

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

### **Standing Monthly Meeting September 24, 2025**

The standing monthly meeting of the State and School Employees Health Insurance Management Board convened on Wednesday, September 24, 2025, in Room 138 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  
Dr. Lance Evans (*represented by Ms. Kym Wiggins*)  
Mr. Mark Formby  
Mr. Kelly Hardwick  
Mr. Ray Higgins (*via Teams*)  
Dr. Alfred Rankins (*via Teams*)  
Mr. Kell Smith

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

The Honorable Walter Michel – Chairman,  
Senate Insurance Committee  
The Honorable Jerry Turner – Chairman,  
House Insurance Committee

#### **Voting Members Absent**

Mr. Jimmy Gathings

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

The Honorable Briggs Hopson - Chairman,  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
The Honorable John Read – Chairman,  
House Appropriations Committee

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

Mr. Bert Emrick  
Mr. Patrick Black  
Ms. Karen McKlemurry  
Ms. Cheryl Wallace  
Ms. Carlotta Edwards (*via Teams*)  
Ms. Lori Paes (*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 August 27, 2025 Standing Monthly Board Meeting**

Chairman Welch announced that the minutes of the Board's August 27, 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. Hardwick that the Board approve the minutes for July as presented. Mr. Formby seconded the motion. The motion passed by an 8–0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Wiggins (designee for member Evans), Formby, Hardwick, Higgins, Rankins, and Smith voting affirmatively.

## **Agenda Item 2: Financial and Compliance Reports**

Chairman Welch recognized Ms. Cheryl Wallace, who briefly reviewed the financial statements for the State and School Employees' Life and Health Insurance Plan for the previous month. 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 3: Vendor Reports**

Chairman Welch recognized Mr. Wm. Lynn Townsend, FSA, MAAA, who reviewed key points from the Fiscal Year 2025 Actuarial Report. A copy of the *FY25 Actuarial Report Highlights* and the *Actuarial Report Fiscal Year 2025* were provided to the Board.

## **Agenda Item 4: Executive Officer Report**

Chairman Welch stated that they have met with Blue Cross and should have more information in October. She also stated that they should be able to make recommendations on the RFP for the PBM in November.

## **Agenda Item 5: Contracting and Procurement**

Ms. Welch recognized Mr. Patrick Black, who stated that there are no active procurement requests that require approval at this time.

**Agenda Item 6: Strategic Framework Discussions**

Ms. Welch recognized Mr. Bert Emrick, who discussed the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's approval of Wegovy to reduce the risk of Noncirrhotic Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatohepatitis (MASH), in adults with moderate-to-advanced liver fibrosis and requested the Board's approval to add this medication to the list of covered drugs for this new indication. A motion was made by Mr. Hardwick that the Board approve the addition of Wegovy to the list of approved drugs. Mr. Burkhalter seconded the motion. The motion passed by an 8–0 vote, with members Burkhalter, Chaney, Wiggins (designee for member Evans), Formby, Hardwick, Higgins, Rankins, and Smith voting affirmatively.

Mr. Emrick also reviewed the schedule of major activities and actions to be taken by the Board for the next few months.

**Agenda Item 7: Old Business**

There was no old business.

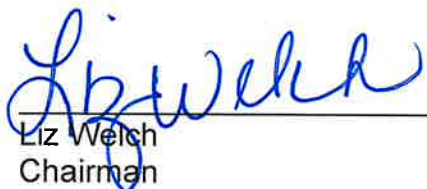
**Agenda Item 8: New Business**

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, October 22, 2025.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.



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Liz Welch  
Chairman

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