

## State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board

### Standing Monthly Meeting April 26, 2023

The standing monthly meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board convened Wednesday, April 26, 2023, in Room 117, in the Woolfolk Building located at 501 North West Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 9:00 a.m. The presiding officer was Ms. Liz Welch, Chairman of the Board. A quorum was present.

#### Voting Members Present

Ms. Liz Welch, Chairman  
Mr. Christopher Burkhalter, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Mike Chaney  
Mr. Mark Formby  
Mr. Larry Fortenberry (*Via Teams*)  
Dr. Felicia Gavin  
Mr. Kelly Hardwick  
Dr. Alfred Rankins  
Mr. Kell Smith (*Represented by Mr. Jason Carter*)

#### Non-Voting Members Present

The Honorable Walter Michel – Chairman,  
Senate Insurance Committee

#### Voting Members Absent

Mr. Ray Higgins

#### Non-Voting Members Absent

The Honorable John Read – Chairman,  
House Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Briggs Hopson – Chairman,  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Henry Zuber – Chairman  
House Insurance Committee

#### **Department of Finance and Administration Staff Present:**

Mr. Chris Shaman  
Ms. Liz Bolin, Esquire  
Ms. Karen McKlemurry  
Ms. Carlotta Edwards (*Via Teams*)  
Ms. Alicia Coleman (*Via Teams*)  
Ms. Christina Young (*Via Teams*)  
Ms. Stacie Sheriff (*Via Teams*)  
Ms. Krista Robinson (*Via Teams*)

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was chaired and called to order by Ms. Liz Welch, Chairman of the Board.

### **Agenda Item 1: Minutes of the March 22, 2023 Standing Monthly Board Meeting**

Chairman Welch announced that the minutes of the Board's March 22, 2023 standing monthly meeting had been provided to all Board members for their review in advance of today's meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Kelly Hardwick for the Board to approve the minutes for March as presented. Mr. Mark Formby seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 7 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Gavin, Hardwick, and Smith (represented by designee Jason Carter) voting affirmatively.

### **Agenda Item 2: 2022 Third Party Medical Claims Administrator Audit**

Chairman Welch recognized Ms. Michelle Suckow, Claim Technologies, Inc. (CTI) Vice President to present the results of CTI's recently completed audit of Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Mississippi's (BCBSMS) calendar year 2022 performance as the third-party medical claims administrator for the State and School Employees' Health Insurance Plan. A copy of CTI's *Claims and Performance Review Report*, their report summary, and BCBSMS' response was distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. No action was required or taken by the Board on this item.

### **Agenda Item 3: Potential Benefit Changes for Calendar Year 2024**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Chris Shaman, Deputy Director, Office of Insurance, who outlined the process and schedule for consideration of proposed Plan benefit changes for 2024, and briefly discussed the list of potential changes. Mr. Shaman advised that the Board will need to indicate which of the potential benefit changes listed they would like for the staff to analyze, and explained that other proposed changes could be added to the list if the Board so desired. The following potential benefit changes were discussed:

1. Consider changes to prescription drug benefits
  - a. Coverage tiers, copayments, deductibles
  - b. Mail order drugs
  - c. Brand drugs with coupons
  - d. Formulary and/or drug class restrictions
  - e. Specialty medications
  - f. Coverage for obesity treatment
  
2. Consider changes to medical benefits
  - a. Deductibles, coinsurance, copayments
  - b. Out-of-pocket maximums

3. Consider changes to wellness/preventive benefits
  - a. ACA requirements
  - b. USPSTF recommendations
  - c. Other
  
4. Consider eliminating the precertification penalty for participants

A motion was made by Mr. Chris Burkhalter to authorize the staff to begin a focused evaluation and analysis of all items on the list. This motion was seconded by Mr. Mark Formby. The motion passed by a 7 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Fortenberry, Gavin, Hardwick, and Smith (represented by designee Jason Carter) voting affirmatively.

**Agenda Item 4: Financial Statements**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Chris Shaman, Deputy Director, Office of Insurance, who briefly reviewed the financial statements for the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for the month of March 2023. Copies of the financial statements were provided to the Board members for review prior to the meeting. No action was required or taken by the Board on this item.

**Agenda Item 5: General Schedule**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Chris Shaman, Deputy Director, Office of Insurance, who reviewed the schedule of major activities and actions to be taken by the Board for the next few months.

**Agenda Item 6: Old Business**

There was no old business for the Board to consider.

**Agenda Item 7: New Business**

Chairman Welch discussed HB 1717. This bill provides for an additional appropriation to DFA's Office of Insurance from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund for the purpose of reimbursing the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for eligible COVID-19 expenses. Certification requirements are in process.

### Adjournment

Chairman Welch announced that the next standing meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, May 24, 2023.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.



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Liz Welch  
Chairman

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