

**MINUTES**  
**Eastern Connecticut Health and Medical Cooperative**  
**Board Meeting – October 28, 2021**  
**2:30 PM-Zoom Meeting**

**Members Present:** Mike Belden, Julie Pendleton, Ian Neviaser, Kate Ericson, Holly McCalla

**Others present:** Joanne Lund, Thomas Kowalchik and Patrick Blair

*Meeting called to order at 2:33 PM*

**Standing Agenda Items:** Discussion and Possible Action

**1. Approve minutes of September 23, 2021:**

*Motion to approve September minutes with the change of the sentence from the notes for the approval of minutes to read August instead of June. Ian Neviaser, seconded by Michael Belden.*

*Approved: 4-0-1*

**2. Financial Status Report**

- a. September net position of \$9.3m has increased by ~\$340k due to lower claims and catch up of member payments.
- b. June 2021 unallocated net position updated ~\$17k due to audit adjustments.
- c. September claims increased \$368k / 13.6% year over year.
- d. The annual projected claims for FY 21-22 has been updated from \$15.9m to \$13.2m; amounts will be reflected in the October dashboard.

**3. Marketing – new members:**

- a. Julie Pendleton mentioned that the Old Saybrook selectperson indicated an interest in the town joining ECHMC.
- b. No other districts reached out last month expressing an interest.

**4. Update from Vendors/Anthem Update**

- a. Tom Kowalchik will be looking at reserve and proposing some options for how the collaborative handles the reserve over time. Group discussion took place about potential pros/cons of “pay holiday” for individuals or districts.
- b. Anthem’s new representative, Patrick Blair introduced himself to the committee and extended an invitation to provide him with feedback (positive and negative). Members shared frustrations with non-responses from Anthem, lack of follow-up, and a need to him to assist our finance department with Anthem’s reporting. The general feeling is that Anthem’s admin is weak and the group is hopeful that Patrick will work to change our experiences and perceptions.

**Old Business:**

1. Wellness Program:

- a. Joanne Lund will be sending each district their wellness funding amounts based on membership. Tom Kowalchik mentioned that USI does have a Wellness representative if it is needed. Patrick also noted that Serena is still our Anthem representative for Wellness.

2. Performance guarantees

- a. USI has been monitoring Anthem’s performance guarantees. There were 3 items in dispute. One item, average member response time, has not been met, one

item (insurance cards) is still under dispute, and the final item is based on a customer survey that will be sent to Julie Pendleton. The survey will be filled out by multiple district representatives.

- b. A decision about the Anthem performance guarantees payout will need to be made by the group. The question will be what does the group do with these funds?

## **New Business**

### **1. Agenda Setting for November 18, 2021**

- a. All standing agenda items and any additions will be communicated by Holly McCalla
- b. ECHMC policy for reserve funds
- c. Performance guarantee funds

*Meeting adjourned at 3:31 PM*

Next Meeting –November 18, 2021 at 2:30 PM. Zoom information will be provided in a calendar invite.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kate Ericson

