

**Florida Health Insurance Advisory Board
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 17, 2023, 9:00 AM
Via Teleconference
Tallahassee, FL**

Board Members Present:

Alexis Bakofsky, Chair
Christina Lake
Rick Wallace

Louisa McQueeney
Robert Muszynski
Seth M. Phelps

Eric Johnson
Bill Herrle
Richard Weiss

Others Present:

- Jack McDermott, FHIAB Executive Director
- Shannon Doheny, Assistant General Counsel, Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR)

I. Call to Order

Alexis Bakofsky (Chief of Staff, Office of Insurance Regulation), as the Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 indicating the meeting was properly noticed to the public in accordance with Florida Law. The Chair thanked the members for their attendance and appreciated the diverse expertise of Board members.

II. Roll Call

Jack McDermott conducted a roll call of members. After a short delay to ensure a quorum was present, he announced the presence of a quorum around 9:15 a.m.

III. Antitrust Statement

Shannon Doheny was recognized to review the antitrust statement.

IV. Approval of Minutes, September 28, 2023

The Chair presented the minutes from the Board's September 28, 2023, meeting and asked for questions or comments. The Chair accepted a motion from Richard Weiss to approve the minutes, seconded by Seth Phelps. The minutes were approved without changes.

V. Executive Director's Report

The Chair recognized Jack McDermott to present the executive director's report. Mr. McDermott presented the latest financial statements from October 31, 2023 and noted the Board has roughly \$70,000 in net assets, which is enough to sustain the Board until the next round of assessments. He also noted that Purvis Gray is in the process of conducting the 2022 financial audit, and that a draft procedures manual (with updated procedures to address findings in prior audits) has been shared with the auditor, and will potentially be included as a subsequent event.

The Chair asked if any Board members had questions. Hearing none, the Chair moved to the next agenda item.

VI. Legislative Proposals for 2024

The Chair began by introducing the Legislative Proposals for 2024 – noting earlier in her introduction the purpose of the meeting today is to hear these proposals and ask questions; a Board vote on these proposals will occur during a future meeting.

All eight (8) of the proposals were submitted by Louisa McQueeney, and therefore the meeting was turned over to her to present all eight proposals. These eight proposals included:

Proposal # 1: Deductible Health Credit Transfer

Proposal # 2: Provide Health Care Consumers with One Free Copy of their Own Medical Records

Proposal # 3: Protect Consumers from Prescription Drug Formulary Changes During a Policy Year

Proposal # 4: Cap the Cost of Insulin at \$35 a Month

Proposal # 5: Prohibit Balance Billing for Ground Emergency Medical Transportation

Proposal # 6: Include Applied Behavioral Analysis as a Covered Benefit in all Insurance Plans

Proposal # 7: Add Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) to Include to the Definition of the Term Developmental Disabilities

Proposal # 8: Apply Payments by, or on Behalf of, a Beneficiary to Count Toward the Out-of-Pocket Cost Sharing Calculations

The Chair asked the Board if there were any questions. As these were similar to proposals submitted (and approved) in prior years, there were no questions or alterations suggested at this meeting. The Chair noted that if any Board member has a question or suggestion for change, they should contact the Executive Director Jack McDermott prior to the next Board meeting.

VII. Other Business

The Chair moved to the next agenda item which was for Other Business. Louisa McQueeney noted the Board meetings were happening later in the year, suggesting they could be done earlier. Executive Director Jack McDermott agreed with this comment, although noted the current meeting was delayed one-week due to a Special Legislative Session, and an earlier meeting was delayed due to a hurricane; sometimes outside events prohibit the scheduling of meetings at optimal times. The Executive Director/Chair will keep this in mind for scheduling meetings next year.

VIII. Public Comment

The Chair asked if anyone from the public had comments about any of the items discussed during the Board meeting. Two members of the public requested time to speak, and both members of the public expressed support for Legislative Proposal # 8 -- Apply Payments by, or on Behalf of, a Beneficiary to Count Toward the Out-of-Pocket Cost Sharing Calculations.

The two members of the public that spoke included:

Doreen Glenn (mother of son with expensive medication) – spoke in favor of Proposal # 8

Donna Sabatino, RN (State Policy & Advocacy Director, AIDS Institute) -- spoke in favor of Proposal # 8

IX. Adjourn

The Chair thanked everyone who participated and provided public comment. Having completed the agenda, the Chair adjourned the meeting.

Jack McDermott

Prepared by: Jack McDermott, Executive Director

December 15, 2023

Approved by Board