

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 11, 2019
9:00 am

Attendance

Kevin J. Mullin, Chair
Susan J. Barrett, JD, Executive Director – *not present*
Michael Barber, General Counsel
Robin Lunge, JD, MHCDS
Maureen Usifer
Jessica Holmes, PhD
Tom Pelham

Executive Director's Report

Chair Kevin Mullin called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 am. Michael Barber announced that the current statutory language does not allow the GMCB to regulate the University of Vermont Health Network (UVMHN) as a network, because the GMCB must approve a budget for each of Vermont's 14 general hospitals.

Minutes

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes from September 4, 2019.

FY 2020 Hospital Budgets – Potential Vote(s)

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB
Lori Perry, Health Finance Analytics Director, GMCB
Agatha Kessler, Health Policy Director, GMCB
Kelly Theroux, Health Systems Finance Program Analyst, GMCB

Patrick Rooney reviewed the agenda for the meeting and explained that the Board received more materials from Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital (NVRH) on September 10, 2019. There was discussion by the Board regarding NVRH's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the budget with a reduced NPR/FPP of 7.0% (as calculated by staff) and an overall change in charge of 3.0% with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and an additional condition that NVRH submit a quarterly report on its cost-savings initiatives. Board Member Tom Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Mt. Ascutney Hospital & Health Center's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the budget with an NPR/FPP of 5.0% and a 3.2% overall change in charge with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and with the intent that Mt. Ascutney reduce its expenditures

to achieve its desired operating margin. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board approved the motion (5-0).

Lori Perry reviewed Central Vermont Medical Center's request for 3.1% NPR/FPP, 3.0% overall change in charge, and 5.9% commercial change in charge. The hospital's justification was case mix index, unique patients, requested adjustments, and the change in charge to cover annual inflation on commercial business and support long term operating margin. Agatha Kessler reviewed the accounting adjustment and provider transfer budget requests from Central Vermont Medical Center (CVMC). Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the -0.3% impact on CVMC's NPR/FPP from the pulmonology transfer. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0). Board Member Robin moved to approve the -0.3% impact on CVMC's NPR/FPP from the dermatology transfer. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0). Board Member Robin Lunge moved to deny the -0.9% adjustment to NPR/FPP from the oncology transfer. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0). Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the impact of the accounting adjustment on the budget, resulting in a 0.5% impact on NPR/FPP. Board Member Tom Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0). Lori Perry reviewed CVMC's FY 2019 operating performance, historical operating performance, change in charge, and Accountable Care Organization (ACO) participation.

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for CVMC's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the budget with 2.9% NPR/FPP which reflects the previously approved adjustments, a 3.0% change in charge, and a 5.9% commercial change in charge with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and with three additional conditions requiring that CVMC meet with Board leadership on a bi-monthly basis to discuss CVMC's operating performance, that CVMC notify the Board of any impact on the budget from the EPIC system implementation, and that CVMC work with GMCB staff to submit a sustainability plan, with a format and content to be determined by the GMCB staff in consultation with hospital representatives. Board Member Tom Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

Agatha Kessler reviewed the requested provider transfer and accounting adjustment impacts on Porter Medical Center's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the requested impacts on the budget with a net impact of 0% on NPR/FPP. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0). Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Porter's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the budget with 3.5% NPR/FPP, a 0% overall change in charge, and 2.6% commercial change in charge with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and a requirement to notify the Board of any impact on the budget from the EPIC system implementation. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for University of Vermont Medical Center's FY 2020 budget. There was a discussion between Board Members. Board Member Maureen Usifer made a motion to approve the budget with a reduced NPR/FPP of 5.9%, a 3.0% overall

change in charge, and a 3.5% commercial change in charge with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and a requirement to notify the Board of any impact on the budget resulting from EPIC system implementation. Board Member Robin Lunge seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (4-1).

The presentation by the staff can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website.

Public Comment

Dale Hackett
Dr. John Brumsted
Hamilton Davis
Kaili Kuiper

Old Business

None

New Business

Board Member Jessica Holmes discussed the sustainability plans that have been in six of the hospital budget orders. The Board discussed how the sustainability plans should be created and how to avoid administrative burden on the hospitals.

Public Comment

Mike Del Trecco
Susan Aranoff

Adjourn

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 12:20 pm.