

Board Meeting Minutes
Connect for Health Colorado
April 12, 2021
12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Board Members Present: Elisabeth Arenales, Kim Bimestefer, Claire Brockbank, Mike Conway, Adela Flores-Brennan, Patrick Gordon, Annie Lee, Lorez Meinhold, Sharon O’Hara, Marc Reece, and Dick Thompson

Board Members Absent: Mike Stahl

Staff Present: Nyle Boyd, Justin Brandon, Brian Braun, David Hague, Kelly Guthner, Kevin Patterson, Ilana Rivera, Alan Schmitz, Nina Schwartz, Lisa Sevier, Monica VanBuskirk, and Ezra Watland

Teleconference and phone conference lines were available for members of the public to join.

I. Business Agenda

- Claire Brockbank called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.
- The minutes from the March Board meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Changes to the agenda: None.
- Disclosure of conflicts of interest: None.

II. Board Report

None.

III. CEO Report

OE Report

Staff summarized the Open Enrollment report for plan year 2021. The detailed report, By the Numbers, was recently published by staff.

Uninsured Enrollment Period

During the uninsured enrollment period (UEP), there has been approximately 10,000 individuals enrolled. Staff continues to promote the UEP through digital ad buy and stakeholder connections.

As the organization shifts from the UEP to the American Rescue Plan, an updated version of the tool kit for stakeholders will be provided.

Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise

Connect for Health Colorado continues to work with the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise and prioritize the work needed to prepare for the needed changes. Three major components of the recommendations put together for the commissioner and presented at the March meetings were:

- Whether to do a premium wrap versus cost sharing reduction (CSR). The group decided to move towards CSR.
- Whether to utilize unspent money from the first year due to implementation over a three-year or five-year period. The group decided on a five-year period.
- How to target funding. The group decided to do the CSR focused on the subsidized population between the 150 and 200 federal poverty level (FPL) and offer them plans at the 94% actuarial value.

Public Benefit Corporation

Staff continues to work on a website and branding for The Public Benefit Corporation (PBC).

American Rescue Plan

Staff continues to prioritize the work brought on by the ARP and are working on the rules and noticing for all upcoming eligibility changes.

IV. Finance & Operations

Financial Auditor for PY21

The Finance and Operations Committee recommended approval for Plante Moran to continue as the audit firm for fiscal year (FY) 2021.

Ms. Meinhold called for public comment.

No public comment was given.

Ms. Brockbank called for the motion to vote. The recommendation was approved as follows:

Yes: Claire Brockbank, Adela Flores-Brennan, Patrick Gordon, Annie Lee, Lorez Meinhold, Sharon O’Hara, Marc Reece and Dick Thompson

No: None

Abstain: None

V. Policy

Standardized Health Benefit Plan Colorado Option

The Standardized Health Benefit Plan Colorado Option, (HB21-1232), was introduced on March 18, 2021. It is a two phased approach aimed to lower healthcare costs.

- Phase 1: includes provisions to establish a plan with standardized benefits offered on and off Exchange and for issuers to lower premiums by 20% by 2024
- If Phase 1 provisions by the issuers are not met, Phase 2 will begin in 2025; which is the enactment of a governmental operated insurance option

The bill directs the Commissioner of Insurance to develop a standardized health insurance plan that may be offered by private health insurance carriers, requires these carriers to establish premium reduction goals, and creates a nonprofit public entity to offer health insurance if carriers do not meet premium reduction goals. It increases state expenditures and creates a General Fund diversion beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2021-22. Conditionally, the bill will increase revenue and expenditures for the nonprofit public entity if it begins operating as a health insurance carrier in FY 2024-25. The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Staff presented questions gathered at the March Policy Committee regarding HB 21-1232. Additional Board input included:

- What is the impact of small group provisions on Connect for Health Colorado?

The Board will continue to engage in conversation and the monitoring of this bill while remaining neutral at this time.

VI. Public Comment

Public comment given by Allison Mangiaracino, Kaiser Permanente.

Public comment given by Daniela Gosselova, Broker.

Meeting adjourned at 1:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DocuSigned by:

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Marc Reece
Interim Secretary

Next Meeting

May 10, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.