

FINAL
MINUTES OF THE 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
April 15, 2020

Members participating: Herb Ames; Robert Benkert (Oxford); Natalie Bernardi (Cigna); Chrissy Buteas; Gary Cupo; Philip Gennace (DOBI); Laura Gunn; Margaret Koller; Taylor Kopelan (Horizon); Thomas Pownall (Aetna); Tony Taliaferro (AmeriHealth).

Others participating: Ellen DeRosa, Executive Director; Chanell McDevitt, Deputy Executive Director; Rosaria Lenox, Financial Manager; Jeff Posta, Deputy Attorney General.

I. Call to Order

E. DeRosa called the meeting to order at 10:05 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.

E. DeRosa noted that, pursuant to P.L. 2020, c. 2, as a result of the state of emergency and public health emergency declared by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020 through Executive Order 103 (subsequently extended by Executive Order 119 on April 7, 2020) due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the SEH Board’s regularly scheduled meeting is being held entirely telephonically rather than at the Board’s offices in Trenton. She stated that, in accordance with P.L. 2020 c. 11, electronic notice of the change in the meeting and the means by which the public could attend the meeting telephonically was posted on the Board’s website, and issued electronically to all known interested parties.

E. DeRosa determined a quorum was present. She stated that voting would be by roll call.

Member of the public were asked to identify themselves.

II. Public Comments

None offered.

III. Review of Minutes of March 18, 2020

M. Koller made a motion, seconded by L. Gunn, to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 18, 2020, without amendment. By roll call vote, the motion carried.

IV. Staff Report – Expenses

R. Lenox briefly discussed the expenses for April, totaling \$301.28, all of which is for the Great Plains Accounting software, the cost of which (along with the support services of Admiral Consulting) are shared among the SEH Board, the Individual Health Coverage (IHC) Board, and

the Medicare Supplement Under 50 Program. She explained that the report is being presented for information purposes only, as the amount due is being offset against other mutually shared expenses, and that no action by the Board is needed.

V. Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) Report –Budget; Assessment

R. Lenox reported that the FAC met to discuss the budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2021, and presented the recommended budget of \$290,930 to the Board, with brief discussion of changes from the prior fiscal year.

R. Lenox presented the proposed interim assessments recommended by the FAC. She explained the interim assessment is based on the recommended budget, and allocated among nine companies in total, using net earned premiums reported for calendar year 2019. She noted that the assessments will be emailed this year, with a copy to the relevant company representatives on the SEH Board.

H. Ames made a motion, seconded by N. Bernardi, to approve the FY2021 budget and the 2021 interim assessments. By roll call vote, the motion carried.

VI. Public Comments

None offered.

VII. Other Business

E. DeRosa reminded the Board members that, at the March Board meeting, the Board had briefly discussed the changes occurring in the small employer market in terms of how employers and employees may be obtaining coverage, and what is being offered to them. She noted that the intent is to have a fuller discussion about the issues at the May meeting. She urged Board members to provide as much information as possible to staff for dissemination prior to the meeting in May.

VIII. Close of Meeting

M. Koller made a motion, seconded by N. Bernardi, to close the meeting. By roll call vote, the motion carried.

[The meeting adjourned at 10:20 A.M.]

Known Public:

- Joan Fusco
- Suzanne Fitzgerald, Savoy Associates
- Shelly Bloom, Emerson Reid, LLC