



## Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board Meeting

### Final Minutes for Thursday, July 31, 2014

**Date:** Thursday, July 31, 2014  
**Time:** 4:00 PM  
**Location:** By Conference Call Only  
**Call-in Number:** 1-877-668-4493; Access Code: 731 898 004

**Members present:** Dr. Henry Aaron, Kate Sullivan Hare, Dr. Leighton Ku, Diane Lewis, Kevin Lucia, Khalid Pitts, Chester McPherson

**Members absent:** Dr. Joxel Garcia, Deborah Carroll, Wayne Turnage

#### **I. Welcome and Roll Call, *Diane Lewis, Chair***

There was a roll call of members present to confirm that there was a quorum. A quorum was met with five voting members present (Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis and Mr. Lucia).

#### **II. Approval of Draft Agenda**

Ms. Lewis asked if there were any changes to the draft agenda. Dr. Aaron stated he would like to discuss Board training. Ms. Kofman requested that an item regarding Connecture software technology contract be added as a vote after the pending executive session. Dr. Ku stated he wanted to discuss the interaction between the Standard Plans Advisory Working Group and dental issues. It was moved and seconded that those three items be added to the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Voting in favor were Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, and Mr. Lucia. It was then moved and seconded that the amended agenda be approved. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote. Voting in favor were Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Pitts and Mr. Lucia.

#### **III. Approval of minutes, *Diane Lewis, Chair***

The minutes from the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting were unanimously approved by roll call vote. Voting in favor were Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Pitts and Mr. Lucia.

#### **IV. Executive Board Research & Data Analysis Committee Report, *Dr. Leighton Ku, Chair***

Dr. Ku reported that last week, a survey had been sent to 8,600 enrollees for whom HBX had email addresses; 900 responses had been received so far. The point of the survey is to get an understanding of consumer satisfaction, whether the enrollee had been previously uninsured, and what specific services the enrollee is using. Dr. Ku hopes to have a report for the Board at its September meeting.

## V. Discussion Items

- **Nomination for Standing Advisory Board Vacancies**

Ms. Lewis reported that the Board Business Operations Working Committee reviewed nominations for the Standing Advisory Board vacancies. She reported that the Standing Advisory Board was established in November 2012 pursuant to our enabling legislation's requirement that we have such a board to solicit recommendations and consult with regarding policy and operational issues at the Executive Board's Discretion. It is a nine-member board with the requirement that all members be residents of the District and have expertise in at least one of the following categories:

- (1) Health professionals;
- (2) Health insurance consumers;
- (3) Disease and demographic-specific advocacy groups;
- (4) Commercial sector health plans;
- (5) Public sector health plans;
- (6) Health insurance brokers;
- (7) Health care consumer interest advocacy;
- (8) Health care foundations;
- (9) Exchange consumers; or
- (10) Such other interests considered necessary.

Appointments were originally made through advertising the openings on our website and circulating on various listservs, etc. And, the Board Operations Committee reviewed the applications and made the initial recommendations, with the Executive Board then voting to approve those recommendations.

When the Board first appointed members, we were very careful to cover as many of the above categories as possible.

Ms. Lewis reported that recently two members resigned from the Standing Advisory Board due to personal reasons. They were Karen Johnson who was affiliated with United Health Plan and Barry Lewis, MD who is a physician. The Committee followed the same process used initially to fill these slots. We posted the vacancies on our website and widely circulated the notice among advisory committees, outside groups, etc.

The Committee received six applicants, one of whom was disqualified for not being a resident of the District. All the applicants were impressive and we thank them all for their interest in serving and note that additional opportunities will be available to serve in many capacities.

The Board Operations Committee (made up of myself, Leighton Ku and Khalid Pitts) reviewed the candidates. The Committee met on July 24<sup>th</sup> and unanimously selected Laurie Kuiper and Dr. Luis Padilla to fulfill the terms of the resigned members. Both terms expire in November 2014.

**Laurie Kuiper:** She is well known to many of us as she has been an active participant in the development of the Exchange, serving on many working groups and attending many meetings. Laurie is the Senior Director of Government Relations at Kaiser Health plan. She has a long professional background in health policy and she also has a Master's Degree in Applied Economics with a concentration in health care economics and public policy analysis.

**Dr. Luis Padilla:** Dr. Padilla is a physician and currently services as the senior health policy advisor at Unity Health Care. Like Laurie, Dr. Padilla is someone who has been involved in the development of DC Health Link

having participated in a number of advisory working groups as well. He has a strong background in public health and serving communities of need.

Ms. Lewis reported that a resolution nominating both of these individuals to the Standing Advisory Board would be before the Executive Board. She stated the Board will be voting later on that resolution and she encouraged all of her colleagues to vote in support of them.

Dr. Aaron asked that all Board Members be provided with resumes or applications of candidates for Standing Advisory Board membership from the Executive Board Business Operations Committee prior to being asked to vote on those candidates. Further, if the vote is close within the Committee, then resumes or applications for all candidates should be distributed. The Board agreed.

Dr. Ku noted that the terms expired in November 2014 and he asked whether they could be appointed for a longer term. Debbie Curtis replied no; they are filling vacancies and are serving the remainder of those terms. Ms. Lewis noted that they could be nominated again when the term expires.

- **Grant Modifications for the DC Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce – Mila Kofman, Executive Director**

Ms. Kofman reported that both chambers will be entering year two of the grants. Both Chambers have been strong partners in year one and staff wants to maintain the relationships for year two. The grant amounts are lower for year two; for the DC Chamber, the grant amount would be \$185,000 and the Hispanic Chamber, \$170,000. Dr. Aaron noted that both grant modifications had been approved by the Finance Committee.

Ms. Sullivan Hare stated that she had spoken with HBX staff about the DC Chamber grant. She had reviewed the grantee reports and she was satisfied with the grant modification. After further discussion, HBX staff agreed to circulate the grantee reports to the entire Board and consider having them posted (redacted as appropriate) to the HBX website.

In response to a question as to why the grant amounts were lower for year two, Ms. Kofman stated that marketing and outreach will be far less in year two than it was in year one. She also noted the need to be strategic with HBX dollars. The DC Chamber helps with the SHOP side for uninsured members, and the Hispanic chamber has been effective in outreach on both the SHOP and individual sides of the exchange.

- **Board Training**

Dr. Aaron noted that Board training had been on the table for some time. He said that the Board needed training on open government, ethics, conflicts of interest and other topics. He asked that the training be scheduled in early September. He was certain space could be procured at either the Brookings Institute or the George Washington University. The Board directed Ms. Kofman and HBX staff to work on logistics and additional training topics.

- **Standard Plans Advisory Working Group**

Dr. Ku raised the issue of addressing stand-alone dental plans within the new Standard Plans Advisory Working Group. He noted that the group would deal with the deductible in embedded QHPs issue, but was concerned whether HBX had the staff and resources to deal with the stand-alone pediatric dental plan (SADP) issue. He also questioned whether DC Health Link would be able to have stand-alone dental (SAD) on SHOP in time for 2015 open enrollment.

Ms. Kofman stated that there were a number of items on the high priority IT list in addition to SHOP SAD, including getting ready for renewals, correct plan displays, provider directories, Medicaid renewals (200,000+), and automating special enrollments. As we get closer to open enrollment, it depends on testing of the upgrades. We may or may not get everything on our wish list for 2015 open enrollment.

The Board had further discussion on staffing issues. Ms. Sullivan Hare requested a copy of the HBX organizational chart. Dr. Aaron noted that SADP becomes an issue if one of the standard plans is a plan without pediatric dental benefits embedded.

The Board decided that Dr. Ku, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Ms. Kofman and Ms. Senkewicz have a side conversation on the SADP issue. It was determined to have that conversation on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **VI. Votes**

It was moved and seconded to approve the recommendations for appointment to the Standing Advisory Board. The motion passed unanimously with the following Board members voting yes: Dr. Aaron, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Pitts, and Ms. Sullivan Hare.

It was moved and seconded to approve the DC Chamber grant modifications. The motion passed unanimously with the following Board members voting yes: Dr. Aaron, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Pitts, and Ms. Sullivan Hare.

It was moved and seconded to approve the Hispanic Chamber grant modifications. The motion passed unanimously with the following Board members voting yes: Dr. Aaron, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, Mr. Pitts, and Ms. Sullivan Hare.

## **VII. Closing Remarks and Move to Executive Session (procurement)**

A motion was made to move into closed executive session pursuant to DC Code Sections 2-575(b)(2) and 31-3171.11 to discuss contracting issues. Upon a unanimous roll call vote of the members present, the meeting went into closed executive session. Voting in favor were Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, and Mr. Lucia.

## **VIII. Reconvene in Public Session**

Ms. Kofman reported that a Connecture software technical contract was presented for approval at a total cost of \$251,200. The contract includes adding functionality to add bulk uploads for employers, out-of-area plan notification pop-ups (to prevent someone from signing up for the wrong geographic area plan), and a Congressional payment upgrade. It was moved and seconded to approve the Connecture contract. The motion passed unanimously with the following Board members voting yes: Dr. Aaron, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis, and Ms. Sullivan Hare.

Time: 5:49 p.m.