

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 16, 2022
1:00 pm

Attendance

Kevin J. Mullin, Chair (*via Microsoft Teams*)
Susan J. Barrett, JD, Executive Director (*Absent*)
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*)
Thom Walsh, PhD, MS, MSPT (*via Microsoft Teams*)

Chair Mullin called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 pm. Chair Mullin reviewed [the open special comment periods on the GMCB website](#). Chair Mullin announced the letters sent from the Board to University of Vermont Health Network and United Healthcare regarding the ongoing dispute about UVM's request for a rate increase of nearly 10% for fiscal year 2022, were [available to view on the GMCB website](#).

Minutes

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes from March 9, 2022.

Clover Health Partners Budget – GMCB Staff Review

Marisa Melamed, Associate Director of Health Systems Policy, GMCB
Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB
Julia Boles, Senior Health Policy Analyst, GMCB
Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finance, GMCB
Michelle Sawyer, Health Policy Project Director, GMCB

Marisa Melamed reviewed the agenda for the meeting and who would be presenting each item. Russ McCracken presented the regulatory process for the Accountable Care Organization (ACO) and explained the oversight statute and rule. Marisa Melamed presented a high-level overview and explained the impact on Medicare beneficiaries, the public reporting and transparency guidelines, and the integration with the Vermont All-Payer Model (APM) initiative. Julia Boles presented an overview of the new ACO REACH: Realizing Equity, Access and Community Health model which will go into effect on January 1, 2023 because the Direct Contracting Model will end at the end of 2022.

Marisa Melamed reviewed public comment themes and presented some background on ACOs and Clover Health Partners specifically. Marisa Melamed explained the provider network requirements and Clover's 2022 provider network in Vermont and how it is a Medicare only payer program and presented a high-level overview chart of funds flow. Marisa Melamed

reviewed the risk model and the wide risk corridors that Clover has compared to other ACOs in Vermont.

Patrick Rooney presented the financials which included the growth, expenses, loss on operations, net margins, and accumulated deficit. Michelle Sawyer reviewed the model of care, in which the criteria is to strengthen primary care, support appropriate utilization, integrate with community-based providers and Blueprint for health and to prevent duplication of services. Michelle Sawyer presented the benefit enhancements and beneficiary incentives provided by Clover.

Marisa Melamed presented the GMCB staff recommendations for the Clover Health FY22 budget. The Board members asked questions about the timing of the process, the ACO structure changing, incorporating the APM with this ACO, and how the ACO will engage with pre-diabetes and other efforts. [The presentation can be seen here on the GMCB website.](#)

Public Comment

Walter Carpenter, Health Care Advocate
David Ault, Outside Counsel, Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath

FY23 Hospital Budget Guidance

Patrick Rooney, Director of Health Systems Finance, GMCB
Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB
Michelle Sawyer, Health Policy Project Director, GMCB
Geoffrey Battista, Data Analytics Information Chief, GMCB

Patrick Rooney presented a timeline of the Board Meetings regarding the FY23 Hospital Budget Guidance and explained the FY23 hospital budget schedule. Patrick Rooney provided a brief overview of the priorities, process and outcomes surrounding hospital budget guidance. Patrick Rooney presented the FY21 actual-to-actual growth compared to the 3.5% growth target and reviewed the FY2023 hospital budget discussion topics and changes.

Michelle Sawyer reviewed value-based care participation questions in the hospital budget guidance document. Geoffrey Battista presented the supplemental data monitoring section and outlined the reports and analyses that are requested in the hospital budget guidance document. [The hospital budget guidance document can be seen here on the GMCB website.](#)

Russ McCracken reviewed the policy on hospital budget enforcement, which had no changes, and the budget amendments and adjustments policy, which included the recommended change regarding rate increases. Patrick Rooney reviewed the recommended FY23 NPR/FPP growth ceiling and the other staff recommendations for FY23 hospital budget guidance.

The Board Members asked questions and made suggestions about the hospital budget guidance document including the sustainability planning, the NPR/FPP recommendation, how this will impact our performance under the All-Payer Model agreement, the wait times investigation, and patient migration data. [The presentation can be seen here on the GMCB website.](#)

Public Comment

Walter Carpenter, Health Care Advocate

Michael Del Trecco, Sr. Vice President of Finance & Operations, VAHHS

Eric Schultheis, Staff Attorney, Office of the Health Care Advocate, Vermont Legal Aid

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Adjourn

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 3:50 pm.