

State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board

Standing Monthly Meeting February 26, 2025

The standing monthly meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board convened Wednesday, February 26, 2025, in Room 117 of 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 *(represented by Mr. David Browning)*
Dr. Lance Evans *(represented by Ms. Kym Wiggins)*
Mr. Mark Formby
Mr. Jimmy Gathings
Mr. Kelly Hardwick
Dr. Alfred Rankins *(via Teams)*
Mr. Kell Smith

Non-Voting Members Present

Voting Members Absent

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
Mr. Patrick Black
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 January 22, 2025 Standing Monthly Board Meeting

Chairman Welch announced that the minutes of the Board's January 22, 2025, 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 January as presented. Mr. Mark Formby seconded the motion. The motion passed by an 8 – 0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Browning (designee for member Chaney), Wiggins (designee for member Evans), Formby, Gathings, Hardwick, Rankins, and Smith voting affirmatively.

Agenda Item 2: Calendar Year 2024 Actuarial Report Preliminary Projections

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Wm. Lynn Townsend, FSA, MAAA, the Board's Consulting Actuary, who provided preliminary projections from his actuarial analysis of the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for calendar year 2024, including historical and projected trend rates, and projected premium rate adjustments needed to meet the Plan's state funding objective. Mr. Hardwick made a motion to approve that the preliminary projected increase for FY 2026 will be 6.5% rather than 5%. The motion was seconded by Mr. Chris Burkhalter, then passed unanimously with members Burkhalter, Browning (designee for member Chaney), Wiggins (designee for member Evans), Formby, Gathings, Hardwick, Rankins, and Smith voting affirmatively.

Agenda Item 3: 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 previous two months. Copies of these 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 matter.

Agenda Item 10: 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 few months.

Agenda Item 11: Old Business

Chairman Welch again recognized Mr. Emrick, who discussed the tentative schedule of the proposal selection process for the Pharmacy Benefit Manager RFP.

Also in old business, Chairman Welch replaced Mr. Kelly Hardwick with Mr. Jimmy Gathings on the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Services subcommittee.

Agenda Item 12: New Business

There was no new business.

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, March 26, 2025.

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



Liz Welch
Chairman
State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board