Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund Commission

**Open Minutes**

**May 6, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by J. Prontnicki at 9:30 a.m.

J. Prontnicki announced that in compliance with the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, the specifics as to time and place of this meeting were sent to the Office of the Secretary of State and the Department of Personnel for filing and posted on the official bulletin boards provided by those offices for notice of public meetings. Also, notices were prepared for two newspapers to inform the public of this meeting.

Due to the state of emergency declared by Executive Order 103 (March 9, 2020) associated with the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with P.L.2020, c.11. (allowing public bodies to conduct meetings, and provide notice, by electronic means during periods of emergency), this meeting was conducted through a combination of teleconference (for the open session) and video/teleconference (for the closed session). The open session teleconference phone number and access code were referenced in the prepared notices and published on the public website of the State Office of the Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund.

J. Prontnicki conducted a roll call of members as follows:

**Present:**

Janice Prontnicki, Chairperson

Ellen DeRosa, Vice-Chairperson

Dawn Mergen

Phyllis Shanley Hansell

Carl Underland (left at 11:57)

Anthony Valenzuela

Ralph Condo

Howard Weinberg

**Excused:**

Steve Shultz

Jeffery Carrick

**Guest:**

Jeanette Barnard, DAG

**Staff:**

Christian Heiss, Executive Director

Amy Taklif, Analyst

**Agenda Approval:**

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve the proposed meeting agenda for today’s meeting. P. Shanley Hansell seconded the motion. All Commission members voted in favor.

**Approval of Closed Minutes of February 5, 2020 Meeting:**

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve the closed minutes of February 5, 2020 which was seconded by P. Shanley Hansell. All Commission members voted in favor of approving the closed minutes.

**Approval of Open Minutes of February 5, 2020 Meeting:**

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve the open minutes of February 5, 2020 which was seconded by P. Shanley Hansell. All Commission members voted in favor of approving the open minutes.

**Closed Session:**

P. Shanley Hansell made a motion to go into closed session to review and discuss applications, which was seconded by E. DeRosa. All Commission members voted in favor.

**Review of Applications:**

**Eligibles:**

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve applications ID#220092019, ID#220102019, ID#220112019, ID#220122019, ID#220132019, ID#220142019, and ID#220182019 as presented. The motion was seconded by R. Condo. A roll-call vote was held:

- J. Prontnicki – No

- E. DeRosa – Yes

- R. Condo – Yes

- H. Weinberg – Yes

- P. Shanley Hansell – No

- C. Underland – Yes

- D. Mergen – No

- A. Valenzuela – No

The motion did not pass.

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve ID#221242019 with removal of expenses related to ambulatory services received from providers that did not participate in the child’s insurance network. D. Mergen seconded the motion; all remaining Commission members voted in favor.

E. DeRosa made a motion to conditionally approve ID#221272019 with more information requested on whether and how the family chose a hospital and non-participating provider. C. Underland seconded the motion; all remaining Commission members voted in favor.

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve all remaining eligible applications not voted on above with the exception of ID#221152019. The motion was seconded by P. Shanley Hansell. All Commission members voted in favor.

**Ineligibles:**

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve all ineligible recommendations, as presented, which was seconded by P. Shanley Hansell. All Commission members voted in favor.

**Reconsiderations:**

R. Condo made a motion to conditionally approve ID#222202020 with verification that home modifications did not exceed the $25,000 annual cap on such expenses. E. DeRosa seconded the motion. All Commission members voted in favor.

E. DeRosa made a motion to approve all remaining reconsideration recommendations as presented. P. Shanley Hansell seconded the motion. All Commission members voted in favor.

**Closed Session:**

R. Condo made a motion to go into closed session to further discuss applications ID#220092019, ID#220102019, ID#220112019, ID#220122019, ID#220132019, ID#220142019, and ID#220182019, which was seconded by E. DeRosa. All Commission members voted in favor.

**Eligibles (continued):**

R. Condo made a motion to approve applications ID#220092019, ID#220102019, ID#220112019, ID#220122019, ID#220132019, ID#220142019, and ID#220182019 with removal of expenses related to Occupational Therapy in excess of 52 visits per year. The motion was seconded by P. Shanley Hansell. A roll-call vote was held:

- J. Prontnicki – Yes

- E. DeRosa – No

- R. Condo – Yes

- H. Weinberg – Yes

- P. Shanley Hansell – Yes

- D. Mergen – Yes

- A. Valenzuela – Yes

The motion passed.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn meeting made by H. Weinberg and seconded by E. DeRosa. All Commission members voted in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm.