

## **State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board**

### **Standing Monthly Meeting April 24, 2024**

The standing monthly meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board convened Wednesday, April 24, 2024, 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  
Dr. Felicia Gavin *(via Teams)*  
Dr. Alfred Rankins *(via Teams)*  
Mr. Kell Smith

#### **Non-Voting Members Present**

#### **Voting Members Absent**

Mr. Kelly Hardwick  
Mr. Ray Higgins

#### **Non-Voting Members Absent**

The Honorable Briggs Hopson – Chairman,  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Walter Michel – Chairman,  
Senate Insurance Committee  
The Honorable John Read – Chairman,  
House Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable Jerry Turner – Chairman  
House Insurance Committee

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

Mr. Bert Emrick  
Ms. Liz Bolin, Esquire  
Ms. Karen McKlemurry  
Ms. Carlotta Edwards *(Via Teams)*  
Ms. Alicia Coleman *(Via Teams)*  
Ms. Makleisha Logan-Hite *(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 27, 2024 Standing Monthly Board Meeting**

Chairman Welch announced that the minutes of the Board's March 27, 2024 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. Mark Formby for the Board to approve the minutes for March as presented. Mr. Mike Chaney seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 6 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Formby, Gavin, Rankins, and Smith voting affirmatively.

## **Agenda Item 2: Potential Benefit Changes for Calendar Year 2025**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Bert Emrick, State Insurance Administrator, Office of Insurance, who outlined the process and schedule for consideration of proposed Plan benefit changes for 2025, and briefly discussed the list of potential changes. Mr. Emrick 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
    - i. Additional copayment amounts.
    - ii. Deductible amounts for higher class drugs, i.e. Brand and Specialty.
  - b. Coverage for obesity treatment.
  - c. Adding Prudent Rx and True Accumulation options to help lower pharmacy costs.
2. Consider changes to medical benefits.
  - a. Deductible increases
  - b. Copay increases and/or additions.
    - i. Specialty provider office visit copay.
    - ii. Mental health provider office visit copay.
3. Consider eliminating the precertification penalties for participants.
4. Legislative changes that could affect the benefit plan.

**Agenda Item 3: Financial Statements**

Chairman Welch again recognized Mr. Emrick, who briefly reviewed the financial statements for the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for the month of March 2024. 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 4: General Schedule**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Emrick, who reviewed the schedule of major activities and actions to be taken by the Board for the next few months.

**Agenda Item 5: Old Business**

There was no old business for the Board to consider.

**Agenda Item 6: New Business**

There was no new business for the Board to consider.

**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 22, 2024.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 a.m.



---

Liz Welch  
Chairman

State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board