

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
NEW JERSEY SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM BOARD
HELD TELEPHONICALLY
April 15, 2026**

Members Present:

Margaret Koller
Michael Fahncke
Adam Young
Gary Cupo
Kelly Fernandez
Katherine Hempstead
Staci Grant
Taylor Kopelan

Others:

Jeffrey Posta (DAG)
John Rossakis (DOBI)

I. Call to Order

M. Koller called the meeting to order at 10:01 A.M. She announced that notice of the meeting had been posted at the Department of Banking and Insurance (the “Department”), on the Department’s website, at the Office of the Secretary of State, submitted to the State House Press Corps, and published in two newspapers of general circulation in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

M. Koller stated that 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 a quorum was present. She stated that voting would be by roll call.

Members of the public in attendance were asked to identify themselves. Public attendees are identified at the end of these minutes.

II. Public Comments

No public comments were offered.

III. Administrative Items for Review & Approval

Meeting Minutes

G. Cupo made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes from March 18, 2026. This motion was seconded by K. Hempstead. All voting members present approved the motion. The motion carried.

IV. General Updates and Discussion

Discontinuance and Replacement Discussion

S. Grant outlined a question concerning mid-year transitions into a plan offered by a different carrier – the new carrier is required to issue a credit for any payments against the deductible under the old plan, but is the new carrier also required to issue a credit against maximum out-of-pocket costs paid under the older plan? The Board discussed the question and determined that the best recourse is to further discuss at the next Board meeting, after the carrier board members, in particular, had an opportunity to review more closely. M. Koller will distribute additional background materials via email after the meeting. M. Fahncke noted that the background materials could be distributed to the Board members after the meeting, but any further discussion on the topic would need to wait until the next Board meeting.

Agenda for May Meeting

The Board discussed the potential agenda for the May meeting, at which the Board proposed to initiate a broader discussion of the status of the small employer marketplace in New Jersey. M. Koller outlined the proposed format for the meeting, including holding the meeting over Zoom or another video format. K. Hempstead, S. Grant, T. Kopelan, and A. Young outlined proposed topics for the discussion, including Individual Coverage Health Reimbursement Arrangement (ICHRA) uptake in the small employer marketplace, reflections from carriers and brokers about movement in the market, and potential regulatory changes. M. Fahncke noted that he would also be distributing a list of recent enactments that may need to be incorporated into the standard policy forms, with a soft deadline of the May meeting for Board members to suggest additional changes to the forms.

V. Close of Meeting

A. Young made a motion to adjourn the meeting. S. Grant seconded the motion. All voting members present approved the motion. The motion carried.

[The meeting adjourned at 10:44 A.M.]

Members of the public known to be in attendance:

Dana Kelly (Horizon)

Kelly Ferreira (Horizon)