

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 9, 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

Minutes

No minutes were voted on.

GMCB General Advisory Committee Charter – Potential Vote

Board Member Tom Pelham moved to approve the General Advisory Committee Charter as presented by staff on Wednesday, September 4, 2019. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

University of Vermont Health Network: Central Vermont Medical Center - Restated FY 2020 Budget

Anna Noonan, RN, BSN, MS, President and COO, Central Vermont Medical Center
Marc Stanislas, Network Vice President Treasury & Financial Services, University of Vermont Health Network (UVMHN)

Anna Noonan greeted the Board and explained that she and Marc Stanislas were going to present the revised FY 2019 budget projection and the restated FY 2020 budget for Central Vermont Medical Center (CVMC). Marc Stanislas discussed the change in the FY 2019 budget projection. After 10 months of actual performance through July, the margin is a loss of -\$4 Million, and he believes this trend will continue and affect the FY 2020 budget. The driving factors of this shift of projections are a decrease in patient revenue (traditional Medicare decreased collection rate, VT Medicaid All-Payer Model (APM) decreased collection rate, and favorable changes in all other payers) and an increased expense trend (increased traveler/agency staffing and employee health benefit costs). Marc Stanislas reviewed the financial spreadsheet. The Board asked questions and had a discussion with the presenters. Anna Noonan presented the physician transfer requests for CVMC's FY 2020 budget for dermatology, pulmonary, and oncology. Dr. John Brumsted was sworn in and assisted Anna Noonan in addressing questions from the Board. The presentation can be seen [here](#) on the GMCB website.

Public Comment

None

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 staff recommendations for North Country Hospital's FY 2020 budget with the adjustment request that the Board approved on September 4, 2019 and answered questions from the Board. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the budget as presented by the staff (3.4% NPR/FPP and 4.2% overall change in charge) with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and two additional conditions requiring that North Country meet with Board leadership on a quarterly basis to discuss North Country's operating performance and that North Country 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. The Board also noted its concern regarding the accuracy and timeliness of North Country's regulatory submissions. Board Member Jessica Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Southwestern Vermont Medical Center's FY 2020 budget. Agatha Kessler reviewed the anesthesia provider transfer which would change the Net Patient Revenue/Fixed Prospective Payments (NPR/FPP) to 3.5%. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the provider transfer and the budget as presented by the staff (3.5% NPR/FPP and 2.8% overall change in charge) with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders. Board Member Tom Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Copley Hospital's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge moved to approve the budget as submitted and presented by the staff with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and two additional conditions requiring that Copley meet with Board leadership on a monthly basis to discuss Copley's operating performance and that Copley 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 Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board to approve the motion (5-0).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Northwestern Medical Center's FY 2020 budget and the two provider transfers that the Board approved on September 4, 2019. Board Member Robin Lunge made a motion to approve the budget as presented (3.5% NPR/FPP and 5.9% overall change in charge) with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and two additional conditions requiring that Northwestern meet with Board Leadership on a bi-monthly basis to discuss Northwestern's operating performance and that

Northwestern 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. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital's FY 2020 budget. The Board had a discussion and decided to postpone its vote on this hospital.

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Brattleboro Memorial Hospital's (BMH) FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge made a motion to approve the budget as recommended by staff with a reduced NPR/FPP of 5.0% and an overall change in charge of 3.4% with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and two additional conditions requiring that BMH meet with Board leadership on a bi-monthly basis to discuss BMH's operating performance and that BMH 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).

Patrick Rooney reviewed the staff recommendations for Grace Cottage Family Health & Hospital's FY 2020 budget. Board Member Robin Lunge made a motion to approve the budget with a reduced NPR/FPP of 3.5% and a 3.2% overall change in charge with the standard conditions ordinarily included in hospital budget orders and an additional condition requiring that Grace Cottage meet with Board leadership on a bi-monthly basis to discuss Grace Cottage's operating performance. The Board also expressed concern that Grace Cottage's budget relies heavily on donations and other non-operating income, which can be uncertain, particularly during an economic downturn. The Board recommended that Grace Cottage develop a contingency plan in the event its non-operating income decreases. Board Member Maureen Usifer seconded the motion. The Board voted to approve the motion (5-0).

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

Public Comment

Hamilton Davis
Jill Berry Bowen
Jeff Tieman
Kaili Kuiper

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjourn

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 11:30 am.