

Board Meeting Minutes
Connect for Health Colorado
May 10, 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, and Marc Reece

Board Members Absent: Mike Stahl and Dick Thompson

Staff Present: Nyle Boyd, Justin Brandon, Brian Braun, David Hague, Kelly Guthner, Kevin Patterson, 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 12:04 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.
- The minutes from the April Board meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Changes to the agenda: None.
- Disclosure of conflicts of interest: None.

II. Board Report

CEO Review Timeline

Claire Brockbank discussed the evaluation timeline for the organization’s Chief Executive Officer, Kevin Patterson.

III. CEO Report

Denver Post’s Top Workplaces

Connect for Health Colorado has been recognized as one of the top workplaces by the Denver Post.

Special Enrollment Period

Staff presented a performance overview of the Special Enrollment Period (SEP).

Action Item

Staff to provide SEP data broken down by county.

The call center has not had a notable increase in calls during the SEP.

American Rescue Plan

Staff presented an implementation overview of the American Rescue Plan (ARP). The organization is currently in phase 1, phase 2 will begin May 15, 2021. In phase 2, a shorter application for redeterminations known as “Quick Submit” will be implemented. This tool will guide customers to their best option for applying and allows for a shorter application submission.

Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise

The Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise voted to release funds from the Health Insurance Affordability Fund to allow the Marketplace an additional \$1MM for marketing and outreach.

Colorado Connect (PBC)

The Public Benefit Corporation (PBC) has taken the official name of Colorado Connect. Implementation and capitalization are currently in place. Staff continues to work on website and branding.

The Standardized Health Benefit Plan Colorado Option indicates that the PBC, Colorado Connect, will be the vehicle through which undocumented individuals can obtain a standardized health plan.

IV. Policy

Standardized Health Benefit Plan Colorado Option

Staff presented an overview of the Standardized Health Benefit Plan Colorado Option, (HB21-1232). The presentation includes an impact analysis on financial and operational considerations as well as alignment with Connect for Health Colorado’s mission. The bill has been passed on the House Floor and will proceed to the Senate.

A summary of the Bill includes:

- Beginning January 1, 2022, the bill requires the Commissioner of Insurance to establish standardized health plans at the bronze, silver, and gold levels that must be offered in the individual market and in the small group market
- Beginning Plan Year (PY) 2023, these standard plans must be offered on Exchange as well as on the Public Benefit Corporation (PBC)
- Over the next three plan years, the premiums will be lowered 6% in 2023, 12% in 2024, and 18% in 2025, adjusted for medical inflation.

Based on the staff evaluation, this bill aligns with Connect for Health Colorado’s mission and strategic goals. Staff recommends Connect for Health Colorado to take a “support” position on HB21-1232.

Sharon O’Hara motioned to approve the recommendation. Adela Flores-Brennan seconded the motion.

Ms. O’Hara called for public comment.

Public comment given by Daniela Gosselova, Broker

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

Yes: Claire Brockbank, Adela Flores-Brennan, Lorez
Meinhold, Sharon O’Hara, and Marc Reece

No: None

Abstain: Patrick Gordon and Annie Lee

V. Finance & Operations

FY 22 Budget

The Board reviewed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2022. Due to current uncertainties, three scenarios were developed based on various levels of enrollment:

- Baseline budget – assumes enrollments based on what is known currently, including Plan Year 2021 open enrollment effectuations, estimated enrollments from uninsured enrollment period (ends May 15) and estimates for Easy Enrollments (Easy E) enrollments in spring of 2022. Average effectuated enrollment estimated to be 164,000 for the budget period. Per enrollee premium levels are assumed to stay at current average
- Medium budget scenario – assumes additional 10,000 enrollments (6%) beginning of FY 22 (July 21) - due primarily to American Rescue Plan (ARP) driven enrollments. Service center and technology expense increase based on current operating costs per enrollment. Expected due to higher call volume and platform transactions
- High budget scenario – assumes additional 20,000 enrollments (12%) beginning of FY 22 (July 21) - due primarily to ARP driven enrollments. Increased service center and technology expense tied to higher enrollments

The Finance and Operations Committee recommended approval of the baseline budget for 2022. Claire Brockbank seconded the recommendation.

Ms. Meinhold called for public comment.

Public comment given by Adam Fox, Colorado Consumer Health Initiative.

Public comment given by Daniela Gosselova, Broker.

Public comment given by Bethany Pray, Colorado Center on Law and Policy.

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

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

No: None

Abstain: None

Procurement Recommendation: Mulesoft

The current Mulesoft service subscription expires on June 7, 2021. Staff is requesting

Board approval for the extension of these services for an additional 10 months at an expected cost of \$500k.

Finance and Operations Committee recommended approval to extend the current subscription with Mulesoft for technology integration platform service. Claire Brockbank seconded the recommendation.

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, Lorez Meinhold, Sharon O'Hara, and Marc Reece

No: None

Abstain: None

VI. Public Comment

None.

VII. Executive Session

Ms. Claire Brockbank entertained a motion to move into executive session to discuss matters concerning personnel and/or contractual matter. A vote was called for and passed with unanimous approval.

The Executive Session is permitted pursuant to CRS §24-6-402(4)(e) & (c) and 24-6-402(4)(f).

The Board will not return after the executive session, the public portion of the meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Reece
Interim Secretary

Next Meeting

June 14, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.