



RMC Health Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 27, 2025
10:00 am – 11:00 am
Zoom Teleconference

Minutes

Participants: Chair Sara Seitz, Amy Keller, Melissa Kelly, Christine Karayinopolos, Jackie Ward, Judith Walker, Jonathan Dayton

RMC Staff: Charlotte Davis, Megan D’Arcy, Molli Cole, Leeza DeCheubel

Chair Sara Seitz welcomed the committee and initiated the meeting at 10:02 am.

The committee reviewed the May 14, 2025, meeting minutes. Christine Karayinopolos motioned to approve the meeting minutes; Melissa Kelly seconded the meeting minutes. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Megan D’Arcy reviewed the FY2026 RMPIF/MAERDAF Awarded Health Grants. There are 16 grantees awarded under RMPIF Rural Health, totaling \$981,150. In addition, there are 3 grantees awarded under RMPIF Entrepreneurship, totaling \$395,045.

Ms. Seitz reviewed the updated Maryland Rural Health Strategic Plan Draft, highlighting recent revisions and key focus areas intended to address current and emerging rural health challenges across the state. The review included an overview of the plan’s goals, strategic priorities, and alignment with ongoing initiatives, as well as its role in guiding future rural health policy, programs, and partnerships.

The committee next discussed plans for the 2025 Rural Summit, including a proposed pre-conference rural bus tour with a healthcare focus designed to highlight rural health systems, community partnerships, and local challenges.

Additional discussion focused on the planned health sessions for the Summit, which will address a wide range of timely and relevant topics. These sessions include making prescription drugs more affordable in Maryland; exploring how rural communities can foster success and inclusion for individuals living with autism and intellectual disabilities; addressing workforce challenges through a session focused on recharging the rural workforce by combating burnout and promoting purpose, presence, and positivity; reviewing the States Advancing All-Payer Health Equity Approaches and Development (AHEAD) Model; examining anticipated changes to Medicaid and their potential impacts on rural Maryland; presenting updates to the Maryland Rural Health Plan; and outlining upcoming health care updates and available resources for Marylanders.

Participants were encouraged to attend the 2025 Maryland Rural Health Conference, October 19 - 21, 2025.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:57 am.