

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)  
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, March 10, 2021  
1:00 pm

**Attendance**

Kevin J. Mullin, Chair *(via Microsoft Teams)*  
Susan J. Barrett, JD, Executive Director *(via Microsoft Teams)*  
Michael Barber, General Counsel *(via Microsoft Teams)*  
Robin Lunge, JD, MHCDS *(via Microsoft Teams)*  
Maureen Usifer *(via Microsoft Teams)*  
Jessica Holmes, PhD *(via Microsoft Teams)*  
Tom Pelham *(via Microsoft Teams)*

**Executive Director's Report**

Chair Mullin called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 pm. Susan Barrett announced [a special comment period will be opened starting March 10, 2021 on the FY22 Hospital Budget Guidance](#). The Board is continuing to accept public comment to inform a potential new agreement with the State of Vermont and CMS, which will be shared with the other All-Payer Model signatories.

General Counsel Barber announced on Monday, March 8, 2021, the Board approved Cigna Health and Life Insurance Company's 2020 Large Group Premium Credit Rate Filing. The docket number is GMCB-009-20rr and the Board's decision allows Cigna to provide a premium credit to its guaranteed cost large group policy holders with effective dates from May 2019 to April 2020. The credit will be equal to 10% of each eligible policy holder's average 2020 risk adjusted monthly premium and will be applied to the April 2020 billed premium.

**Minutes**

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes from March 3, 2021.

**FY22 Hospital Budget Guidance**

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB  
Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB

Patrick Rooney presented an overview of the Board meetings to review the drafts of the FY22 hospital budget guidance and the priorities, process, & outcome of the guidance. The staff recommendations included streamlined FY22 hospital budget submissions, the submission date returning to July 1, an abbreviated adaptive budget submission for each hospital, and eliminating the "non-financial reporting" requirement.

Patrick Rooney reviewed the discussion points for consideration of the Board for the guidance, each tab of the draft appendices to be submitted by the hospitals, and the changes to the draft guidance from last year. Russ McCracken reviewed the draft enforcement policy and the recommendation to create a standing policy for hospital budget enforcement for the benefits of efficiency and consistency. If the Board adopts the standard enforcement policy going forward, the Board will have to decide whether to apply the policy to FY21. [The presentation slides can be seen here](#), [the draft appendices can be seen here](#), [the draft guidance can be seen here](#), and [the draft enforcement policy can be seen here](#) on the GMCB website.

The Board Members had a discussion regarding the Net Patient Revenue/Fixed Prospective Payments (NPR/FPP) growth ceiling, the accounting of vaccination clinics, the role of FPP and health care reform, updates to the appendices, potential parameters around change in charge, consideration of the commercial rates the Board approved for FY21 because of the impact of Covid-19, the need for clear expectations, the importance of the change in charge, correct utilization, the possible waiving of hearings to incentivize hospitals' compliance with NPR/FPP and change in charge, the potential standing enforcement policy, the American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program (ACS NSQIP), the need for feedback from hospitals and stakeholders, and sustainability planning.

### **Public Comment**

Dale Hackett, Health Care and Disability Rights Advocate  
Jeffrey Tieman, President and CEO, VAHHS  
Michael Del Trecco, Sr. Vice President of Finance & Operations, VAHHS  
Marc Stanislas, Vice President of Finance, University of Vermont Health Network  
Hamilton Davis, Journalist and Policy Analyst

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Adjourn**

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 3:15 pm.