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**MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INDIAN HEALTH CARE  
REGULAR MEETING**

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**Date:** August 31, 2015

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Place:** 2830 W. Glendale Ave., Suite #1, Phoenix, AZ 85051

**Members present:**

Lori Joshweseoma, Hopi Tribe

Alida Montiel, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc.

Mary Huyser, Arizona Department of Economic Security

Michael Allison, Arizona Department of Health Services

**Members absent:**

Priscilla Antone, Gila River Indian Community

Bonnie Talakte, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

**Staff present:**

Kim Russell, Executive Director and Lydia Enriquez, Administrative Assistant

**Guest present:**

None

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**Meeting Called to Order (Invocation)**

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Montiel at 9:56 a.m.

**Roll Call / Establishment of Quorum**

Ms. Russell called roll and four members out of six were present. Quorum was established.

**Invocation**

Ms. Huyser offered the opening prayer.

**Adoption of Agenda (Action Item)**

Mr. Allison motioned to approve the August 31, 2015 draft agenda with an edit to Roman Numeral IX; delete the word Planning and add Draft Report. Ms. Huyser seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

**Reading and Approval of Minutes (Action Item)**

Mr. Allison motioned to accept the April 30, 2015 minutes with modification to notate that items not covered were tabled due to ACOIHC Tribal Consultation priority, and Ms. Huyser seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

**Executive Director Report**

Ms. Russell provided a verbal report according to the ACOIHC Strategic Plan Goals:

- Goal 1: ACOIHC membership appointments are currently at a standstill.
- Goal 2: Continued work to update the ACOIHC Statutes is occurring. Mr. Allison will report in more detail.
- Goal 3: The FY 2017 budget was submitted to AHCCCS. The budget is proposing for one extra staff member.
- Goal 4: Continue collaborations with ADHS, AHCCCS, DES and First things First. The ACOIHC staff recently visited the following tribes: the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the White Mountain Apache Tribe, the Hualapai Tribe and the Havasupai Tribe.
- Goal 5: The ACOIHC continues to work with the San Carlos Apache Tribe on their 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Project and there is potential funding for this project through the St. Luke’s Health Initiative. There is a pending American Indian into Health Careers Conference at San Carlos, but we are awaiting the tribe to move forward.
- Goal 6: On August 27-28, 2015 the Oral Health Tribal Legislative Forum was conducted at the Twin Arrows Casino Resort. Senator Begay extended an invitation to the American Indian Oral Health Initiative to present their policy recommendations before the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs which were developed during the Forum.

Ms. Russell provided an outline of new and amended Strategic Plan goals 6 and 7 with objectives to be considered. See tables below.

<b>Goal 6: Recommend and advocate tribal, state and federal policy and legislation that supports the design and implementation of medical and public health care delivery and financing systems specific to each Tribe within Arizona</b>			
<b>Objective 1: Track and identify bills that impact Indian Health Care</b>			
Activity	Lead Person	Target Due Date	Outcome
a. Collaborate with state agency legislative liaisons to identify bills that impact Indian health	Executive Director	Ongoing	Annual Arizona Legislative Update
b. Collaborate with ITCA to publish Annual Arizona Legislative Update document on biweekly basis			

c. Conduct weekly teleconference calls to update and inform tribal stakeholders of bills			
<b>Objective 2: Advocate for and/or against legislative bills that impact Indian health care</b>			
Activity	Lead Person	Target Due Date	Outcome
a. Inform tribal stakeholders of legislative committee meetings when bills are being heard b. Inform Governor of legislative impacts to Indian Health Care	ACOIHC Members, Executive Director	January - April	Comments are submitted during legislative committee meetings, Letters sent to Governor
<b>Objective 3: Recommend Legislation or policy that will improve Indian health care</b>			
Activity	Lead Person	Target Due Date	Outcome
a. Participate in stakeholder meetings b. Conduct legislative roundtables/meetings to identify legislative priorities.	ACOIHC, Executive Director		Legislation entered into legislative session

The following edits were recommended and will be reflected in the overall strategic plan:

**Objective 1.** Track and identify bills that impact Indian Health Care

- Reverse items b. and c.
- Collaborative with ITCA bi-weekly via teleconference meetings after 12 p.m. on Fridays
- Add Outcome bullet; (Annual Legislative update provided to the Tribes, ACOIHC Members and stakeholders, written and verbal).

**Objective 2.** - Delete it and combine items a. and b. to now become d. and e. under Objective 1.

**Objective 3.** - Recommend Legislation or policy that will improve Indian health care

- Current Objective 3 now became Objective 2.
- Shorten Objective 3 (b.) wording to (Conduct roundtables)
- Add an Outcome bullet; (Policy recommendations submitted to Arizona State Legislature/Agencies).
- Add an Item c. Present Information/testimony to legislative committees
- Add an Outcome bullet; (ACOIHC positions)
- Add an Activity/Action column to Goal 6.
- Need to reference ACOIHC Statutes 36. ARS 36-2902.01 and ARS 36-2902.02 in Goal 6 title.
- Add an Outcome bullet; (American Indian legislative priorities will be identified)
- Add an Outcome bullet; (Introduction of bills to legislative session)

<b>Goal 7: Assist Tribes to identify title XIX demonstration projects, specific to each Arizona Indian tribe, both on and off reservations in cooperation with AHCCCS and CMS.</b>			
Objective	Lead Person	Target Due Date	Outcome
1. Engage Tribes in discussions about potential demonstration projects	Executive Director	Ongoing	Demonstration Project Ideas
2. Collaborate with AHCCCS to develop demonstration project proposals	Executive Director, Tribes	Ongoing	Demonstration Project Proposals
3. Provide input and comment to Section 1115 Waiver submittals	ACOIHC, Executive Director	Ongoing	Written comment submitted to AHCCCS and CMS

Ms. Russell will be working with Ms. Joshweseoma to offer technical assistance to the Hopi Tribe to provide them information on the legislative process.

Mr. Allison made a motion to approve strategic plan Goal 6 with revisions and Ms. Joshweseoma seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

### **Statute Committee Report**

Mr. Allison provided the Statute Committee Report as follows: A Statute Committee Meeting was held on August 14, 2015 for 30 minutes due to loss of quorum.

Ms. Montiel and Ms. Russell provided a briefing on their meeting with the Governor’s staff on July 22, 2015. Ms. Fire Thunder, Native American Affairs Policy Advisor, Ms. Christina Corieri, Governor’s Health Policy Advisor, and Mr. Grossman, Deputy Director, Boards and Commission were in attendance. A copy of the ACOIHC amended statutes ARS 36-2902.01 and 36-2902.02 was shared with the group, and they were reviewed in detail. Comments by the Governor’s staff regarding ARS 36-2902.01 – ACOIHC; Membership; included that that a section of the revised language was unacceptable specifically where it says that the Governor will do something and explained that the Governor should have flexibility and not be in a position where he is being told what to do.

Ms. FireThunder, Native American Policy Advisor to the Governor asked if the ACOIHC is duplicating any of ITCA’s health committees and Ms. Montiel expressed that the ITCA no longer has the Tribal Health Directors working group which was funded by the IHS and she further stated that ITCA has health related working groups such as the EPI Working Group, the Chronic Disease Prevention working group and the Tribal Health Steering Committee with the Nevada and Utah Tribal Leaders and she clarified that the ACOIHC is not duplicating ITCA’s work.

Mr. Grossman, Boards and Commissions Deputy Director advised that the Boards and Commissions data base has been cleaned up and that the application process has been revamped. All persons who applied prior to October 1, 2014, must reapply.

It was further stated that the ACOIHC would need to provide their proposed statutes amendments in advance to the Governor for his approval. Mr. Grossman stated that the Governor would probably consider the advisement of Senator Carlyle Begay to continue to engage him in our process.

Ms. Russell asked Mr. Grossman, why the tribal recommendations are not being moved forward and he stated that the governor carefully vets recommendations to make sure that appointments to the boards and commissions share the governor's views.

Ms. Montiel stated that the tribes have not been informed yet of the Boards and Commission decision to revamp their system and they may need to reapply to Boards and Commissions to sit on this Council.

Ms. Russell stated that we need to engage Senator Begay on his thought process in supporting the revamping of the Boards and Commission application process.

Ms. Russell is working on completing the Tribal Consultation Report. During the Tribal Consultation many questions were asked mainly regarding membership. Many comments were focused on strategy. Items needed to complete the amended statutes:

- Review the Tribal Consultation audio
- Consider the Governor's Advisors comments
- Consider Mr. Grossman's feed back
- Consider Senator Begay's feedback

Ms. Montiel requested that Ms. Russell provide a 2<sup>nd</sup> version of ARS 36-2902.01 and ARS 36-2902.02 Statute Amendments of items that could be removed. The council discussed if the statue amendment to be entered should just be .01 or .02 individually or both .01 and .02 at the same time. Ultimately, the decision is the Council's on which statute(s) will be entered for amendment via a bill(s). The Statute Amendments will revert to the Statute Committee to create the final version to submit to Senator Begay. Next steps include:

- Meet with Senator Begay
- Establish strategy
- Approve the final version and send it to the sponsor

Ms. Montiel recommends that the final ACOIHC Tribal Consultation Draft Report be completed before meeting with Senator Begay.

The Council extensively reviewed ARS 36-2902.01 and ARS 36-2902.02 in detail. Last updates were made on 6/3/15. Ms. Russell made recommended edits.

Mr. Allison motioned to approve modifications made to the ACOIHC Statutes including all re-numbering and Ms. Joshweseoma seconded the motion.

**Arizona Section 1115 Demonstration Project Waiver** – Item tabled.

**ACOIHC Tribal Consultation Draft Report** – Item tabled

**Strategic Plan Amendments**

Ms. Russell introduced Goal 7 to add to the ACOIHC Strategic Plan. Mr. Allison motioned to approve Goal 7 to be added to the ACOIHC Strategic Plan and Ms. Huyser seconded the motion. All approved unanimously.

**Affordable Care Act Opportunities for Community Health Workers** - Tabled

**Call to Public** - None

**Announcements**

The next meeting will be on October 5, 2015.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Allison motioned to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Joshweseoma seconded the motion. All approved unanimously. Due to loss of quorum the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.