

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

1:00 PM

This meeting was held virtually via Microsoft Teams.

Attendance

Board Members

Owen Foster, JD, Board Chair

Jessica Holmes, PhD

Robin Lunge, JD, MHCDS

Thom Walsh, Ph.D, MS, MSPT

Dave Murman, MD

Susan J. Barrett, JD, Executive Director

Call to Order

GMCB Board Chair Foster called the meeting to order at 1:20 pm due to technical issues. Minutes from the 12/13/2023 Board meeting were unanimously approved.

Executive Director's Report

There are several open public comment periods.

1. We continue to accept public comment regarding our Hospital Sustainability Community Engagement.
2. Public comment continues for the next potential All-Payer Model with CMMI. Comments are shared with AHS and the Governor's Office who lead the negotiations.

Please see our [Public Comment page](#) for more information on these items and to find our comment form.

Presentations

Brattleboro Retreat FY24 Budget Hearing – Potential Vote

video part 1
00:20:50

Linda Rossi, Chief Executive Officer, Brattleboro Retreat

Tom Huebner, Chair, Board of Trustees, Brattleboro Retreat

Jill Meschke, Chief Finance Officer, Brattleboro Retreat

Dr. Karl Jeffries, Chief Medical Officer, Brattleboro Retreat

Amelia Shillingford, Chief Nursing Officer, Brattleboro Retreat

Geoff Battista, Associate Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB

00:58:40

Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB

[Slides from this presentation can be found here.](#)

Board Discussion

01:21:16

MOTION: Chair Foster made the following motion:

Move to approve Brattleboro Retreat's budget as submitted, with a

\$97,379,571FY2024 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 1.9% rate increase from FY2023 to

A recording of this meeting will be available on the [GMCB YouTube Channel](#).

FY2024; and subject to the standard hospital budget conditions as previously approved by Board [and an additional conditions as follows: Brattleboro Retreat shall submit to the Board within 3 months a plan addressing Brattleboro Retreat's efforts to reduce expenses and reliance on traveling staff.]

Member Lunge seconded the motion with friendly amendment.

HCA Comment - None

Public Comment - None

The motion was approved unanimously.

Medicare Benchmark Proposal - Potential Vote

01:41:50

Michele Degree, Health Policy Project Director, GMCB

Lindsay Kill, Data Analytic & Information Chief, GMCB

[Slides from this presentation can be found here.](#)

Board Discussion

01:45:23

MOTION: Chair Foster made the following motion.

Move to approve a Medicare Benchmark of the staff recommended maximum allowable trend rates of 4.3% for Non ESRD and 6.7% for ESRD and to include the advance of the \$9,956,390 for the Blueprint for Health and SASH programs.

The motion was seconded by Member Holmes.

HCA Comment - None

Public Comment - None

The motion was approved unanimously.

The board took a 5-minute break at 2:45pm.

OCV FY24 Budget – Staff Presentation – Potential Vote

01:52:48

Michelle Sawyer, Health Policy Project Director, GMCB

Marisa Melamed, Health Care Policy Associate Director, GMCB

Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB

[Slides from this presentation can be found here.](#)

Board Discussion

02:28:47

MOTION: Chair Foster made the following motion:

video part 2

A recording of this meeting will be available on the [GMCB YouTube Channel](#).

00:03:27

Move to modify OneCare Vermont's FY24 budget by requiring OneCare to increase its Medicare risk corridor from 3% to 4%, with OneCare Vermont holding the additional risk of shared losses using its net assets as risk mitigation, and for OneCare to update its Settlement Policy to reflect additional potential upside, consistent with the Board's discussion today.

Member Lunge seconded the motion.

HCA Comment – None

Public Comment

Abe Berman, CEO, OneCare Vermont

00:03:57

The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Chair Foster made the following motion:

00:12:26

Move to modify OneCare Vermont's FY24 budget by reducing Operating Expenses by \$ 957,245.00 and requiring OneCare to instead reallocate that amount to population health and primary care programs that will achieve the best return on investment, consistent with the Board's discussion today.

Member Lunge seconded the motion.

Public Comment

Thomas Borys, CFO, OneCare Vermont
Anya Rader Wallack, Board Chair, OneCare Vermont

00:13:09

HCA Comment – None

00:23:38

The board took at 5-minute break at 4:22pm.

00:40:00

A roll call vote was taken by Russ McCracken. The motion was approved by a 4-1 vote. (Member Lunge voted against.)

MOTION: Chair Foster made the following motion:

Move to approve the OneCare Vermont FY24 budget as modified today by the GMCB and subject to the conditions presented today by GMCB staff.

Member Lunge seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business - None

New Business - None

Adjourned - The Board approved a motion to adjourn at 4:42pm.