, as was stated by the Assembly Budget Chair when she spoke with us. Meeting with the Governor's Chief of Staff next week. President commented on how unproductive meetings with staff have been. Sweeney is very positive about helping us. Media campaign is ongoing and lobbying is active. We need members at each hearing to tell our story. Comment from floor that around the country we will be seeing more aggressive lobbying. Grassroots will pick up in May. Assembly sponsor agreed to put nurses in the CNA ratio bill.

Several other reports were given, and topics discussed, however, no further formal action was taken. A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jon Dolan  
President/CEO