

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)  
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, July 15, 2020  
1:00 pm

**Attendance**

Kevin J. Mullin, Chair (*via phone*)  
Susan J. Barrett, JD, Executive Director (*via phone*)  
Michael Barber, General Counsel (*via phone*)  
Robin Lunge, JD, MHCDS (*via phone*)  
Maureen Usifer (*via phone*)  
Jessica Holmes, PhD (*via phone*)  
Tom Pelham (*via phone*)

**Executive Director's Report**

Chair Kevin Mullin called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 pm. Susan Barrett announced that updated presentation materials can be found on the [GMCB website](#). There is a Primary Care Advisory Group (PCAG) meeting on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 5:00 pm. The Qualified Health Plan (QHP) Rate Review Hearings will be held on Monday, July 20, 2020 and Tuesday, July 21, 2020 starting at 8:00 am both days. There will be a public comment forum on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. These meetings will be held virtually. Information on how to attend the rate review hearings can be found [here](#) and information on how to submit public comment on rate filings can be found [here](#) on the rate review website.

**Minutes**

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes from July 8, 2020.

**Agency of Human Services COVID-19 Relief Funding Update**

Mike Smith, Secretary of the Agency of Human Services, State of Vermont

Secretary Mike Smith discussed the health care provider stabilization grant program that the Agency of Human Services is to establish as part of Act 136 of 2020. Eligible provider organizations can apply for grants during two application cycles with required documentation and conditions. The presentation can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. The Board Members asked questions and had a discussion with Secretary Mike Smith about the details of the grant program.

**Public Comment**

Marc Stanislas, Vice President of Finance, University of Vermont Health Network

## **Reboot of Sustainability Plans and Update on Financial Health of Hospitals**

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB  
Alena Berube, Director of Value Based Programs & ACO Regulation, GMCB

Susan Barrett gave background on the hospital sustainability plans. Patrick Rooney presented the May 2020 year-to-date hospital performance. The presentation included the system level operating margin from October 2019 to May 2020, the budget-to-actual and actual-to-actual net patient revenue (NPR)/fixed prospective payments (FPP) pre-COVID and post-COVID, the YTD FY20 February operating expenses, the YTD FY20 May operating expenses, the FY19 and FY20 YTD NPR/FPP variances budget-to-actual, the stimulus funds and advances/loans received from the CARES Act, and the FY20 year-to-date May: budget to actual percent variance and actual-to-actual percent change, operating margin and total margin, comparison view of cash and investments and days cash on hand, comparison view of net A/R balances and days receivable, board designated assets, comparison view of current liabilities and days payable, and fund balances. The presentation can be seen [here](#) and the report can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. Board Member Maureen Usifer gave feedback on the financial comparisons and Chair Mullin discussed the need to know the percentage that will be forgiven on PPP funds.

Alena Berube presented the draft sustainability plan framework, including a summary of hospital financials, the national and local trends in hospital sustainability pre and post COVID, the goals of the framework, the updates made in response to COVID, the updated four stages of the framework, a proposed timeline, and next steps. The presentation can be seen [here](#), the draft framework can be seen [here](#), and the draft tables can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. The Board Members asked questions and had a discussion with Alena Berube about overlapping efforts with the price variation study the GMCB data staff is working on, interest in hearing public comment, incorporation into the All-Payer Model 2.0, the timeline, consistent frameworks, developing a more nuanced budget guidance approach, ensuring hospitals have adequate resources, and collaborative solutions.

### **Public Comment**

Michael Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate  
Richard (Mort) Wasserman, MD, MPH, Professor Emeritus of Pediatrics, Larner College of Medicine, University of Vermont  
Jeff Tieman, President and CEO, VAHHS  
Marc Stanislas, Vice President of Finance, University of Vermont Health Network  
Kathy Mahoney, MD, MBA, GMCB General Advisory Committee Member

### **Legislative Update**

Christina McLaughlin, Health Policy Analyst, GMCB  
Jean Stetter, Administrative Services Director, GMCB

Christina McLaughlin presented summaries of Act 91, 136, and 140 signed by Governor Scott since March 2020, the tasks assigned to the GMCB, and summaries of pending house and senate

bills. Jean Stetter discussed the GMCB budget, the FY21 restatement budget that will be submitted, and appropriation by fund. The presentation can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website.

**Public Comment**

None

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Adjourn**

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 3:40 pm.

Unapproved