

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 19, 2016
1:00 pm

Attendance

Al Gobeille, Chair
Cornelius Hogan
Jessica Holmes, PhD
Betty Rambur, PhD, RN
Allan Ramsay, MD
Susan Barrett, J.D. Executive Director
Judith Henkin, Esq. General Counsel

Chair's Report

Al Gobeille, Chair, called the GMCB Board Meeting order at approximately 1:00 pm.

Executive Director's Report

Susan Barrett announced a scheduling reminder that the GMCB Board Meeting had been canceled on Thursday, May 26, 2016.

Susan also announced on March 18, 2016 the Board approved as filed a 4.3% increase to the large group manual rate for Blue Cross and Blue Shield Vermont (BCBSVT) and The Vermont Health Plan (TVHP) 3Q16 Large Group Rating Program Rate Filings in Dockets no. 003-16 and 005-16. These filings incorporate the factor and rate development from combined BCBSVT and TVHP experience and propose identical changes to manual rates.

Minutes

The Board voted to approve the minutes from Thursday May 12, 2016.

Discussion

The Chair introduced Board Executive Director Susan Barrett. Barrett led the discussion of the next agenda item, item #3, while noting that agenda item #3 (Discussion of legislative bills) and agenda item #4 (All-Payer Model Discussion) would cover some of the same ground.

Susan Barrett presented a review on the Bills that were passed in the 2015-2016 legislative session, that directly affected the GMCB's responsibilities and work. These bills included S.214; S.216; S. 245; S.255; S.256 (now Act 117); H.761 (now Act 112); and H.875.

Ena Backus, Board Deputy Executive Director, presented on the components and implementation of H.812 (now Act 113).

Public Comment

Paul Forlenza

Discussion

The Chair began this discussion by clarifying that a “possible Board vote” was listed on the agenda, regarding the All-Payer Model, because he never wants the other Board Members to feel restricted. If there comes a time when three Board Members wish to vote to stop the exploration of the All-Payer Model work, they should have that opportunity. Therefore, whenever an All-Payer Model discussion or presentation is listed as an agenda item, there will always be a possible Board vote publicly noted.

Backus led the discussion of the All-Payer Model and the implementation of H.812/Act 113 was further discussed.

Public Comment

Cathy Fulton
Walter Carpenter

No Board action was taken on the All-Payer Model.

Discussion

The Board held a discussion and expressed some of their concerns regarding the Vermont Health Information Technology Plan (VHITP). The Board has held a number of public meetings within the past few months, where the VHITP was presented and discussed. The original Plan was submitted to the Board in January of 2016, and an amended version was submitted in early April of 2016. No Board action has been taken regarding the plan.

Cornelius Hogan, Board Member, made a motion to accept the VHITP as amended. Allan Ramsay, MD. Board Member, seconded the motion. Discussion followed, where Board Members Betty Rambur, PhD. RN. and Jessica Holmes, PhD. raised questions and concerns surrounding the draft budget that was submitted with the VHITP back in April.

Robin Lunge, Director of Health Care Reform, Agency of Administration (AOA), State of Vermont (SOV), participated in this discussion, answered Board Members’ questions regarding the plan and plan’s draft budget, and discussed the possible consequences of the Board not taking action on the plan.

Rob Gibson, VP Marketing and Business Development, Vermont Information Technology Leaders (VITL), also participated in the conversation, noting key figures at VITL had similar concerns to the VHITP as the GMCB Board Members did.

Hogan withdrew his motion, noting he would like to see folks from VITL and the SOV AOA at a future Board Meeting, to discuss how the VHITP could improve. No Board action followed regarding the VHITP.

Public Comment
Paul Forlenza

Adjourn

The Board voted to adjourn the meeting at approximately 3:00 pm.