

GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD (GMCB)  
GMCB Board Meeting Minutes  
Monday, September 12, 2022  
8:30 am

**Attendance**

Jessica Holmes, Interim 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*)  
Tom Pelham (*via Microsoft Teams*)  
Thom Walsh, PhD, MS, MSPT (*via Microsoft Teams*)

**Executive Director's Report**

Chair Holmes called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 am. Susan Barrett reviewed the Health Insurance Premium Tax Credits, which can help save money on health insurance premiums if they are purchased through Vermont Health Connect. More information on these subsidies can be found [here on the GMCB website](#).

**Minutes**

The Board voted (4-0) to approve the minutes from August 31, 2022 and September 2, 2022.

**FY23 Hospital Budget Deliberations**

Sarah Lindberg, Director of Health Systems Finances, GMCB  
Flora Pagan, Health Systems Finance Principal Analyst, GMCB  
Matthew Sutter, Health Systems Finance Principal Analyst, GMCB  
Russ McCracken, Staff Attorney, GMCB

Sarah Lindberg reviewed the hospital budget decision schedule, the staff recommendation decision tree, and the standard budget order conditions. Sarah Lindberg presented an overview of the University of Vermont Medical Centers' (UVMCMC) request. Sarah Lindberg presented the staff recommended options for approval and reviewed the suggested motion language. The Board Members asked questions, made suggestions and discussed the UVMCMC budget request.

Board Member Lunge moved to approve UVMCMCs budget with a 10% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 10.1% increase to overall charges, and an increase to the commercial effective rate with an allowable range of 13.89% to 15.65% subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Chair Holmes seconded the motion. The Board voted (2-2) by roll call, with Board Member Pelham and Board Member Walsh voting no, and the motion failed to pass.

Board Member Walsh moved to approve UVMCMCs budget as modified with a 10% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 10.1% increase to overall charges, and a 14.77%

increase to commercial effective rate, and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Board Member Lunge seconded the motion. The Board voted (3-1) by roll call to approve the motion, with Board Member Pelham voting no.

Sarah Lindberg presented the Central Vermont Medical Centers' (CVMC) budget request. Sarah Lindberg reviewed the staff options for approval and reviewed the suggested motion language.

Board Member Lunge moved to approve CVMCs budget as modified with a 7.3% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 10.0% increase to overall charges, a 10.54% increase to commercial effective rate and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. After discussion with the Board, Board Member Lunge withdrew the motion.

Board Member Walsh moved to approve CVMCs budget as modified with a 7.3% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 10.0% increase to overall charges, a 12.5% increase to commercial effective rate and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Board Member Pelham seconded the motion. The Board voted (4-0) by roll call to approve the motion.

Sarah Lindberg presented an overview of the Brattleboro Memorial Hospital budget request and provided the staff recommendations and suggested motion language.

Board Member Lunge moved to approve Brattleboro Memorial Hospitals' budget as modified with a 13.3% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 14.61% increase to overall charges with the effective commercial rate being approximately 10.2%, and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. The Board voted (4-0) by roll call to approve the motion.

Sarah Lindberg presented the overview of the North Country Hospital budget request and provided the staff recommendations and suggested motion language.

Board Member Lunge moved to approve North Country Hospitals' budget as modified with a 12.5% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 12.24% increase to overall charges with the effective commercial rate being approximately 7.8%, and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. The Board voted (4-0) to approve the motion.

Sarah Lindberg presented an overview of the Springfield Hospital budget request and provide the staff recommendations and suggested motion language. The Board asked questions and discussed the concerns with the Springfield budget.

Board Member Lunge moved to approve Springfield Hospitals' budget as modified with a 2.7% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 10% increase to overall charges with the effective commercial rate being approximately 6.4%, and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. Chair Holmes proposed an amendment to the motion for a 2.7% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted

NPR/FPP with a commencement reduction in operating expenses to retain the margin as submitted. After Board discussion about the Disproportionate Share (DSH) payments, Board Member Lunge withdrew the motion.

Board Member Lunge moved to approve Springfield Hospitals' budget as submitted with a 7.5% increase from FY2022 to FY2023 budgeted NPR/FPP, a 10% increase to overall charges, and subject to the standard budget conditions as presented to the Board, with an additional condition requiring a check-in with the full Board after the first quarter performance data is available. Board Member Walsh seconded the motion. The Board voted (4-0) by roll call to approve the motion.

### **Public Comment**

Al Gobeille, Executive Vice President for Operations (EVP), UVMHN

Rick Vincent, Chief Financial Officer, UVMHN

Michael Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate, Vermont Legal Aid

Michael Del Trecco, Interim President and CEO, VAHHS

Christopher Dougherty, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Brattleboro Memorial Hospital

Robert Adcock, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Springfield Hospital

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

None

### **Adjourn**

The Board voted (4-0) to adjourn at approximately 1:30 pm.