Attendees:

- Sharla Allen, Manager, Office of Rural Health, Wyoming Department of Health (WDH)
- Dr. Bush, WY Medicaid Director and Telehealth Consortium Chair (WDH)
- Kevin Smith, Telehealth Coordinator, Cheyenne Regional Medical Center (CRMC)
- Canyon Hardesty, Coordinator of Community Education, Wyoming Institute for Disabilities
- Deb Anderson, Business Relationship Manager, Health Technology Services
- Tim Caswell, EHR Program Specialist, Healthcare Financing, WDH
- Kevin Bohnenblust, Executive Director, Wyoming Board of Medicine
- Scott Watson, Mikroscan
- Kanae Wilcox, Mikroscan
- Heidi Mecham, Project Coordinator Assistant, Wyoming Institute for Disabilities

Update from members

Wyoming Telehealth Consortium Chair/Medicaid

Dr. Bush:

- Discussed how the Mikroscan equipment might be good for rural health areas in Wyoming where hospitals might not have their own pathologist on staff. Discussed idea of Tele-Pathology where specimens are sent to larger hospitals in the state for testing and the cost effectiveness for hospitals in rural area.
- Colorado Children’s wanted to know outpatient/urgent care visit for Medicaid number-9500 cases per year was the estimate given. Will send it back to Colorado.
- Getting practitioners to think outside the box. Medicaid will pay for consultation by tele network and wants to know why more isn’t being done for sake of savings.
- RHIT team sent notes out and meeting went well. Notes are under review. Waiting on comments and will be returned.
- 800 telehealth cases are seen monthly at this time.
- Gave description of UNM ECHO model to members of board.
- Discussed medicare scoring and how to increase reimbursements with providers.
- Presented in Casper, discussed what was being done with various boards and shared document submitted to state legislature and gave case example to demonstrate how TeleHealth can function medically for the state. Discussed the reluctance of moving to TeleHealth.
• Practitioner for Wyoming medicaid was discussed.
• Telehealth funds are allowing growth in areas and WIND offered as resource for developing programs through ECHO.

University of Wyoming/WIND/WyTN
Canyon Hardesty
• WIND will be providing training and support to Mountain Pacific in collaboration with WyCOA.
• Metrics were discussed. 17 active providers showing interest. 8000 minutes used to make up about 44 meeting. Specific care has used 500 between two providers: Dusty Lewis, physical therapist and Dr. Bartholmew. Slow uptake but licenses are getting used. Will continue to report on each month.
• Monthly trainings to start in October.
• Marketing plan in development
• Articles were submitted for quarterly newsletter.

Cheyenne Regional Medical Center
Kevin Smith
• Working an alliance with Colorado Children’s to keep medical cases in Wyoming and so Colorado Children’s will release child back to practitioner in Wyoming because of increased facilities.
• Will ask Colorado Children’s how to increase provider to provider communications.
• Spent time this month training new psychiatrists to do Telehealth.
• Usage is at 270 hours total, 97 hours were clinical, 118 were educational training.
• Summit Pathology (Loveland) provides services to Cheyenne regional Hospital
• Discussed the value of attending hospital association.

Office of Rural Health
Sharla Allen:
• Contract with U of U expiring and will look at alternatives
• Telehealth growth and collaboration with Wyoming Telehealth network going well.
• WyTN Presentation and interaction at medical conference for hospital association. Not a great location for a booth but good conversation
• Shared that if there are issues in funding to attend medical conferences that can be provided.

Wyoming Department of Health -Healthcare Financing
Tim Caswell
• RFP for HIE will be completed soon but still in editing and draft process.

Health Technology Services
Deb Anderson
• Doing a presentation for federal funding for rural health care.
• National ICT Week in Healthcare. March on the States event discussed.
• Asking members to make sure they are providing steps to get information out on TeleHealth.
• WIND will be Super hub for Mountain Pacific.

Mikroscan
Scott Watson
• Shared a presentation about Mikroscan services
• Answered questions

Kanae Wilcox
• Gave a demo of Mikroscan equipment
• Answered questions

Wyoming Board of Medicine:
Kevin Bohnenblust
• FBI has taken issue with sharing criminal backgrounds checks for licensing in other states.
• TeleHealth and Board of Medicine are meeting about Wyoming care standards paper being presented. (Uniform Policy for the Appropriate Use of Telehealth Technologies in the Delivery of Healthcare).