

Wednesday, January 15, 2020

PCAG Member Attendees	Fay Homan, Katie Marvin, Leigh LoPresti, Robert Penney, Norm Ward, <i>Tim Tanner, Sean Uiterwyk, Valerie Rooney</i>
GMCB Attendees	Robin Lunge, Susan Barrett, Christina McLaughlin
Other Attendees	Stephanie Winters, Helen Labun, Jill Olson, Laura Pelosi, Robyn Alvis
<i>*italics denote phone participation</i>	

1. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. Quick roundtable of folks in the room.

2. Rural Health Services Task Force Report
 - a. Board Member Robin Lunge, Jill Olson, and Laura Pelosi briefly presented the Rural health Services Task Force report and recommendations to the group. They outlined their findings and recommendations for Vermont’s rural workforce, revenue stability, care management, and telehealth. To view the report and recommendations, please see the presentation [here](#). The group discussed how it is difficult to change health care coverage and reimbursement. Some patients may be hesitant to call their physician due to a “fear of billing” however, it would help doctors to be able to bill for phone calls. The group also mentioned that specialists do not follow-up promptly and the relationship between primary care physicians and specialists need to improve to better help the patient.

3. Primary Care Workforce Legislative Testimony and Panel Debrief
 - a. The members who provided testimony and participated on the panel discussed how the day went with the rest of the group. To keep the momentum going, some group members are planning to meet with representatives from UVMHC and Dartmouth-Hitchcock about residency programs. The group also discussed H.607, an act relating to increasing the number of primary care providers in Vermont and H.723, an act relating to health insurance coverage for store-and-forward telemedicine. The group plans to have a meeting on February 19th from 5-7 pm to further discuss Vermont’s primary care workforce.
 - b. **Action Items:** Planning for the February meeting is underway.