#### **FINAL**

# MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NEW JERSEY SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD HELD TELEPHONICALLY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 103 (MURPHY) June 21, 2023

**Members participating:** Herbert Ames; Alison Birzon (Cigna); Jess Bowker (Oscar Garden State); Gary Cupo; Margaret Koller; Kristen Jarosz (Horizon); Daniel Bradshaw (United); Thomas Pownall (Aetna Health); Adam Young (AmeriHealth).

Others participating: Jeffrey Posta, Deputy Attorney General.

#### I. Call to Order

M. Koller chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:03 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.

M. Koller 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, as subsequently extended, 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 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. M. Koller determined that a quorum was present, and that voting would be by roll call.

## **II.** Opening Public Comments

There were no members of the public attending this meeting.

### III. Review of Minutes – May 17, 2023

G. Cupo commented that his name should be removed from the May 17, 2023 minutes as he did not participate in that meeting. T. Pownall made a motion, seconded by K. Jarosz, to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2023 with the edit removing G. Cupo's name from the participant list. By roll call vote, the motion carried.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-3(b), a Public Health Emergency lasts for 30 days unless extended, while States of Emergency declared in accordance with N.J.S.A. App A:9-33 et seq. remain in effect until declared ended by a subsequent executive order. The Public Health Emergency was continuously extended through multiple executive orders until E.O. 244 (Murphy), issued June 4, 2021, declared the Public Health Emergency ended. However, Governor Murphy has not yet ended the State of Emergency established by E.O. 103 (Murphy). Thus, the Board continues to meet remotely, and public access is limited to telephonic means. (Notably, E.O. 280, issued January 11, 2022, resulted in another Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19, which was extended by E.O. 288 on February 10, 2022, then lifted by E.O. 292 on March 4, 2022.)

# **IV.** Discussion of Ongoing Meeting Schedule

- J. Posta requested that the Board move to Executive Session to discuss requirements for the Board's meeting frequency.
- G. Cupo made a motion to move to Executive Session to discuss the meeting schedule with a second from A. Young. By roll call vote, the motion carried.

The Board moved out of Open Session at 10:18 a.m. but due to technical difficulties did not convene Executive Session until 10:27 a.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session and reconvened Open Session at 10:41 a.m.

# V. Closing Public Comments

There were no members of the public attending this meeting.

# VI. Close of Meeting

G. Cupo made a motion, seconded by T.Pownall, to adjourn the meeting. By roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

[The meeting adjourned at 10:43 A.M.]