

**School Employees' Health Benefits Program**

**Plan Design Committee**

**Open Session Minutes: July 10, 2020 10:00 a.m.**

Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held telephonically.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the annual notice of the schedule of regular meetings of the Committee filed with and prominently posted in the offices of the Secretary of State. A meeting notice was mailed to the Secretary of State, Star Ledger and the Trenton Times on December 26, 2019. Notice of the telephonic meeting was on July 8, 2020.

The meeting of the School Employees' Health Benefits Program Plan Design Committee of New Jersey was called to order on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held telephonically.

The text of Resolution B (Executive Session) – was read in its entirety in the event that the Committee desires, at any point in the meeting, to approve a motion to go into closed session.

Acting Secretary Ludwig took Roll Call and established that a quorum was present.

**Roll Call**

**Committee Members:**

**Julie Giordano Plotkin, NJEA**

**Kevin Kelleher, NJEA**

**John Megariotis, Director, Division of Pensions and Benefits**

**Jennifer Keyes-Malone, Assistant Treasurer**

**Donna Chiera, AFT/AFL-CIO**

**Absent:**

**David Ridolfino- Director Office of Management and Budget**

**Also Present:**

**Christin Deacon, Division of Pensions and Benefits**

**Andrew Lawson, Division of Pensions and Benefits**

**Nicole Ludwig, Division of Pensions and Benefits**

**Christopher Meyer, Deputy Attorney General**

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF P.L.2020 Ch.44**

Chairperson Kevin Kelleher explained that Public Law 2020 Chapter 44 was signed by Governor Murphy on July 1, 2020. This law mandates that on January 1, 2020 the SEHBP reduces to three plans, NJ Direct10, NJDirect15, and the New Educators Health Plan (NJEHP). The law stated that between now and January 1 the SEHBP plans make changes to the out-of-network chiropractic, physical therapy, and acupuncture. These should be changed to what the SHBP has been paying for services which is more of a dollar amount and not a percent of fair health. He stated that the law also states that on July 1, 2021 the PDC must come up with the Garden State Plan (GSP) which is an in-state plan with a robust network that provides services to the State of NJ unless there is an emergency. He stated that the last piece on the educators plan is the formulary implantation, which will be discussed by OptumRx in the meeting.

#### **OPTUM- FORMULARY PRESENTATION**

Steve White of OptumRx presented the Formulary presentation provided to the Committee members prior to the meeting. Nina Evans, a clinical director at OptumRx stated that the formulary management that is outlined in P.L. 2020 Ch.44 is considered the Premium Open Formulary. She explained this is still an open formulary, however there are controls over some of the medications, some exclusions that drive towards plan savings.

Sina Carlson, a senior director of intelligence at OptumRx went over the Pharmacy and Therapeutics (P&T) Committee Meetings. She explained that the P&T is a group of independent multi-specialty physicians and experts from across the country. The P&T committee assist OptumRx in creating a clinically and sound formulary.

Chairperson Kelleher asked where the P&T meetings are held. Mrs. Evans stated that traditionally the committee meets monthly, four of these meetings are held in person in Chicago. However, due to COVID-19 this year's meetings will be held virtually. Chairperson Kelleher asked how often changes are made to the Formulary. Mrs. Evans stated negative changes (ie tier change, exclusion etc.) to the formulary are made twice a year: January 1 and July 1. Positive changes can happen monthly.

Chairperson Kelleher asked if there is a list of excluded drugs along with covered alternative that can be provide to the Committee members so that they can share with their members. Mr. White confirmed stating that a list will be generated and distributed prior to January 1.

#### **SEHBP PDC RESOLUTION 2020-1**

Acting Secretary Nicole Ludwig read Resolution 2020-1 in its entirety. Committee member Donna Chiera made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-1. Chairperson Kevin Kelleher seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

#### **SEHBP PDC RESOLUTION 2020-2**

Acting Secretary Nicole Ludwig read Resolution 2020-2 in its entirety. Committee member Julie Giordano Plotkin made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-2. Committee member Jennifer Keyes-Maloney seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Chairperson Kelleher stated that he did speak with the Division as well as Horizon, members and providers who have been utilizing these services will be notified of the change prior to August 1.

**Adjournment**

Having no further matters to discuss, Chairperson Kevin Kelleher made a motion to adjourn, Committee member Donna Chiera seconded the motion and all voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:20am

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicole Ludwig". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Nicole" on top and "Ludwig" below it.

Nicole Ludwig  
Acting Secretary SEHBP PDC