



**Pennsylvania Health Insurance Exchange Authority d/b/a Pennie®
BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Date: May 16, 2024
Time: 12:00 PM – 3:30 PM
Location: Microsoft Teams meeting

Preliminary Matters

- **Call to Order**
- **Roll Call**
 - Commissioner Michael Humphreys, Pennsylvania Insurance Department (Chair) - **Present**
 - Sheryl Kashuba, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Health Plan (Vice Chair) - **Present**
 - Acting Secretary Dr. Debra Bogen, Department of Health
 - **Megan Barbour as designee - Present**
 - Frank Fernandez, Capital Blue Cross - **Present**
 - Antoinette Kraus, Pennsylvania Health Access Network - **Present**
 - Amy Lowenstein, PA Health Law Project - **Present**
 - Alexis Miller, Highmark - **Present**
 - Dr. Tracey Conti, UPMC - **Absent**
 - Secretary Valerie Arkoosh, Department of Human Services
 - **Carl Feldman as designee - Present**
 - Koleen Cavanaugh, IBX - **Present**
 - Tia Whitaker, Pennsylvania Association of Community Health Centers - **Present**
- **Minutes**
 - The Board will review and approve minutes for the February Board Meeting.
 - **Motion:** To adopt the minutes of the **February 22, 2024**, meeting of the PHIEA Board of Directors.
 - Motion: Antoinette Kraus
 - Second: Amy Lowenstein
 - Board Decision: Unanimous
 - Note: Dr. Tracey Conti was absent. Her vote was given by proxy to Sheryl Kashuba.
- **Opportunity for Public Comment**
 - The floor was opened for public comments, of which there were none.
- **Brief Introduction** – Executive Director Trolley provided a summary of the agenda topics and a quick overview of where Pennie is currently.



- **Affordability Program Proposal –**
 - Executive Director Trolley presented the benefits that Pennie’s customers would experience with a subsidy program and Pennie’s model recommendation. Discussion regarding this topic took place but no vote was taken.

- **Income Verification Proposal (Voting Matter)**
 - Director of Operations, Rob Schobert, informed the Board about the financial change CMS announced for income verification via Equifax.

 - **Motions (2 separate):**
 - 1) To continue using Equifax as an income verification data source through June 2025.
 - Motion: Koleen Cavanaugh
 - Second: Tia Whitaker
 - Board Decision: Yes. Unanimous
 - Note: Dr. Tracey Conti was absent. Her vote was given by proxy to Sheryl Kashuba.
 - 2) To increase the budget for CY2024 by up to \$750,000 to pay for the use of Equifax through CMS to verify income data until the end of the year.
 - Motion: Sheryl Kashuba
 - Second: Antoinette Kraus
 - Board Decision: Yes. Unanimous
 - Note: Dr. Tracey Conti was absent. Her vote was given by proxy to Sheryl Kashuba.

- **Plan Simplification Proposal (Discussion)**
 - Policy Director, David Thomsen led the discussion for the plan simplification proposal and provided next steps for a vote in the August meeting after details of the two topics are worked through:
 - 1) Concerns around legal entity.
 - 2) Defining the additional plan criteria.

- **CMS Final Rules (Informational)**
 - 2025 NBPP Final Rule – Executive Director Trolley updated the Board on this topic for awareness, in conjunction with the deck slide.
 - DACA Final Rule – Executive Director Trolley updated the Board on this topic for awareness, in conjunction with the deck slide.

- **Assister Services Request for Proposal (Informational) –** Executive Director Trolley provided a general summary of Pennie’s Assister RFP. External Affairs Director, Chachi Angelo reviewed the highlights of the RFP as noted in the deck slide. Additional updates will be shared with the Board as they become available.



- **Executive Director Performance Evaluation (Informational)** – Chief Legal Counsel Ana Paulina Gomez and HR Manager Alanna Menser explained the three (3) options the Board has for the Executive Director Evaluation and what they would include.
- **Executive Session**
 - **Cognosante Renewal Proposal**
 - Tia Whitaker recused herself from this discussion.
 - **Executive Director Performance Evaluation Options**
 - Tia Whitaker rejoined the executive session for this discussion.
- **Return to Public Session and Vote on Motion**
 - **Motion**: To authorize the Pennie Executive Director to execute and take the appropriate action to fund the full 2024-2025 assister contract renewal which includes the base contract and the expanded assister network activities.
 - Motion: Frank Fernandez
 - Second: Koleen Cavanaugh
 - Board Decision: Yes. Unanimous
 - Note: Tia Whitaker abstained. Dr. Tracey Conti was absent. Her vote was given by proxy to Sheryl Kashuba.
- **Adjourn - Meeting was adjourned at 3:44 PM**