

**Florida Health Insurance Advisory Board  
Executive Director Selection Committee Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 2:30 PM  
Via Teleconference  
Tallahassee, FL**

**Committee Members Present:**

Seth Phelps, Chair                      Louisa McQueeney                      Ken Stevenson

**Others Present:**

- Amy Hardee, Administrative Assistant II to the Deputy Commissioner – Life & Health, Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR)
- Monica Ross, Chief Legal Counsel, OIR

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Seth Phelps called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

**II. Roll Call**

Amy Hardee conducted a roll call, noting that all Committee members were present.

**III. Antitrust Statement**

Monica Ross was recognized and reviewed the antitrust statement.

**IV. Chair's Opening Remarks**

The Chair noted that the purpose of the meeting was to finalize the Committee's recommendation for Executive Director to submit to the Florida Health Insurance Advisory Board (FHIAB) for their vote, following the six interviews conducted in public meetings last week.

**V. Approval of Minutes, February 11, 2022**

The Chair presented the minutes from the February 11, 2022, meeting for adoption, noting that members had been provided with advance copies. Louisa McQueeney moved to adopt the minutes as written, with a second by Ken Stevenson, and the minutes were adopted without objection.

**VI. Review Results of Interviews/Finalize Recommendation**

The Chair noted that the following candidates were interviewed:

1. John "Jack" McDermott
2. William (Bill) Eichhoefer
3. Christopher "Scott" Jenkins
4. Ashlee Tising
5. Cathy Nelson
6. Keith Dean
7. John Trombetta (withdrew prior to being interviewed)

Before discussing specific candidates, the Chair noted that historically, based on the last three contracts with Executive Directors, the FHIAB has contracted with a candidate's employer consulting firms. However, the real issue, in addition to the qualifications outlined in the job posting, are (1) can the candidate devote the time necessary to actually complete the Executive Director job functions and (2) does the candidate have any actual or apparent conflicts of interest that cannot be properly addressed.

When asked if there were any other issues to be discussed, Ken Stevenson disclosed that Keith Dean was a client of his 15 years ago and the Chair disclosed that he had previous interactions with Jack McDermott when Mr. McDermott worked for the Office of Insurance Regulation.

The Chair then asked each member to list their top three candidates (in order) based on the grading matrix:

- Ken Stevenson: Jack McDermott, Keith Dean, Ashley Tising
- Louisa McQueeney: Cathy Nelson, Jack McDermott, Ashley Tising
- Seth Phelps: Jack McDermott, Keith Dean, Bill Eichhoefer

The Chair asked each member to explain why they picked their top candidate, focusing on the Job Description criteria. After each member shared their justifications, the Chair noted that he and Ken Stevenson both had Jack McDermott as their top candidate and Louisa McQueeney had him as her second choice.

The Chair asked if any further discussion was needed. Louisa McQueeney expressed her concerns regarding (1) can the candidate devote the time necessary to fulfilling these duties, (2) is there a conflict of interest, and (3) will the candidate remain in the position long-term.

After further discussion, Ken Stevenson made a motion to recommend to the Board that Jack McDermott be offered the position as the Board's Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Louisa McQueeney and approved unanimously.

The Chair thanked all the candidates for their participation in the selection process.

## VII. Other Business

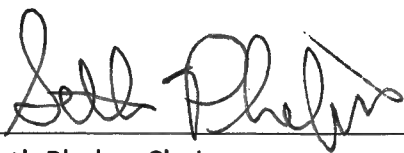
The Chair asked if there was any other business to be brought before the Committee.

Louisa McQueeney asked when the next Board meeting is scheduled for. The Chair noted that the next meeting has not been scheduled yet and it will likely not meet until the Florida Legislative Session has ended. The Committee would like the Board to meet as soon as possible after the Legislative Session.

There being nothing further, the Chair moved to the next agenda item.

## VIII. Adjourn

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 PM.

  
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Seth Phelps, Chair

4/13/22  
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Date