

State Health Benefits Program
Plan Design Committee
Open Session Minutes: March 23, 2022 1:00 p.m.

Adequate notice of this meeting was provided through the annual notice of the schedule of regular meetings of the Committee filed with and prominently posted in the offices of the Secretary of State. A meeting notice was mailed to the Secretary of State on December 10, 2021, and the Star Ledger and the Trenton Times on December 15, 2021. Updates regarding the Telephonic meeting was sent to the Secretary of State and posted to the Division's website on February 17, 2022.

The meeting of the State Health Benefits Program Plan Design Committee of New Jersey was called to order on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. Due to COVID-19 this meeting was held telephonically.

The text of Resolution B (Executive Session) – was read in its entirety in the event that the Committee desires, at any point in the meeting, to approve a motion to go into closed session.

Acting Secretary Nicole Ludwig led the Committee in the Pledge of Allegiance. Acting Secretary Ludwig then took Roll Call and established that a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Committee Members:

Jennifer Keyes-Maloney, Assistant Treasurer (Co-Chair)

Michael Zanyor, NJSTFA

Lynn Azarchi, Director, Office of Management and Budget

Kevin Lyons, NJ State PBA

Justin Zimmerman, Chief of Staff, Department of Banking and Insurance

Tennille McCoy, Assistant Commissioner of Human Capital Strategies, Department of Labor and Workforce Development

Kimberly Holmes Assistant Commissioner /Chief of Staff, Department of Community Affairs

Patrick Nowlan, AAUP – AFT (Co-Chair)

Andrea Spalla

Jenelle Blackman

Robert Little, AFSCME Department of Research

Absent

David Krueger

Other Staff

Alison Keating, Deputy Attorney General

Nicole Ludwig, Division of Pensions and Benefits

John Megariotis, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Joyce Malerba, Division of Pensions and Benefits

Debra Pelto, Division of Pensions and Benefits

DIVISION UPDATE

OptumRX had previously advised that they will be covering the cost of the over-the-counter (OTC) at-home COVID-19 test kits for active and non-medicare eligible members of the SHBP and SEHBP, up to 8 tests per person per calendar month, to comply with the federal administrative directive. These tests are FDA approved or EUA cleared, including tests obtained without a health care provider's order, prescription or authorization. Members are encouraged to use OptumRX in-network pharmacies to avoid reimbursement delays or added costs when using out-of-network vendors. Optum has announced that the in-network pharmacies have expanded, and members can also purchase the at-home tests through the Optum store.

As of March 21, 2022, the total spend across both SHBP and SEHBP has been \$367,001.11, for a total of 34,900 tests. The SHBP total spend is \$296,394.80 which is for a total of 28,224 total tests covered. Local Government Actives had a total spend of \$45,227.01, for 4,320 covered tests. State Actives had a total spend of \$205,980.29, for 19,569 tests. Local Government Early Retirees had a total spend of \$19,075.31 for a total of 1,822 tests. State Early Retirees had a total spend of \$26,202.20 for a total of 2,513 tests covered.

The Division, through the Division of Purchase and Property and with the guidance of Truveris has extended the OptumRX contract for two years. The current contract with OptumRX was set to expire at the end of this Plan Year 2022. The extension now extends this contract through 2024.

Committee Member Lyons inquired about the CCAU complaint that is pending and if there would be a price transparency tool in the new contract for medical. Joyce Malerba advised that there would be language for transparency. John Megariotis advised that the CCAU complaint was not resolved, but was still being pursued.

Committee Member Zaynor had a request for data regarding claims for in and out-of-network from 2016 to present. He gave specific requests for how he was requesting the data be broken down. Nikki Ludwig advised she would request the information.

DISCUSSION OF THE FIRST RESPONDERS PRIMARY CARE MEDICAL HOME PILOT

The discussion was regarding the First Responders Primary Care Medical Home Pilot, primarily the prescription benefits. The idea was to craft a resolution that clarifies to the utmost what the intent

of the pilot is, and request the existing framework that we have as it relates to prescription benefits.

The resolution that was crafted from the Division was a direct result of the work order that was received from Optum requesting a zero copay for all SHBP members. The original resolution that put the First Responders plan in place did not include anything that depicted a zero cost share for the prescription in that original resolution back in April of 2019, only that medications will be provided through onsite pharmacy. The Division conducted a cost analysis with the help of Aon and Optum-

Committee Member Nowlan made a motion to set up a joint subgroup to compile questions and recommendations for the resolution, which will be passed to the Division of Pensions and Benefits to research and report back with. Committee Member Nowlan seconded. Committee Members Spalla, Keyes-Maloney, McCoy, Holmes, Azarchi voted no. Committee Member Lyons, Zaynor, Nowlan, Zimmerman and Blackman voted yes. Committee Member Little did not respond. The vote was a stalemate and did not pass.

Committee Member Keyes-Maloney made a motion to have a collaborative discussion, even via email, to develop qualifying questions to send to the Division by March 30th, with a response expected from the Division by April 20th. All members in attendance voted in favor, with the exception of Committee Member Little, who did not respond. The motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further action to discuss, Committee Member Holmes made a motion to adjourn. Committee Member McCoy seconded the motion; all voted in favor. The meeting concluded at 2:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nicole Ludwig
Acting Secretary SHBP PDC