

State Health Benefits Program
Plan Design Committee
Open Session Minutes: July 28, 2021 1:00 p.m.

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 on December 26, 2020, and the Star Ledger and the Trenton Times on December 26, 2020. Updates regarding the Telephonic meeting was sent to the Secretary of State on April 19, 2021 and posted to the Division's website on June 11, 2021.

The meeting of the State Health Benefits Program Plan Design Committee of New Jersey was called to order on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at 1:00 p.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 Nicole Ludwig led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. Acting Secretary Ludwig then took Roll Call and established that a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Committee Members:

Jennifer Keyes-Maloney, Assistant Treasurer (Co-Chair)

Lynn Azarchi, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Kimberly Holmes Assistant Commissioner /Chief of Staff, Department of Community Affairs

Jenelle Blackman, CWA

Kevin Lyons

Mike Zaynor

Robert Little

Dini Ajmani

Tenille McCoy

Patrick Nowlan

Other Staff:

Christin Deacon, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Nicole Ludwig, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Paul Eberle, Optum X

Jim Mielo, Optum RX

DISCUSSION: NJ WELL

Committee Member Maloney and Committee Member Zanyor led a discussion regarding potentially expanding the program to Early Retirees and potentially including a vaccine incentive into the program. Committee Member Nowlan made a motion to establish a subgroup to explore these ideas and provide recommendations. Committee Member McCoy seconded. All voted in favor, the motion passed. Committee Members Lyons, Nowlan, Maloney and McCoy all volunteered to participate in the subgroup. Committee Member Lyons made a motion to ask advice from the Attorney General regarding a vaccine incentive. Committee Member Nowlan seconded. All voted in favor.

PRESENTATION: OPTUMRX FRAUD WASTE ABUSE

Paul Eberle of Optum RX gave a presentation regarding their Fraud, Waste and Abuse Department, whose mission is to audit and monitor the prescription claims that are submitted to detect and prevent fraud, waste and abuse, but also to ensure accuracy, appropriateness and compliance. They also monitor for errors and contractual violations by a pharmacy so that the state does not pay for mistakes made by a pharmacy. Recoveries at the fourth quarter were at almost \$13.2million.

DIVISION UPDATE

Christin Deacon of the Division of Pensions and Benefits gave a presentation regarding COVID data and statistics. The total claim activity is at 257 million, including inpatient, outpatient, professional, lab testing and vaccines.

Committee Member Zaynor made a motion to request expedited advice about the 60-day waiting period for new employee enrollment into the health benefits, to discover if the PDC has the authority to waive or other legal options. Committee Member Lyons seconded. All voted in favor. The motion passed.

Committee Member Nowlan asked if the Federal American Recovery Plan Act money was intended to be used toward COVID related costs to the plan. Ms. Deacon confirmed that all COVID related costs are being segregated and monitored to comply with the regulations about how and where the money could be spent, and the money would be used appropriately to offset the COVID related costs. Committee Member Nowlan asked if the offset was being considered when discussing the plan cost. Committee Member Maloney advised that there are ongoing discussions regarding this issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further action to discuss, Committee Member Lyons made a motion to adjourn. Committee Member McCoy seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Ludwig". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicole Ludwig
Acting Secretary SHBP PDC