



State of New Jersey

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Governor

NEW JERSEY MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH INNOVATION AUTHORITY
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TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

Lisa A. Asare
President & CEO

NEW JERSEY MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH INNOVATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

Minutes of the Meeting June 26, 2024

Minutes of the meeting of the New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority (“MIHIA”) held virtually on Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 10:00 AM Eastern Standard Time.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD IN ATTENDANCE

Shakira Abdul-Ali – Public Member
Vineeta Kapahi (Designee for Sarah Adelman) – Governor Representative
Dr. Philip Bonaparte – Public Member
Rosalee Boyer - Public Member
Barbara George Johnson - Public Member
Gillian Gutierrez (Designee for Holly Low) – Governor Representative
Andrea Martinez-Mejia - Public Member
Dr. Damali Campbell-Oparaji – Public Member
Maritza Raimundi-Petroski - Public Member (Joined after roll call)
Kaitlan Baston – Governor Representative
Katherine Stoehr- Governor Representative
Mary Maples (Designee for Tim Sullivan) - Governor Representative
Dawn Thomas (Designee for Justin Zimmerman) - Governor Representative
Dr. Brian Bridges -Governor Representative (Joined after the vote to approve previous month’s meeting minutes)

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Lisa Asare, President & CEO, New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority
Roza Dabaghyan, Deputy Attorney General, Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Law
Alexis Franklin, Office of the Governor, Authorities Unit
Anita Bliss, Treasury
Pamela Taylor, Economic Development Authority.

President & CEO Asare called the meeting to order and announced that MIHIA was in compliance with the provisions of Open Public Meetings Act and the adequate notice of the meeting had been provided in the manner prescribed by law.

President & CEO Asare took roll call and welcomed representatives from the First Lady’s Office, Governor’s Office, Governor’s Authorities Unit, Attorney General’s Office and Treasury.

Barbara George Johnson requested a motion to approve Governor Representative Kaitlan Baston to serve as an Acting Chair for the meeting.

A motion was made by Andrea Martinez-Mejia and seconded by Rosalee Boyer. All members present voted in favor. The motion carried.

The meeting was turned over to Acting Chair Baston.

Update from the Acting Chair

Acting Chair Baston greeted the Board and announced that the Department of Health (DOH) hosted demo of the Maternal Data Center Hospital Portal in collaboration with the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA).

Acting Chair Baston noted that members of the public who are in attendance will have the opportunity to comment during the public comment portion of the meeting.

Acting Chair Baston requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2024 meeting. Barbara George Johnson made the motion. Shakira Abdul-Ali seconded the motion. Acting Chair Baston called for a vote. All present members voted in favor. The motion carried.

President & CEO Statement

President & CEO Asare provided an update about the recent Commonwealth Fund Report, where the US has ranked the highest amongst high income countries in Maternal Mortality. The report suggested that the US must eliminate birthing deserts, increase home visitation, and build the perinatal workforce, areas in which New Jersey is currently working to improve.

Additionally, Ms. Asare reported on the engagement of a communications firm to assist with the MIHIA launch.

Finally, Ms. Asare reported on recent public engagements as follows:

On June 21, 2024, President and CEO Asare attended the National Academy of Public Administration’s Social Equity Leadership Conference at the University of Connecticut. President and CEO Asare and her colleagues from the New Jersey Office of Equity and the New Jersey Department of State participated in the Public Sector Roundtable: On the Frontlines of Diversity Equity Inclusion and discussed the impact of public policy on social equity.

On June 24, 2024, The National Pan-Hellenic Council, whose members hold membership in the Nine Black Greek Letter Organizations, known as the Divine Nine, hosted a Legislative Day in Trenton. President and CEO Asare participated in Black Maternal

Health panel. The discussion was centered around the contribution of structural inequities in black maternal mortality and potential solutions.

Other Business

Shakira Abdul-Ali suggested that the Board research the Joy Bank Fund program from Philadelphia. She also requested a site visit to the Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Center (MIHIC).

Mary Maples advised that EDA has identified an architecture/engineering and construction management firm for MIHIC.

Public Comment

There was no Public Comment.

Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

Adjournment

Acting Chair Baston requested a motion to adjourn. Andrea Martinez- Mejia made the motion to adjourn. Dr. Philip Bonaparte seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion carried.

I hereby certify this to be a true and original copy of the June 26, 2024, New Jersey Maternal and Infant Health Innovation Authority Board meeting minutes.

Lisa Asare

Lisa Asare,
President and CEO.