

**Colorado Health Benefit Exchange**  
***Board Meeting Minutes***

Mile High Room  
COPIC  
**7351 E. Lowry Blvd.**  
**Denver, CO 80230**

**November 14th, 2011**  
**8:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

Board members present: Arnold Salazar, Mike Fallon, Beth Soberg, Nathan Wilkes, Ken Lund, Steve ErkenBrack, Richard Betts, Gretchen Hammer, Jim Riesberg, Sue Birch, By phone: Eric Grossman

Staff present: Shawn Raintree, Myung Kim, Martin Flahive, Gary Schneider, Chuck Fish, Jessica Dunbar

Approximately 30 people joined in person and additional people joined by phone.

**I. Business Agenda**

**Vote:** The board unanimously approved the minutes from 10/24/11 with seven voting members present.

**II. Board Development and Operations**

1. Report from Board Chair

At the last board meeting members passed a motion to create a finance committee prior to receipt of Level One Grant funding and that committee will begin meeting in December.

The board is moving forward to seek private legal counsel for specific operational and legal questions.

Shawn Raintree plans to lead a discussion with the board about the COHBE Business Concept, solicit feedback and present it to the board again for a vote at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Gary Schneider from GMS Consulting was hired to lead COHBE technology

The November 4<sup>th</sup> board study session that focused on the SHOP Exchange and recommendations from the SEWG was successful.

The Federal Department of Health and Human Services will hold a hearing on November 18<sup>th</sup> about the Essential Health Benefits Package.

Public presentations by the Board Chair include: the Colorado University School of Medicine Health Policy class, Colorado Council of Churches, Colorado Counties, Inc/CHSDA Conference on November 30, Colorado Voices for Coverage conference on December 1, Boomers for Leading Change meeting on December 7

2. Board Committee Discussion

The board chair led a discussion based on her memo about board committees and proposed a few changes.

Robert Ruiz-Moss was recommended to chair the Finance committee. Arnold Salazar, Richard Betts, and Eric Grossman volunteered to be members.

**Vote:** The board unanimously approved a motion to create an Implementation and Technology committee with seven voting members present. Members of the committee include: Beth Soberg (chair), Jim Riesberg, Nathan Wilkes, Eric Grossman, and Mike Fallon.

**Vote:** The board unanimously approved a motion to modify the committee names with seven voting members present. The Governance and Bylaws Committee was changed to Governance Committee. The Executive Director Search Committee was changed to Personnel Committee.

### 3. Report from the Governance Committee

Nathan Wilkes reported the committee is in the process of soliciting input and interest from private legal counsel regarding the implementation of the Board Conflict of Interest policy.

### 4. Board Officer Nominations

The board chair led a discussion about nominations for Board Officer Positions. Gretchen Hammer was nominated to be the chair. Nathan Wilkes and Richard Betts were nominated for the Vice Chair position. Arnold Salazar was nominated to serve as the secretary. The board will have a vote on the nominations at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Public comment:** none

## III. Exchange Development and Operations

### 1. Report from Executive Search Committee

Richard Betts reported that he engaged legal counsel to answer some employment questions for the board. Barbara Crawford, who works with CoverColorado, will meet with the Personnel Committee later in the month. Richard is coordinating with members of the legislative implementation review committee to keep them informed about the Executive Director search process.

### 2. Report from Grant Review Committee

Gretchen Hammer gave a report about the Level One Grant application. She is working closely with staff to change some language to make it more aligned with the goals of access, affordability and choice outlined in SB11-200. The updated narrative in the grant application will reflect the work accomplished to date by the board and staff and include more recent data from the Colorado Health Access Survey.

### 3. Report from the Rules and Regulation Committee

Steve ErkenBrack reported there was no update to share at this time.

### 4. Update on Business Concept and Recommendations from the Small Employer Workgroup

Shawn Raintree gave a [presentation](#) about the COHBE Business Concept. Highlights from the discussion include:

- The challenge the Exchange faces upfront to make health insurance more affordable for individuals when moving from an underwritten risk pool to a guaranteed issue market.

- Implications for the Exchange if the individual mandate holds up in the Supreme Court decision.
- Implications for the Exchange related to the opportunity for 90/10 funding from the Federal government to make technology investments in public program systems
- Tightening of focus, prioritization of activities and measure of progress.
- Articulating the unique value proposition COHBE brings is to address choice, access and affordability at the same time.

Shawn Raintree then led the board through six recommendations from the SEWG (see [presentation](#)).

**Public comment:**

Jim Sugden shared about the consensus approach used by the SEWG to develop the recommendations. He believed one key to success for COHBE will be to bring a critical mass into the SHOP early on.

Mark Reece also shared about the consensus approach used in developing the SEWG recommendations.

Arnold Salazar requested hearing from the perspective of why it might be beneficial to merge the two markets (i.e. small group and individual) and invite feedback from the public. Beth Soberg suggested that a presentation be given to the board first that sets this discussion in a broader context about why the insurance market is structured the way it is and the implications of merging the markets.

5. Update on Communications and Outreach

Myung Kim gave an overview of the development COHBE website. Plans are underway to launch the website by November 18<sup>th</sup>.

**IV. Executive Session**

**Vote:** The board unanimously approved a motion to go into executive session to conduct Executive Director applicant interviews with seven voting members present.

**V. Adjourn**

The executive session was postponed at 2:30 pm to resume on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm continuing the discussion about Executive Director candidates.

The executive session continued at 5:30 pm on November 16th and adjourned at 6:30 pm.

The Board meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.