

**FINAL**  
**MINUTES OF THE OPEN SESSION OF THE**  
**NEW JERSEY INDIVIDUAL HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAM BOARD**  
**HELD TELEPHONICALLY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 103 (MURPHY)**  
**October 11, 2022**

**Directors participating:** Sandi Kelly (Horizon); Robert Morrow (Oxford); Colleen Picklo; Thomas Pownall (Aetna); Gale Simon (DOBI); Tony Taliaferro (AmeriHealth).

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

**I. Call to Order**

E. DeRosa called the meeting of the IHC Board to order at 10:00 A.M. She announced that notice of the meeting had been posted at the Department of Banking and Insurance (“DOBI”), on the DOBI website, at the Office of the Secretary of State and submitted to the State House Press Corps, and published in three newspapers of general circulation, in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

E. DeRosa noted that, pursuant to P.L. 2020, c. 2, as a result of the public health emergency and state of emergency declared by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020 through Executive Order 103, subsequently extended,<sup>1</sup> due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting, was being held telephonically, and not 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. E. DeRosa determined a quorum was present. She stated that voting would be by roll call.

Members of the public were asked to identify themselves; public attendees, if any, are identified at the end of these minutes.

**II. Minutes – September 13, 2022**

**T. Pownall made a motion, seconded by C. Picklo, to approve the minutes of the Open Session of the meeting of September 13, 2022, with amendments. By roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.**

**S. Kelly made a motion, seconded by T. Pownall, to approve the minutes of the Executive Session of the meeting of September 13, 2022, without amendments. By roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.**

**III. Report of Staff – Expense Report; Program Audit for FY2022; CY2023 Meetings**

*Expense Report*

R. Lenox presented the expense report, which totaled \$12,346.84, all related to salaries and shared expenses for September (FY2023). She stated that the expenses can be paid by transferring funds from the IHC Program’s DOBI account to the SEH Program’s DOBI account.

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<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 (Murphy, January 11, 2022) resulted in another Public Health Emergency due to COVID-19, lifted by E.O. 292 on March 4, 2022.)

**T. Pownall made a motion, seconded by S. Kelly, to approve the expenses, and the transfer of \$12,346.84 from the IHC DOBI account to the SEH DOBI account for the payment of salaries and shared expenses. By roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.**

*Operations & Audit Committee (OAC) Report – FY2022 Program Audit*

R. Lenox reported that the OAC met with auditors of WithumSmith+Brown to kick-off the audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. E. DeRosa noted that no action is required by the Board.

*2023 Meeting Schedule*

E. DeRosa suggested that the Board continue to schedule meetings on the second Tuesday of each month. She stated she would make the requisite notice of the meeting dates if there were no objections received from Board members.

**IV. Policy Forms and HINT form**

Board members requested an update on the policy form changes and changes to the HINT form. E. DeRosa stated there was no update to provide. She stated that carriers issuing the standard plans must extend the hearing aid benefit beyond age 15, and should do so in accordance with the Compliance with Law provision of the standard plans.

**V. Executive Session – Personnel Issues**

E. DeRosa requested that the Board move into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. She indicated she did not expect any action to occur when the Board returned to Open Session.

**S. Kelly made a motion, seconded by T. Pownall, to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters, and then return to Open Session for the sole purpose of closing the meeting. By roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.**

*[The Board closed the Open Session at 10:12 A.M.]*

*[The Board returned to Open Session at 10:36 A.M.]*

**VI. Close of Meeting**

**S. Kelly made a motion, seconded by T. Taliaferro, to adjourn the meeting. By roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.**

*[The meeting ended at 10:37 A.M.]*

**Identified Public Attendees:** Robert Axelrod, Oscar Garden State Health Ins. Corp.<sup>2</sup> was in attendance during the first Open Session.

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<sup>2</sup> Oscar is a member of the Small Employer Health Benefits Program Board of Directors, as are several of the Directors on the IHC Board; however, there was not a quorum of the SEH Board present, and all discussions and actions at the meeting concerned the specific public business of the IHC Board.