

Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
November 21, 2019

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the New Hampshire Health Plan (NHHP) was held in person at the offices of Hinckley, Allen & Snyder in Manchester, New Hampshire on November 21, 2019.

The following individuals attended the meeting, including by phone as indicated because of scheduling challenges faced by Board members resulting from the exigencies of other business:

Directors:

David Ellis
Dr. William Brewster
Geraldine Vaughan
Lisa Guertin (*by phone*)
Christopher Kennedy (*by phone*)
David Sky (*by phone*)
Martha McLeod (*by phone*)

Other Attendees:

J. Michael Degnan, Helms & Co.
John Hastings, Helms & Co. (*by phone*)
Kevin Stone, Helms & Co.
Mark McCue, Esq., Hinckley Allen
Lisa Kaplan Howe, PCG
Margot Thistle, PCG
Alex Whipple, PCG (*by phone*)
Alain Couture, NH Insurance Department
Alexander Feldvebel, NH Deputy Insurance Commissioner

David Ellis, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., a quorum being present.

Mr. Ellis reviewed the meeting agenda and then asked the Directors if everyone had a chance to review the minutes of the Board meeting held on October 10, 2019. Upon a motion by William Brewster and seconded by Geraldine Vaughan, it was unanimously:

VOTED: *To approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on October 10, 2019 in the form presented to the Board.*

Mr. Ellis then asked Michael Degnan to introduce the guests for the discussion of the proposed state reinsurance program. Mr. Degnan welcomed Deputy Commissioner Alexander Feldvebel and Al Couture of the NH Insurance Department to the meeting, and introduced Lisa Kaplan Howe, Margot Thistle and Alex Whipple of Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG). Mr. Degnan reminded the Board that NHHP has engaged PCG to assist it with the design of the state reinsurance program and the Section 1332 Waiver under the Affordable Care Act necessary to implement the program. Mr. Degnan then invited Deputy Commissioner Feldvebel to update

the Board regarding the development of the reinsurance program for which the Deputy Commissioner has directed NHHP to prepare a proposed plan of operation.

Deputy Commissioner Feldvebel referred the Board to the presentation slides contained in the meeting materials. He began by describing the process for approving the plan. Once the program design is complete, it will require public hearings and approval by the legislative joint health care reform oversight committee. Simultaneously, the Insurance Department, PCG and NHHP will begin drafting the 1332 Waiver application and conferring with The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS). The 1332 Waiver application is expected to be filed in March 2020 and will require a 30-day public comment period after CMS deems the application to be complete. CMS likely will impose terms and conditions on the operation of the reinsurance program.

Deputy Commissioner Feldvebel then discussed the design of the reinsurance program. He informed the Board that it would mimic the structure of the federal reinsurance program, and then directed the Board to the presentation slide containing preliminary design details. The Deputy Commissioner explained that certain policy decisions remained to be made, including the ability to adjust the program parameters annually, the timing of assessments and claims reimbursements, and the manner in which over-funding or under-funding of the program will be addressed. He concluded his presentation by noting that CMS suggested a care management component of the program, but that the Department believes it to be an unnecessary complication.

The Board then sought clarifications from the Deputy Commissioner and PCG. Lisa Kaplan Howe noted that the public comment period likely will be held during the third week of January, and that PCG anticipates a response from CMS on the 1332 Waiver application by the end of May 2020. Dr. Brewster recommended that the design team review the terms and conditions that CMS has imposed to-date on similar programs in other states. In response to an inquiry from Ms. Vaughan, Ms. Kaplan Howe clarified that while CMS will use the program savings projections in the application to determine the amount of federal support to which it will commit, but the amount of federal support (i.e. distribution of shared savings) paid by the federal government will be a percentage based on the actual savings achieved by the program. A discussion then followed regarding additional mechanics of the program. Mr. Degnan and PCG informed the Board that another meeting would be held on December 12th to update the Board on the further refinement of the program design and 1332 Waiver application.

The Insurance Department and PCG representatives then departed the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

Mr. Ellis asked John Hastings of Helms & Company to provide the financial review. Mr. Hastings reviewed with the Board the balance sheet for the period ended September 30, 2019. He noted that the third quarter assessments were due by November 15th, and that most had been paid. He also informed the Board that the assessment amount dropped by approximately \$40,000 this quarter due to a reduction in covered lives. Mr. Hastings concluded his report by noting that NHHP will close the year with approximately \$1 Million in cash, and that the reinsurance program development costs remained within the \$250,000 allocation approved by the Board.

Mr. Ellis then called for an executive session, and the Helms representatives left the meeting. Attorney McCue and Mr. Ellis described the proposed amendment to the Helms contract to cover the expenses of designing the reinsurance program and preparing the 1332 Waiver Application. After discussion and upon a motion by Dr. Brewster and seconded by Martha McLeod, it was unanimously:

VOTED: *To approve the Fourth Amendment to the Administrative Support Services Agreement between NHHP and Helms & Company, in the form presented to the Board.*

No Directors had any other issues to be discussed in executive session.

The Board had no further business, and the meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Michael Degnan,
Secretary *Pro Tem*