

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NEW JERSEY INDIVIDUAL HEALTH COVERAGE PROGRAM BOARD  
HELD TELEPHONICALLY PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 103 (MURPHY)  
January 10, 2023**

**Directors participating:** Sandi Kelly (Horizon); Robert Morrow (Oxford); Colleen Picklo; Thomas Pownall (Aetna); Adam Young (AmeriHealth).

**Others participating:** Ellen DeRosa, Executive Director; Eleanor Heck, 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, 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 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, the IHC Board’s regularly scheduled 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 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.

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

**II. Minutes – December 13, 2023 and December 29, 2022**

**C. Picklo made a motion, seconded by R. Morrow to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 13, 2022, without amendments. By roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.**

**T. Pownall made a motion, seconded by S. Kelly to approve the minutes of the meeting of December 29, 2022, without amendments. By roll call vote, the motion unanimously carried.**

**III. Executive Director Report**

E. DeRosa discussed the fiscal position left vacant when R. Lenox retired. She reported that although she had posted for the position, interviewed candidates, and made a selection, an offer had not yet been made to the candidate. E. DeRosa said she had a discussion with the Board’s auditors at Withum Smith + Brown (Withum) regarding controls that might be put in place until the fiscal position is filled. She said the partner from Withum noted that accounting standards

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<sup>1</sup> Executive Order 103 (Murphy) has been continuously extended multiple times since originally issued, the most recent extension occurring on February 17, 2021, pursuant to Executive Order 222 (Murphy).

contemplate the governing Board taking a role. The Board or a member of the Board could review invoices that would be included on an expense report presented to the Board. The Board could be given a list of checks issued each month to ensure no checks are missing.

C. Picklo said that as a member of the Operations and Audit Committee she would be willing to serve as a Board reviewer. The Board accepted her offer.

E. DeRosa also recommended that the Board consider filling the now-vacant Deputy Executive Director position to help ensure continuity of Board operations. The Board agreed that filling the Deputy Executive Director position would assist with a transition upon the eventual retirement of the Executive Director and could help with succession planning.

E. DeRosa confirmed that Gale Simon retired at the end of the year and that no new Board designee for the Commissioner has been named.

#### **IV. Close of Meeting**

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

*[The meeting ended at 10:30 A.M.]*

#### **Identified Public Attendees:**

- Robert Axelrod, Oscar Garden State Health Ins. Corp.<sup>2</sup>

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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.