

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)  
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 18, 2020  
1:00 pm

**Attendance**

Kevin J. Mullin, Chair  
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 and spoke to the pandemic that the State of Vermont and the hospitals are currently responding to. Susan Barrett announced the March 2020 schedule has been updated and can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website.

**Minutes**

The Board voted (5-0) by roll call to approve the minutes from March 11, 2020.

**FY 2021 Hospital Budget Guidance – Follow-up**

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB  
Agatha Kessler, Health Policy Director, GMCB  
Sarah Lindberg, Health Services Researcher, GMCB  
Lindsay Kill, Healthcare Data and Statistical Analysis, GMCB

Patrick Rooney gave an overview of the agenda for the meeting. Sarah Lindberg presented the three new reports for FY 2021 Hospital Budget Guidance, draft examples of the patient origin report and the All-Payer Model Total Cost of Care (APM TCOC) report, and the strengths and limitations of both reports. Lindsay Kill presented a draft example of the patient migration report, as well as its strengths and weaknesses. Sarah Lindberg discussed the GMCB data team's next steps with the reports.

Patrick Rooney introduced the second draft of the FY 2021 Hospital Budget Guidance. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to waive the March 31, 2020 deadline for the issuance of the hospital guidance for FY 2021. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) by roll call to approve the motion. Agatha Kessler reviewed the draft document of the FY 2021 Hospital Budget Guidance and Reporting Requirements. The Board discussed the draft and that it would not make sense to require nonfinancial reporting to be submitted on May 1, 2020.

### **Public Comment**

Marc Stanislas, Vice President of Finance, University of Vermont Health Network  
Jennifer Bertrand, Chief Financial Officer, Porter Medical Center  
Devon Green, Vice President of Government Relations, VAHHS  
Michael Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate

### **FY 2021 NPR/FPP Growth Limit – Potential Vote**

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB

Patrick Rooney reviewed the FY 2020 guidance for NPR/FPP that was established in 2019. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to set a 3.5% growth limit for FY 2021, which was set by the Board as a two-year growth limit for FY 2020 and tentatively for FY 2021 on March 27, 2019, and that the Board will be considering the pandemic circumstances for variances. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) by roll call to approve the motion.

### **Public Comment**

Devon Green, Vice President of Government Relations, VAHHS

### **Enforcement Discussion**

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB  
Agatha Kessler, Health Policy Director, GMCB

Agatha Kessler reviewed the FY 2019 guidance, the timeline, the results of FY 2019, and the staff recommendations. The Board Members discussed the inappropriateness of enforcement during unprecedented times. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to waive enforcement for all hospitals for FY 2019. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) by roll call to approve the motion.

### **Public Comment**

Devon Green, Vice President of Government Relations, VAHHS  
Marc Stanislas, Vice President of Finance, University of Vermont Health Network

### **Hospital Sustainability Plan Discussion**

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB

Patrick Rooney reviewed the public comments received on hospital sustainability plans. The presentations can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website. The Board Members discussed how the

hospital sustainability plans will be continued to be worked on by GMCB staff, but the work with hospitals will be put on hold so the hospitals can focus on the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Public Comment**

Eric Schultheis, Attorney, Health Care Advocate  
Devon Green, Vice President of Government Relations, VAHHS

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Adjourn**

The Board voted (5-0) by roll call to adjourn at approximately 3:10 pm.