

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NEW JERSEY SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD  
HELD TELEPHONICALLY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 103 (MURPHY)  
September 20, 2023**

**Members Present:**

Herbert K. Ames  
Julie Bogorad (AmeriHealth)  
Robert Axelrod (Oscar Garden State)  
Taylor Kopelan (Horizon)  
Thomas Pownall (Aetna Health)  
Phil Gennace (Department of Banking and Insurance)  
Gary Cupo  
Margaret Koller

**Others:**

Jeffrey Posta, Deputy Attorney General

**I. Call to Order**

M. Koller 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.

Members of the public were asked to identify themselves and are listed at the end of these minutes.

M. Koller noted that this meeting is the annual meeting, which normally involves a discussion of committee and subcommittee assignments. However, because the SEH Board is in a transition period, these agenda items will be addressed at a later date. M. Koller also stated that she would be creating an Outlook invite series for all scheduled meetings, which could be cancelled if the meeting does not occur. P. Gennace noted that the meeting schedule is currently available on the Board’s website.

**II. Public Comments**

No members of the public offered comments.

**III. Review of Minutes**

August 16, 2023 Meeting Minutes: G. Cupo made a motion, seconded by T. Pownall, to approve the Open Session minutes of the meeting of August 16, 2023 without amendments. R. Axelrod abstained from the vote, all other voting members presented voted yes. The motion was carried.

**IV. Readoption of N.J.A.C. 11:21**

P. Gennace explained that the SEH rules at N.J.A.C. 11:21 expire every seven years, and are scheduled to expire this year on October 12, 2023. The Department had prepared a notice of adoption for a portion of the chapter, which has been amended to include the rules promulgated by the Board. P. Gennace noted that the Board has to approve the Notice of Readoption before it could be filed at OAL. Readopting these subchapters would ensure that the rules stay in effect. M. Koller pointed out that amendments can be made moving forward if necessary and that this readoption has no impact on the expedited rulemaking process.

G. Cupo made a motion to approve the Readoption. H. Ames seconded the motion. All voting members present voted yes. The motion was carried.

**V. Public Comments**

No members of the public offered comments.

**VI. Close of Meeting**

P. Gennace made a motion to adjourn the meeting. G. Cupo seconded the motion. All voting members present voted yes. The motion was carried.

*[The meeting adjourned at 10:17 A.M.]*

Public known to be in attendance:

Kristen Jarosz (Horizon)

Kelly Ferrera (Horizon)

Amanda Blake (Horizon)

Suzanne Fitzgerald, Savoy Associates