

State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board

Standing Monthly Meeting October 23, 2019

The standing monthly meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board convened Wednesday, October 23, 2019, in Room 139 in the Woolfolk Building located at 501 North West Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 9:01 a.m. The presiding officer was Ms. Laura D. Jackson, Chairman of the Board. A quorum was present.

Members Present:

Voting

Ms. Laura Jackson, Chairman
Mr. Christopher Burkhalter, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Mike Chaney
Mr. Mark Formby
Mr. Larry Fortenberry
Mr. Ray Higgins
Dr. Alfred Rankins

Non-Voting

Members Absent:

Mr. Kelly Hardwick
Dr. Andrea Mayfield
Dr. Carey Wright

The Honorable Gary Chism – Chairman,
House Insurance Committee
The Honorable Eugene Clarke – Chairman,
Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable John Read – Chairman,
House Appropriations Committee

Department of Finance and Administration Staff Present:

Mr. Richard Self
Ms. Cindy Bradshaw
Ms. Latasha Holmes
Ms. Amanda Murphy
Mr. John Anderson
Ms. Terri Ashley
Mr. Chris Shaman

Attorney General's Office Staff Present:

Ms. Romaine Richards, Esquire

Call to Order

The meeting was chaired and called to order by Ms. Laura D. Jackson, Chairman of the Board.

Closed/Executive Session:

Mr. Chris Burkhalter made a motion that the meeting be closed for the Board to consider going into executive session to discuss potential litigation matters. Mr. Larry Fortenberry seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Higgins, and Rankins voting affirmatively. The meeting was closed and the public was excused from the room. Board members, staff of the Department of Finance and Administration, and staff from the Attorney General's Office remained in the room.

While in the closed session, Mr. Burkhalter made a motion that the Board go into executive session in accordance with the Mississippi Open Meetings Act to discuss potential litigation matters. Mr. Mark Formby seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Higgins, and Rankins voting affirmatively.

Chairman Jackson reopened the meeting and announced publicly that the Board had voted to enter into executive session. The public was excused from the room and the Board entered into executive session at approximately 9:03 a.m. Board members, staff of the Department of Finance and Administration, and staff from the Attorney General's Office remained in the room.

The Board entered into executive session, at which time two matters that involved potential litigation were discussed. During the session, the Board admitted staff from the Attorney General's Office into the meeting to discuss one of the potential litigation matters.

No action was taken by the Board. Mr. Burkhalter made a motion that the Board return to regular session. Mr. Fortenberry seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Higgins, and Rankins voting affirmatively.

Upon returning to regular session at approximately 9:45 a.m., the public was invited back into the room. Chairman Jackson announced that the Board had discussed potential litigation matters during the executive session, and stated that the Board had taken no action.

Agenda Item 1: Minutes of the September 25, 2019 Standing Monthly Board Meeting

The minutes of the Board's standing monthly meeting of September 25, 2019 were provided to all Board members for their review prior to the meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Formby for the Board to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Fortenberry seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Higgins, and Rankins voting affirmatively.

Agenda Item 2: HIPAA Exemption Election

Chairman Jackson recognized Mr. Richard Self, State Insurance Administrator with the Office of Insurance, who advised that staff recommends that the Board continue to elect exemption of the State and School Employees' Health Insurance Plan from certain federal regulations under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). Mr. Self explained that although the Board has consistently elected to generally comply with the intent of the HIPAA requirements voluntarily, it has nonetheless voted annually to exempt the Plan from regulation under these provisions for the past twenty-one years. He advised that should the Board elect to continue this exemption for 2020, notification of this election would be filed with the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, and likewise provided to participants as a part of the *Plan Document*. Mr. Fortenberry moved to approve the exemption election. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chaney. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Higgins, and Rankins voting affirmatively.

Agenda Item 3: 2020 Plan Document

Chairman Jackson recognized Ms. Cindy Bradshaw, Deputy Director with the Office of Insurance, who presented the draft *2020 Plan Document*. Ms. Bradshaw reminded Board members that the *Plan Document* provides a comprehensive description of the operation and administration of the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan, and includes a listing of covered, as well as excluded, services and benefits. Ms. Bradshaw discussed in detail a summary of the proposed changes to the *Plan Document*, including but not limited to the recently approved 2020 benefit changes. A motion was made by Mr. Fortenberry to approve the *2020 Plan Document* as presented. Mr. Chaney seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Higgins, and Rankins voting affirmatively.

Agenda Item 4: Financial Statements

Chairman Jackson recognized Ms. Latasha Holmes, Director of Budget and Accounting with the Office of Insurance, who briefly reviewed the financial statements for the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for the month of September 2019. Copies of the financial statements were provided to Board members for their review prior to the meeting. No action was required or taken by the Board on this item.

Agenda Item 5: General Schedule

Chairman Jackson recognized Ms. Cindy Bradshaw, Deputy Director with the Office of Insurance, who reviewed the schedule of major activities and actions to be taken by the Board for the next several months.

Agenda Item 6: Old Business

Chairman Jackson recognized Ms. Bradshaw who provided the Board with an update on the status of negotiations for the renewal amendment to the health management services contract with ActiveHealth Management (AHM), previously approved by the Board in April 2019. Ms. Bradshaw advised that the staff had analyzed the potential impact of executing a six-month renewal rather than the standard twelve-month renewal, but had ultimately determined that a twelve-month renewal was in the best interests of the Plan. As the renewal had already been approved, no further action was required by the Board.

Agenda Item 7: New Business

There was no new business for the Board to consider.

Adjournment

Chairman Jackson advised that in order to avoid conflicts with the upcoming Thanksgiving holidays, the next meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., November 20, 2019, in Room 139, of the Woolfolk Building. As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.



Laura D. Jackson
Chairman
State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board