



Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Date: September 16, 2026
Time: 4:45 PM
Location: Via Zoom or Conference Call Only

Members Present: Diane Lewis, Leighton Ku, Tamara Watkins, LaQuandra Nesbitt, John Auerbach, Gabriela Mossi, and Rachel Pierre.

Members Absent: Wayne Turnage, Karima Woods, and Ayanna Bennett.

Welcome, Opening Remarks and Roll Call

Diane Lewis, Chair

Ms. Lewis convened the meeting on September 16, 2026, at 4:45 PM. The Executive Board met only virtually.

Ms. Lewis thanked Khalid Pitts for his years of service to HBX and contributions to the agency's many successes over the years.

Ms. Lewis noted that the election for Chair and a new Secretary/Treasurer will be held at the September 22, 2026 meeting of the Executive Board.

A roll call confirmed a quorum with 6 voting members present (Ms. Lewis, Dr. Ku, Mr. Auerbach, Ms. Watkins, Gabriella Mossi, and Dr. Nesbitt).

Approval of Agenda

Diane Lewis, Chair

Dr. Ku moved to approve the agenda and Mr. Auerbach seconded. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Move to Closed Session

Diane Lewis, Chair

Ms. Ku moved pursuant to D.C. Official Code Sections 2-575(b)(4) and 31-3171.11 to convene in closed session to obtain legal advice. The motion was seconded by Mr. Auerbach and was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Resumption of Public Meeting

Diane Lewis, Chair

The public session was reconvened at 5:11 PM.

Discussion Items

Deputy Executive Director Purvee Kempf presented a summary of draft legislation to make technical and clarifying amendments to the HBX Enabling Act.

Ms. Kempf summarized the resolution:

- Clarifying HBX's independent personnel authority in a manner similar to what was done previously on our procurement authority.
- Clarifying Executive Board Membership to include one board member with expertise in information technology, including AI, cybersecurity, and system architecture.
- Harmonizing the conflict-of-interest provisions with the Comprehensive Code of Conduct of the District of Columbia; she noted that the HBX Enabling Act was originally passed in 2012 but the Comprehensive Code of Conduct was passed in 2015, so this update is a conforming one.
- Making other clarifying and technical amendments
 - This includes broadening HBX authority to implement anything otherwise authorized by the ACA or applicable District law. For example, last year we needed a quick amendment to allow us to implement the Basic Health Program (BHP), but this broad amendment would have captured something like that because the BHP is authorized by the ACA.

Public Comment

Ms. Lewis opened the floor for public comments. There were no public comments.

Vote

Ms. Lewis proposed approval of the resolution on technical and clarifying amendments to HBX's Enabling legislation, as drafted and publicly posted. The resolution passed unanimously by voice vote.

Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Ms. Lewis adjourned the meeting at 5:15 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2026, at 3 PM. Any change to that meeting date or time will be announced on the DC HBX website (hbx.dc.gov).