

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

### **Standing Monthly Meeting November 20, 2024**

The standing monthly meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board convened Wednesday, November 20, 2024, in Room 117 of the Woolfolk Building located at 501 North West Street in Jackson, Mississippi, at 9:03 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 *(represented by Ms. Kim Causey)*  
Dr. Felicia Gavin *(represented by Ms. Sheila Buie)*  
Mr. Kelly Hardwick  
Mr. Ray Higgins  
Dr. Alfred Rankins  
Mr. Kell Smith *(represented by Mr. Jason Carter)*

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

The Honorable Jerry Turner – Chairman  
House Insurance Committee

#### **Voting Members Absent**

Mr. Mark Formby

#### **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

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

Mr. Bert Emrick  
Ms. Karen McKlemurry  
Ms. Carlotta Edwards *(via Teams)*  
Ms. Makleisha Logan-Hite *(via Teams)*  
Ms. Lori Paes *(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 October 23, 2024 Standing Monthly Board Meeting**

Chairman Welch announced that the minutes of the Board's October 23, 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. Chris Burkhalter for the Board to approve the minutes for September as presented. Mr. Kelly Hardwick seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 7 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Causey (designee for member Chaney), Buie (designee for member Gavin), Hardwick, Higgins, Rankins, and Carter (designee for member Smith) voting affirmatively.

### **Agenda Item 2: GASB Statements 74 and 75 Reports – Actuarial Analyses of Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability as of June 30, 2024**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Ed Koebel, EA, FCA, MAAA, Consulting Actuary with Cavanaugh Macdonald Consulting LLC. Mr. Koebel presented an updated valuation of the State's other post-employment benefits (OPEB) liability as of June 30, 2024, applying the GASB Statements 74 and 75 guidelines. Copies of Mr. Koebel's presentation and the full reports entitled prepared *GASB STATEMENT NO. 74 REPORT FOR THE MISSISSIPPI STATE AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN PREPARED AS OF JUNE 30, 2024*, and *GASB STATEMENT NO. 75 REPORT FOR THE MISSISSIPPI STATE AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES' LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN PREPARED AS OF JUNE 30, 2024 FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING AS OF JUNE 30, 2025* were provided to the Board for their review prior to the meeting. No action was required or taken by the Board on this report.

### **Agenda Item 3: Utilization and Care Management Services Contract Modification**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Bert Emrick, who stated that the Board entered into a contract with Acentra Health to provide utilization and care management services to the Plan. As part of approved legislation under the PA Reform Bill, Acentra Health was required to change review periods from 'business days' to 'calendar days.' Also included in the PA Reform Bill is an increased turnaround time for notifications (this includes receipt and decision notifications). This change also requires 'calendar days' turnaround times. These changes require Acentra Health to staff weekends and holidays to ensure timeliness deadlines are met. Mr. Emrick requested approval to modify the Utilization and Care Management services contract to support compliance with the PA Reform Bill. A motion to approve was made by Mr. Hardwick and seconded by Mr. Higgins. The motion passed by a 7 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Causey (designee for member Chaney), Buie (designee for member Gavin), Hardwick, Higgins, Rankins, and Carter (designee for member Smith) voting affirmatively.

**Agenda Item 4: Financial Statements**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Bert Emrick, who briefly reviewed the financial statements for the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for the month of October 2024. Copies of the financial statements from October 2024 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. Bert Emrick, 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 Welch again recognized Mr. Emrick, who presented the schedule of meeting dates for 2025.

**Agenda Item 7: New Business**

There was no new business for the board to discuss.

**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, January 22, 2025.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:23 a.m.



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Liz Welch  
Chairman

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