

MINUTES
Eastern Connecticut Health and Medical Cooperative
Board Meeting – January 27, 2022
2:30 PM-Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Mike Belden, Julie Pendleton, Kate Ericson, Holly McCalla, Deb Martin, Jan Perruccio, Peter Nero, Ian Neviasser

Others present: Joanne Lund, Thomas Kowalchik, Lynn Iannuzzi

Meeting called to order at 2:38 PM

Standing Agenda Items: Discussion and Possible Action

1. Approve minutes of December 16, 2021:

Motion to approve December 16, 2021 meeting minutes, Julie Pendleton, seconded by Mike Belden

Approved: 8-0

2. Financial Status Report

- a. December net position decreased \$600k; revenues are stable but claims have increased from prior months.
- b. Approximately \$75k received in claim refunds not reflected in Dec net position; working with Anthem to identify the members.
- c. Claims up \$1.4m / 25% YOY; compared to FY 19-20 (pre-COVID), claims are down \$465k / 6%.

3. Marketing – new members:

- a. CASBO—Holly shared cost for advertising for digital newsletter. Newsletter goes out to CASBO members every other month. Holly will investigate cost of a vendor table at the CASBO vendor fair.
- b. CAPSS—Annual conference with CABA every year. For free we can place an announcement in the LEADERS weekly message. Booth at CASBO vendor fair will be cost \$650

Motion to spend \$1325 for a half page advertisement in the CASBO newsletter. Ian Neviasser seconded by Julie Pendleton Approved 8-0

Motion to submit an advertisement in the CAPSS weekly newsletter Julie Pendleton, Ian Neviasser Approved 8-0

- c. Tom Kowalchik has offered to share ECHMC at their USI booth for the USI CASBO vendor fair. Tom Kowalchik will have USI marketing team support ECHMC marketing materials.
- d. Kate spoke with a regional Board chair, and she asked what ECHMC fund balance liability to individual members. Holly will reach out to Marc Sammuraga, local lawyer.

4. Update from Vendors/Anthem Update

- a. Waiting for dollar amount for performance guarantee. Still waiting for Anthem report for breakout on wellness funds. Lynn will resend Anthems eligible wellness expenses.
- b. Tom Kowalchik current month was not great, highest month of claims in the last year and a half. Jumped from 10-22 over \$50,000. 25% is large claimants. Norm is around 30%. Expect another 3-5 more claims hit \$150,000

- c. Renewal annual budget is projecting just under \$12,000 000 and our current budget is \$14,000,000 which is a 14% difference. We will need to continue to monitor until spring.
- d. Mike Belden provided feedback to USI, we are not happy with Anthem representative service. Lack of responsiveness. Tom and Lynn have spoken to upper management. Challenges are coming from the internal processes of Anthem.
- e. Account management report to Anthem was not up to standard.

Old Business:

- 1. Discussion of annual renewal rates
 - a. Holding pattern on the decision.

New Business

- a. RFP Fiscal Agency of ECHMC
 - i. Tabled due to the challenges with Anthem reporting.
- b. ECHMC policy for reserve funds
 - i. Ian, Mike, and Julie drafted a policy that addresses what we do with surplus and shortfalls. The policy also outlines how ECHMC will calculate the acceptable range for the surplus

Motion to approve the policy for reserve funds. Ian Neviasser, seconded by Mike Belden Approved 7-0

- c. Discussion and possible action on waiving intent to join December 15th deadline
 - i. Met with Region 13 regarding their desire to adopt a new plan. Question to the group about if ECHMC board can be move intent to join to March 1.

Motion to modify ECHMC by-laws to the deadline for notifying ECHMC of intent to join to March 1 of the year. Ian Neviasser, seconded by Mike Belden Approved 7-0

- ii. Ian will connect with Region 13 to let them know about the changes to the ECMHC

- d. Meeting schedule for next year—new dates and times have been proposed.

Motion to approve the 2022-2023 ECHMC meeting dates as amended Ian Neviasser, seconded by Julie Pendleton 7-0

- e. Agenda setting and format for February 24, 2022 meeting
 - i. Shift standing agenda title from Marketing—new members to marketing/new members/budgets

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 PM

Next Meeting – February 24, 2022 at 2:30 PM. Zoom information will be provided in a calendar invite.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kate Ericson

