 **Policy Committee**

**DRAFT**

**Minutes of April 20, 2021**

Present: Barry Brogan, Helen Evans, Marie Mongeon, Mandy Qualls, Claire Parde, Courtney Shaler, Anne Marie Snell, Nancy McGraw, Ann Abdella, Ali Coates

Excused: Paul Pettit, Bryan O’Donovan, Liz Urbanski Farrell, Susan Williams, Scott Emery

Staff: Sara Wall Bollinger

The meeting convened at 10:01AM.

1. Welcome, quorum, introductions & agenda modifications.
2. Minutes of March 16th [Anne Marie/Ali] were approved.
3. Closing the Loop
* Ann not able to connect with Karen yet.
* Federal COVID-19 funding. 19% earmarked for Rural. Karen Madden taking the lead on this. Sub-awards likely for RHNs after October 1, 2021.

*Action*

Ann A. will check with Karen Madden re: who has been nominated to the Rural Health Council.

1. Budget Wrap-Up
* RHN contract amendments for balance of 5 years
* AHEC funding restored
* Regional Planning Consortiums NOT refunded
* Doctors Across New York renewed
* OMH/OASAS postponed merger
* Small reduction for Health Homes
* Flat funding for Public Health
* Sunset on unlicensed mental health personnel
1. Federal Issues
* Sara is keeping up to date on Rural Health Clinic issue. The date had been changed.

*Action*

Refer to Membership Committee for possible recruitment

1. Upstate Institute Fellow

It looks like NYSARH will get a Fellow to work on the EMS research project outlined in the Strategic Plan.

*Action*

Helen will appoint an Advisory Team with EMS expertise to work with the Fellow for ten weeks. This group will provide introductions so that the Fellow may interview a variety of key informants. Sara will connect the Fellow with the Legislative Staff working on the NYS Task Force on Rural EMS.

Adjourned at 10:51.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Sara Wall Bollinger