

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 29, 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*)

Hearing on Request for FY21 Budget Reconsideration – Potential Vote

Michael Barber, General Counsel, GMCB
Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB
John Brumsted, MD, President & CEO, The University of Vermont Health Network
Stephen Leffler, MD, President & COO, The University of Vermont Medical Center
Eric Miller, Senior Vice President/General Counsel, The University of Vermont Health Network
Anna Noonan, President & COO, Central Vermont Medical Center
Rick Vincent, Senior Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, The University of Vermont Medical Center, The UVM Health Network Medical Group
Jennifer Bertrand, Chief Financial Officer, Porter Medical Center
Mike Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate, Vermont Legal Aid

Chair Mullin discussed the purpose of the meeting and General Counsel Barber discussed the authority of the Board to reconsider FY21 hospital budget votes. Patrick Rooney explained the [slides](#) that the GMCB staff produced to assist the Board in the discussion. The court reporter swore in Dr. John Brumsted, Dr. Stephen Leffler, Anna Noonan, Jennifer Bertrand, and Eric Miller. Dr. John Brumsted discussed the [letter](#) that was sent to the Board on September 23, 2020. The two requests to the Board were to change the bifurcated rates approved for the three network hospitals to a single rate (removing the COVID rate language) and to approve Porter Medical Center's rate and net patient revenue as requested. The court reporter swore in Rick Vincent. The Board had a discussion with Dr. John Brumsted, Eric Miller, Rick Vincent, and Jennifer Bertrand. Mike Fisher made comments on the affordability of healthcare for Vermonters.

Dr. Brumsted spoke about the All-Payer Model and the two requests to the Board. The Board discussed the two requests and the letter received. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to reconsider the September 16, 2020 votes to establish the budgets of the University of Vermont Medical Center, Central Vermont Medical Center, and Porter Medical Center. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve Porter Medical Center's FY21 budget with a 2.7%

NPR/FPP and a commercial effective rate of 4.0% subject to the standard budget conditions. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted by roll call (4-1) to approve the motion. Chair Mullin voted no. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve Central Vermont Medical Center's FY21 budget with an 8.3% NPR/FPP and a commercial effective rate of 7.0% with commensurate reductions to expenses and subject to the standard budget conditions. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the University of Vermont Medical Center's FY21 budget with a 5.0% NPR/FPP and an effective commercial rate of 6.0% with commensurate reductions to expenses and subject to the standard budget conditions. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted by roll call (5-0) to approve the motion.

Board Member Robin Lunge moved to reconsider the FY21 budgets of hospitals that were previously approved with bifurcated rates by the Board, except for the network hospitals just voted on. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to amend the FY21 budgets of the hospitals that were previously approved with bifurcated rates by the Board to have a single commercial effective rate, combining the two rates previously approved, except for the network hospitals just voted on. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

Dr. John Brumsted thanked the Board and expressed the intent of the network to collaborate with the Board and staff to improve the process going forward. Chair Mullin announced that the October 7, 2020 Board Meeting will include an FY21 hospital budget process debrief.

The Board discussed the enforcement policy for hospital budgets. Chair Mullin moved to rescind the enforcement that was previously passed by the Board. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion. The Board discussed that there was not a need to extend the time for the FY21 hospital budget decisions because the Board previously voted that the written orders would follow within two weeks of the Board votes on the last hospital.

Public Comment

Jeffrey Tieman, President and CEO, VAHHS
Claudio Fort, President and CEO, Rutland Regional Medical Center
Hamilton Davis, Journalist and Policy Analyst

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjourn

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