

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 22, 2022
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)*
Thom Walsh, PhD, MS, MSPT *(via Microsoft Teams)*

Executive Director's Report

Chair Mullin called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 pm. Susan Barrett announced that the order of agenda items had changed, and the website would be updated accordingly with the correct order of items. Susan Barrett reviewed [the open special comment periods on the GMCB website](#).

Minutes

The Board voted (5-0) to approve the minutes from June 15, 2022.

Agency of Human Services (AHS) Workforce Plan Update

Ena Backus, Director of Health Care Reform, AHS

Ena Backus presented an overview of the Health Care Workforce Development Strategic Plan and the Act 183 initiatives. Ena Backus reviewed a document with each individual initiative, the investment, deliverable and who is responsible. Ena Backus presented the plan for each initiative. [The document can be seen here on the GMCB website](#).

The Board Members asked questions about funding specific to critical access hospitals, Department of Labor oversight, commitment from leaders of college systems, short term development of workforce, and the penalties or burdens of forgivable loans.

Public Comment

Walter Carpenter, Health Care Advocate

Vermont Information Technology Leaders (VITL) FY23 Budget – GMCB Staff Presentation – Potential Vote

Jessica Mendizabal, Director of Data Management Analysis & Integrity, GMCB

Jessica Mendizabal presented the GMCB oversight of VITL, a summary of the FY23 budget and summarized the budget review criteria. The budget review criteria includes transparency, public/stakeholder input, alignment with the Health Information Exchange (HIE) plan goals, and Alignment with VITL/DVHA process. Jessica Mendizabal presented the GMCB staff recommendation which was to approve the VITL FY23 budget as presented with conditions. [The GMCB staff presentation can be seen here on the GMCB website.](#)

Board Member Lunge moved to approve the VITL FY23 Budget as presented with two conditions. One condition being in addition to reporting requirements, quarterly reporting should include: updates on VITL's work to design a future financial model that would diversify revenue sources, VITL's strategic planning process and progress, continued work on integration of claims and clinical data in the VHIE, and continued work on consent including patient education. The second condition being that VITL will comply with mid-year budget update requirements as described in the Board's annual budget guidance. Board Member Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

Public Comment

Hamilton Davis, Journalist and Policy Analyst

Accountable Care Organization (ACO) Guidance – Potential Vote

Marisa Melamed, Associate Director of Health Systems Policy, GMCB

Marisa Melamed reviewed the themes of public comment received and presented updates made to the Medicare-Only Guidance and updates to the Certified ACO Guidance. Marisa Melamed presented suggested motion language. [The presentation can be seen here on the GMCB website.](#)

Board Member Lunge moved that the GMCB adopt the FY23 Budget Guidance and Reporting Requirements for Medicare-only Non-Certified ACOs as presented by GMCB staff with the additional changes discussed. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

Board Member Lunge moved that the GMCB adopt the FY23 Budget Guidance and Reporting Requirements for Vermont Certified ACOs, as presented by GMCB staff with the additional changes discussed, specifically including the FY23 proposed budget targets presented by GMCB staff, with a change that the word endeavor be struck from the guidance and replaced with the phrase "best efforts". Board Member Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

Public Comment

Hamilton Davis, Journalist and Policy Analyst
Walter Carpenter, Health Care Advocate

Department of Mental Health (DMH) Update

Emily Hawes, Commissioner, DMH

Alison Krompf, Deputy Commissioner, DMH

Samantha Sweet, Mental Health Services Director, DMH

Emily Hawes presented the DMH priorities to advance the goals and objectives of Vision 2030 for a coordinated, holistic, and integrated system of care for Vermont, which includes different action areas. Emily Hawes presented Action Area 4: expanding access to community-based care. Samantha Sweet presented Action Area 5: enhancing intervention and discharge planning services to support Vermonters in crisis, and Alison Krompf reviewed an update to the Vermont suicide prevention lifeline which will transition to a 3-digit (9-8-8) number in July. Emily Hawes presented Action Area 8: committing to workforce development and payment parity, including workforce recruitment and retention. Alison Krompf reviewed the mental health payment reform which includes the mental health integration council and transitioning to value-based payments. Emily Hawes concluded with a summary of mental health system needs and gaps. [The presentation can be seen here on the GMCB website.](#)

Public Comment

Hamilton Davis, Journalist and Policy Analyst

Old Business

Chair Mullin announced that with his upcoming departure, the Board needed to delegate authority to another Board Member for continuity within the negotiation with the federal government and AHS for the work on the All-Payer Model (APM). Member Pelham made a motion that pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9374(d), the Green Mountain Care Board hereby delegates to Board Member Robin Lunge and Board Member Jessica Holmes the Board's authorities to 1) negotiate with respect to any amendments or modifications to the APM Agreement and any subsequent agreement; and 2) pursue activities required by Act 167 (2022) related to hospital sustainability and a subsequent all-payer model agreement, including community engagement, payment model development, and regulatory redesign. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. The Board voted (5-0) to approve the motion.

New Business

None

Adjourn

The Board voted (5-0) to adjourn at approximately 3:25pm.