

**FINAL**  
**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION MEETING OF THE**  
**NEW JERSEY SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD**  
**AT THE OFFICES OF THE**  
**NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF BANKING AND INSURANCE**  
**TRENTON, NEW JERSEY**  
**December 20, 2017**

**Members participating:** Herb Ames; Mary Beaumont; Gary Cupo; Margaret Koller; Lauren Lalicon; Ulysses Lee (Oxford); Brenda Peppard (DOBI); Nicholas Peterson (Horizon); Thomas Pownall (Aetna); Tony Taliaferro (AmeriHealth).

**Others participating:** Ellen DeRosa, Executive Director; Chanell McDevitt, Deputy Executive Director; Christine Machnowsky, Deputy Executive Director; Rosaria Lenox, Managing Financial Officer; Jeff Posta, Deputy Attorney General.

**I. Call to Order**

E. DeRosa called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. She announced that notice of the meeting was provided to three newspapers of general circulation and the State House Press Corps, and posted at the Department of Banking and Insurance (“DOBI”), on the DOBI website, and at the Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Following a roll call, she determined there was a quorum present, and stated that all votes would be by roll call because some of the Board members were participating by phone.

**II. Public Comments**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**III. Minutes of the November 15, 2017 Meeting**

**T. Pownall made a motion, seconded by B. Peppard, to approve the open session minutes of the November 15, 2017 meeting. By roll call vote, the motion carried, with M. Beaumont abstaining.**

**IV. Staff Report -- Expenses**

R. Lenox presented the December expense report. She noted expenses, totaling \$10,473.39 for December, arose for public notices regarding meetings, services from the Division of Law, the first billing from WithumSmith+Brown for the FY17 audit, continuing education courses for her license, and parking (E. DeRosa explained that construction in the garage where R. Lenox is assigned to park has resulted in fewer available spaces and the occasional need to park elsewhere for work, and that this may occur for some time into 2018). R. Lenox stated the Board would need to transfer \$10,500 from the Board’s Wells Fargo Money Market account to its checking account to pay the expenses.

**M. Beaumont made a motion, seconded by M. Koller, to approve payment of the expenses presented on the December report, and the transfer of \$10,500 from the Board’s Wells Fargo**

**Money Market account to the Board's Wells Fargo checking account to assure payment can be made. By roll call vote, the motion carried.**

**V. Report of the DAG – *Spine Society Matter***

J. Posta announced that oral arguments in the Spine Society appeal are scheduled for January 23, and will be heard in Trenton, at the Justice Hughes Complex on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor at 1:30 P.M. He noted that the hearings are open to the public, should anyone wish to attend. He explained that the court will issue its decision following the arguments, with the timeframe determined by the court.

**VI. Public Comment**

There were no members of the public in attendance.

**VII. Close of Meeting**

**B. Peppard made a motion, seconded by M. Koller, to adjourn the meeting. By roll call vote, the motion carried.**

*[The meeting adjourned at 10:10 A.M.]*