



MINUTES OF MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

April 10, 2019

HCANJ Executive Offices, Hamilton, NJ

The meeting was convened at 1:47 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and approved to accept the minutes of the March 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 membership of:

- **Aloe Care Health**, New York, NY 10017/Home Health/Hospice

The president reported on the Provider Assessment expansion. Meetings took place with DHS in February and September of 2018 and again in February 2019. We have been engaged deeply since January and sticking with our original plan. Staff discussed the plan with DHS and we have arrived at an expanded assessment. There will be changes to the base rate – no one will be lower than they are now. This is a recommendation by the Governor in his budget. It must be codified and renewed every year. An incentive program is part of this recommendation. In order to qualify, providers must have been participating in AWQP and have a composite score of 75 on CoreQ for the Q2 of 2018. In addition, those scoring above the national average for other metrics based on a four-quarter average (Q2 2017 through Q2 2018) will qualify for the incentive. This will be effective July 1, 2019. You may not see it until later, but it will be paid retroactively to 7/1. There was a question from the floor about what commitment are we getting from the politicians? The president responded that we are driving the debate and have tailored our ask to reflect expansion- COLA and minimum wage only. We can't expect a commitment on a multiyear agreement. There was a comment from the floor that having legislators to your facility is the only way to get this done. We are not getting enough response from our members. A question from the floor - What happens if all the budgeted \$19m for VBP isn't used? The commissioner must distribute remaining funds to centers.

Reimbursement/Regulatory - Feds talking about dropping restraints as a quality measure. Aid-in-dying bill on Governor's desk. Independent IDR bill introduced in both houses. CNA ratio bill – SEIU head, Bob Angelo, is asking to meet with Assembly Sponsor, Speaker and us in April. They are looking to push this forward. We've given up as much or more than we needed to, we are not giving up anymore. They want nurses included in the ratio to clock in as CNAs and that is not a possibility...malfeasant. Lobbying packet distributed to all at meeting for use for members who visit their legislators. A schedule of meetings was circulated, and members were asked to sign up to attend. If you know of anyone who has a connection, please ask them to sign up to be at a meeting. We will be reaching out to the membership to make noise in May. DHS will appear before Budget Committees - two dates - we need members to be there. We tried to set up a "Long Term Care 101" for legislators in the State House but no meeting rooms are available because of renovations. We'll set up lobby days to have members go to the State House to meet legislators in the hallways.

Quality – We have a meeting with CMS on April 29. We are asking for relief on the 57 quality measures – they take up an inordinate amount of time and many yield no data that relates to outcome. Ten good measures should be sufficient. Five-Star is changing and may affect your current rating. The president asked for top-line report for the centers in the state. AHCA/NCAL is very good reference information. Yesterday's Five-Star webinar was very valuable. Deadly fungus outbreak - New Jersey is among the states most affected by an increasing incidence of the potentially deadly fungus *Candida auris*. This fungus is resistant to drugs. There were 104 confirmed, and 22 probable, cases of people infected by the fungus in New Jersey by the end of February. Very deadly for those on ventilators and easily transmitted.

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 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jon Dolan', is written over the typed name.

Jon Dolan  
President/CEO