

SC PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT AUTHORITY- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Health Care Policy Committee- MINUTES as adopted 6/24/2013

202 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia SC, Main Conference Room 2nd Floor

Thursday, May, 23, 2013 – 3:30 P.M.

Health Care Committee Members Present:

Mr. Joe “Rocky” Pearce, Chairman (by telephone)
Mr. Audie Penn (by telephone)
Mrs. Stacy Kubu (by telephone)
Mr. Art Bjontegard (by telephone)

Additional Board Members Present:

Mr. Frank Fusco (in person)
Mrs. Peggy Boykin (by telephone)

Others present for all or a portion of the meeting:

David Avant, Lil Hayes, Stephen Van Camp, Travis Turner, Laura Smoak from the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA); Brooks Goodman from BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER; ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA

Chairman Pearce called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Ms. Hayes confirmed meeting notice compliance with the Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Bjontegard moved to adopt the proposed agenda. Mr. Penn seconded, with the unanimous vote to approve.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes- December 12, 2012 and April 17, 2013

Chairman Pearce asked for amendments to the December and April meeting minutes.

Minute Amendments:

- Mr. Fusco requested to strike the following sentence found on Page 3 of Board meeting minutes on April 17th 2013: “Mr. Fusco commented that he disagreed with this strategy” and insert the following statement “Mr. Fusco believes that PEBA should not be bound to have the plan nailed down by the beginning of the budget cycle, but rather have a range of numbers and data supporting improved health outcomes at that time.”

Chairman Pearce asked for a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Mr. Bjontegard moved to approve both the December 12, 2012 and April 17, 2013 as amended. Mr. Fusco seconded. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Bjontegard believes it may be in the best interest of the Board to have a more concise historical record of meeting minutes to include the following: attendance of both Board members, staff, and others present; a summary of the topics covered; and a record of all actions taken. The Board agreed.

3. ACA Coverage for Temporary Employees

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Staff member Steven Van Camp presented a power point presentation of ACA coverage for temporary employees.

NOTE: Mrs. Stacy Kubu joined this meeting by telephone at 4:00 PM.

Discussion:

Permanent vs. Non-Permanent Status Determination:

- Mr. Penn commented that there is ambiguity in the determination of a “full time” employee under the SC State Health Plan verses the employer’s power to determine “permanent” status. It is a concern that each employer would make the determination of “permanent” status which would also determine the Health Plan chosen.
- Mrs. Kubu also questioned the status of long-term substitute employees in the school district and the determination of their status in regards to a new permanent vs. non-permanent health plan.
- Mr. Penn suggested that a plan be created that specifically defines permanent vs. non-permanent employees which will eliminate the manipulation of the two populations such that all the healthy employees fall under one plan and the unhealthy under another plan.

4 Optional Plans (Refer to Power Point Presentation):

- Chairman Pearce advised that no action will be taken today. A separate meeting will be held in which an action will be required.
- Mr. Bjontegard asked when the federal government will provide clarity on the penalties. Staff advised that there appears to be continual ACA regulation changes on a daily basis.
- Chairman Pearce asked Mr. Avant exactly when a decision needs to be made on this topic. Mr. Avant advised that an action must be taken at the July 2013 PEBA Board meeting as it will be a part of the 2014 Health Plan that must be submitted to the Budget and Control Board before August 15, 2013.

4. MUSC Pilot Program Update

Staff member Travis Turner provided an informational update on the status of MUSC’s pilot program.

Discussion:

- MUSC advised that they will not be able to create and implement this new program prior to Plan Year 2014 but will continue to work on the details of the plan.
- Mr. Penn requested additional information on the projected performance of the plan. Mr. Fusco suggested that PEBA staff generate best practice metrics for a PCMH. Mr. Penn suggested the following books for reference: Transforming Health Care: Virginia Mason Medical Center’s Pursuit of Perfect Patient Experience by Charles Kenney and Zero Trends by Dee Edington.

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- Mr. Bjontegard asked how this pilot program would benefit the State Health Plan. Mr. Penn suggested this could lead to better performance guarantees. Staff advised that it has the potential to improve overall health of MUSC employees; however the State Health Plan should not have to subsidize this new pilot program.

5. S.290 (Telemedicine Bill) Update

Staff member Travis Turner provided an informational update on the status of Senate Bill 290 (Telemedicine). The Board received the update as information.

Discussion:

Equipment Concerns: Mr. Fusco, Mr. Bjontegard, and Mrs. Kubu all request that providers across the state have access to purchase equipment needed to participate in telemedicine services (not limited to MUSC area only). Mrs. Boykin would like to insure that the consulting physicians participating in this service not be limited to MUSC only.

House Proviso Language: Mr. Fusco requested PEBA staff to develop Budget proviso language based on S. 290 which will be presented to the legislative appointers of the PEBA members.

6. Pharmacy Benefit Manager RFP Update

Staff member Travis Turner provided an informational update on the status of the Pharmacy Benefits Manager Request for Proposals for the new contract beginning January 1, 2014.

There being nothing further to discuss, Chairman Pearce requested a motion to adjourn. Mr. Penn moved to adjourn and Mr. Bjontegard seconded. The committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 5:07 p.m.