

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)  
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, December 8, 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)*  
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. Executive Director Susan Barrett reviewed [the open special comment periods on the GMCB website](#). Susan Barrett announced the Board meeting agenda on December 15, 2021 includes the 2022 Medicare Benchmark proposal and a potential vote on both the All-Payer Model Proposal to Request a One-Year Extension and the 2021 Update to 2018-2022 Health Information Exchange (HIE) Strategic Plan and 2022 Connectivity Criteria. Susan Barrett announced there is a Primary Care Advisory Group meeting on December 15, 2021 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm.

**Minutes**

The Board voted (4-0) to approve the minutes from December 1, 2021.

**FY 2022 OneCare Vermont ACO Budget and Certification – GMCB Staff Analysis and Preliminary Recommendations**

Sarah Kinsler, Director of Health Systems Policy, GMCB  
Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB  
Marisa Melamed, Associate Director of Health Systems Policy, GMCB  
Michele Degree, Health Policy Project Director, GMCB  
Michelle Sawyer, Health Policy Project Director, GMCB  
Julia Boles, Senior Health Policy Analyst, GMCB  
Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB  
Joe Damore, LFACHE, President/CEO, Damore Health Advisors LLC

Sarah Kinsler introduced the agenda and the list of acronyms that would be referenced throughout the presentation. Marisa Melamed reviewed the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) statute and rule, and the certification and budget review timeline. Julia Boles presented an overview of the public comments received to date, reviewed the themes of the public comments, and summarized the Health Care Advocate (HCA) recommendations.

Marisa Melamed and Julia Boles presented a high-level overview of the budget submission and the Green Mountain Care Board (GMCB) approach to the review and the staff recommendations. The overview included summary information pulled directly from the OneCare Vermont (OCV) budget submission regarding provider network, payer programs, and the income statement. Sarah Kinsler reviewed the impact of COVID-19 on the OCV budget analysis and the subsequent approach to the FY22 recommendations.

Michelle Sawyer explained that every year the GMCB verifies the eligibility of OCV in order to maintain their certification. Michelle Sawyer summarized OCV's governance changes, changes to OCV's operating agreement, and executive compensation guidance that was issued by GMCB earlier in 2021.

Patrick Rooney reviewed the funds flow which included OCV's Full Accountability (non-GAAP) Budget and OCV's Entity-Level (GAAP) Budget. Patrick Rooney presented the Full Accountability (non-GAAP) summary income statement, the Entity-Level (GAAP) summary income statement, the related budget components, and the factors accounting for the change to OCV's revenue and expenditures from OCV's FY2021 budget. Patrick Rooney presented the staff's financial recommendations for the OCV Budget.

Marisa Melamed presented Total Cost of Care (TCOC) which included the FY2021 projected TCOC and the FY2022 expected TCOC, and the budgeted trend rates from base experience. Marisa Melamed explained the GMCB staff will discuss trend rates and TCOC in more detail at the December 15, 2021 presentation on the Medicare Benchmark Proposal.

Sarah Kinsler presented the risk models by payer program and a summary of OCV policies regarding shared savings and shared losses. Sarah Kinsler reviewed the staff's recommendations regarding payer programs and risk models. Marisa Melamed presented the payment models and the Fixed Prospective Payments (FPP), and the subsequent recommendations. Marisa Melamed reviewed the model of care criteria. Marisa Melamed presented staff's next steps with respect to payment models and FPP.

Michele Degree presented the population health programs which include the Value Based Incentive Fund (VBIF), RiseVT, Care Navigator, and Care Coordination Payments. Michele Degree reviewed the changes to the population health programs for 2022. Patrick Rooney presented the OCV Population Health Management (PHM) and payment reform investment activity, including the growth and composition comparisons. Michele Degree presented the staff's PHM recommendations.

Sarah Kinsler presented a summary of the results to date of performance in the All-Payer Model (APM). Russ McCracken presented the requirements and the APM agreement for scale qualifying ACO initiatives. Michele Degree presented the APM scale performance, including projected scale for 2022. Michele Degree explained the growth of Medicare Advantage enrollment could impact the ability to increase scale in Vermont if the plans do not participate with the Model. Michele Degree reviewed the staff recommendations regarding APM scale. Michele Degree presented the 2020 ACO payer program results including financial and quality, and went over the comparisons of ACO vs. Non-ACO populations using Mathematica analyses.

Marisa Melamed presented the GMCB Regulatory Levers to Foster a High Performing Health System, and introduced Joe Damore, President and CEO of Damore Health Advisors, who has been providing consulting services to GMCB during the ACO budget process.

Joe Damore presented recommendations to the GMCB for the OCV Budget including requiring benchmarking and performance dashboards, requiring an enhanced data-driven continuous performance improvement program, modifying reporting requirements to be tied to benchmarks, and requiring a OCV risk management/mitigation plan. Joe Damore presented his recommendations to OCV, including governance and management, provider and patient engagement, population health, data, and network management. Marisa Melamed presented the staff's regulatory recommendations.

The Board Members asked questions and made comments about the OCV FY2022 budget, including the recommended benchmarking systems, Medicare Advantage programs, FPP, incorporating the performance evaluations into the hospital budget process, and measuring true provider engagement.

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

### **Public Comment**

Michael Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate, Vermont Legal Aid  
Walter Carpenter, Health Care Advocate  
Julie Wasserman, MPH, Health Policy Consultant  
Dale Hackett, Health Care and Disability Rights Advocate

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Adjourn**

The Board voted (4-0) to adjourn at approximately 4:40 PM.