



**DC Health Benefit  
Exchange Authority**

**Health Benefit Exchange Authority Executive Board Meeting**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**Date:** Wednesday, January 11, 2017  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** 1225 Eye Street NW, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Board Conference Room  
**Call- in Number:** 1-650-479-3208; access code: 732 909 145

If slides are used, they can be viewed on your computer here:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=m23bd82033add30779aed85653b29a2a8>

**Members Present:** Henry Aaron (via telephone), Kate Sullivan Hare (via telephone), Nancy Hicks, Leighton Ku, Diane Lewis, LaQuandra Nesbit, Khalid Pitts (via telephone)

**Members Absent:** Stephen Taylor, Wayne Turnage, Tamara Watkins, Laura Zeilinger

**I. Welcome, Opening Remarks and Roll Call, Diane Lewis, Chair**

Chair Diane Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm. A roll call of members confirmed that there was a quorum with four voting members present (Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, and Ms. Lewis).

**II. Approval of Agenda, Diane Lewis, Chair**

It was moved and seconded to approve the agenda. The motion passed unanimously, with Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, and Ms. Lewis voting yes.

**III. Approval of Minutes, Diane Lewis, Chair**

Mr. Pitts entered the call. It was moved and seconded to approve the December 14, 2016 minutes. The motion passed unanimously, with Dr. Aaron, Ms. Sullivan Hare, Dr. Ku, Ms. Lewis and Mr. Pitts voting yes.

**IV. Executive Director Report, Mila Kofman, Executive Director (delayed in hopes of Ms. Kofman's return from another meeting – see below)**

**V. Finance Committee Report, Henry Aaron, Finance Committee Chair**

Dr. Aaron reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, January 5<sup>th</sup> this month. Ms. Lewis, Ms. Watkins and he were all on the call with HBX staff.

**AUDIT UPDATE:** Each year each District agency participates in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) audit. The Committee was briefed by the auditor at our meeting. The audit covered our financial processes as well as IT. We were informed that HBX received a clean audit with no findings. This is a real feat and congratulations are due to our Financial Team (OCFO) and our HBX IT Team for a job well done on this front. The audit will be posted on the HBX website as soon as it is publicly available through the city.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW:** We reviewed FY 17 expenditures to date and noted nothing out of the ordinary.

**VI. Discussion Item**

Presentation on a new GW Milken Institute School of Public Health/Commonwealth Fund report analyzing the economic and employment impact on states of ACA repeal, *Leighton Ku, Executive Board Member*

Dr. Aaron left the call and Ms. Hicks entered the meeting.

Dr. Ku stated that last week George Washington University and The Commonwealth Fund had issued a [report](#) on the ACA, including its Medicaid expansion, and how its repeal might affect state economies. (The report assumes no replacement.) At the national level, if one assumes that repeal occurs in 2019 there would be a loss of about 2.6 million jobs, which would rise to 3.0 million by 2020. About one-third of those lost jobs are in health care while two-thirds are in other sectors across the economy. They are mostly private sector jobs. Over five years state gross products will reduce by \$1.5 trillion. There will also be corresponding decreases in state and local tax revenues totaling \$48 billion. Corresponding analyses were done for the states, including the District.

Within the District, there will be 8,000 jobs lost in 2019, the majority of which are in sectors other than health care; a reduction of \$6.6 billion in state gross product over five years; and more than \$100 billion lost in tax revenues.

The report has been disseminated widely and has received significant media attention, and interest from Capitol Hill and many interest groups.

Ms. Sullivan Hare asked about the 8,000 jobs lost in the District. Is it because Obamacare created 8,000 jobs? There have been reports of job losses due to Obamacare.

Dr. Nesbitt entered the meeting.

Dr. Ku replied that it is a prospective analysis and he has no idea whether Obamacare created 8,000 jobs in the District. While there has been discussion that the ACA may be a job killer, the analyses he has seen to date do not suggest jobs lost due to Obamacare.

Ms. Hicks noted that the Urban Institute had recently released a report that said hospitals stood to lose \$1.2 trillion over the next 10 years for uncompensated care if the ACA is repealed. She thought the report was a good contribution to the ACA conversation.

**IV. Executive Director Report**, *Debra Curtis, Deputy Executive Director for Mila Kofman, Executive Director*

**OPEN ENROLLMENT REMINDERS:**

- Open enrollment runs through January 31, 2017. To have coverage starting February 1, 2017, a person would normally need to select a plan by January 15, 2017. We are changing this date to Tuesday, January 17 because the 15th is the Sunday of the long Martin Luther King weekend. Customers should shop using the Plan Match Tool.
  - 20 plans for individuals and 151 for small business customers for 2017.
  - CONTACT CENTER HOURS: The Contact Center will be open 10-5 Saturday and Sunday January 14 & 15, closed on the 16<sup>th</sup> due to the MLK Holiday, and will reopen 8-8 the 17<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be closed on inauguration day (Jan 20). And then resume 8-8 Monday through Friday through open enrollment. Saturdays in January are 10 am – 5 pm. Sunday, January 29 10-5 pm.
  - For those who apply after January 17, their coverage will begin March 1, 2017.
- People applying for Medicaid can apply year round. Employers can also enroll in SHOP coverage year round.

**OUTREACH UPDATE:**

DECEMBER: For National Youth Enrollment Day, we held a “Brunch Bounce” through restaurant strips popular with millennials across the city. Our partner Community of Hope enrolled residents during their popular Holiday Market. We ran ads on movie screens during the opening week of *Rogue One A Star Wars Story*. Our partner DCPCA enrolled at EdFest, DC’s biggest school fair. For the December 15 deadline push, our faith-based partners distributed reminder fliers at metro stops in higher-uninsured areas (Wards 4,5,6,7, 8) – also key enrollment centers citywide extended their hours on the 15th.

JANUARY: Details on HBX website including one-touch enrollment locations. Shape Up Sign Up Social Media Outreach (on going); H Street Happy Hour (Jan 5); College Football Championship Enrollment Event (Jan 9); Latino Week of Action enrollment events (Jan 7-15); Health Leadership Symposium (Jan 10); African American – AAPI Week of Action (Jan 14-20); Barber Shop/Beauty Shop Outreach (Jan 14); Faith in Action Sunday (Jan 15); “Knock, Knock

Door – to-Door Canvassing (Wards 4,5,6,7, 8) (Jan 16); January 31st Deadline PUSH - 24 Hrs.  
Plus Enrollment Marathon (Jan 28-29)

### **STANDARD PLANS WORKING GROUP UPDATE:**

Dr. Ku, chair of the working group, reported at last month's meeting that the working group has completed its work for standard plan recommendations for the 2018 plan year. The report is posted on the HBX website. The work group reached consensus on all but one issue – whether to require a gold level HSA compatible standard plan option. The non-consensus issue will be considered by the Executive Board Insurance Market Committee. The committee is meeting Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm at our offices (call in info is on the website) to consider the question of requiring a gold level standard HSA compatible plan. We encourage members of the public to provide input. The goal is to bring this issue and the consensus report for deliberation and vote at the February Board meeting.

### **HEALTH COMMITTEE IN COUNCIL:**

The new committee members: Councilmember Vincent Gray will chair; Charles Allen, Mary Cheh, Brianne Nadeau, and Brandon Todd are members.

### **CMS UPDATES:**

CMS issued a final payment parameters rule on December 22, 2016. In addition, the IRS issued a final regulation on December 19, 2016 on APTC. It is generally effective for tax year 2017.

### **1095As:**

We are on track to have the 1095A tax forms posted securely online for customers to access by January 23. They will be mailed soon thereafter. There are approximately 19,000 of them.

### **ENROLLMENT DATA:**

Ms. Curtis provided the latest [data](#).

Ms. Kofman entered the meeting as Ms. Curtis was finishing the report.

Dr. Ku asked where we were in SHOP, and where we expected to end up once the conversion process is completed. Ms. Kofman replied that we presently have about 60,000 lives in SHOP and we anticipate 80,000 – 100,000 lives in SHOP at the end of the conversion process. Dr. Ku asked how that number compared to a few months ago. Ms. Kofman replied that December was a large conversion month with another 1,200 groups added. Ms. Curtis noted that we are the largest SHOP in the country. Ms. Kofman noted that SHOP prices are very competitive.

Ms. Hicks noted that the 300,000 cumulative lives touched by DC Health Link is an impressive number. She wondered if we could calculate what percentage of District residents have been touched by the marketplace. Dr. Nesbitt asked if there was a way to figure out how many people transition back and forth between individual coverage and Medicaid. She was looking at cumulative numbers and they are high, and would indicate some moving back and forth.

Ms. Kofman said staff would go back and try to trace those numbers. Some may require a survey. Dr. Ku said it will be hard to do and get it right. Ms. Hicks was thinking more about a larger overview (“1 in 4 people in the District have been touched by DC Health Link”). Dr. Nesbitt was trying to analyze it as a means to effecting policy.

## **VII. Public Comment**

Alan Roth is a District resident and customer. He recounted the experience he had as a COBRA enrollee through DC Health Link. As part of his transition to a new health plan in December, he was notified that his husband’s coverage was not in effect because of an error in transmitting information and he recounted his problems getting the issue resolved in DC Health Link, but it was resolved within several days of him notifying HBX of the problem. While all the people he came into contact with were polite and professional, there were problems, probably with a data entry error somewhere along the line, and he felt that the burden had been placed on him to correct the error.

Ms. Kofman thanked him for coming to tell his story. She agreed that the system was not yet optimized to deal with COBRA enrollees, and HBX continues to focus on these improvements. She was sorry he had that experience as every customer matters to us.

## **VIII. Closing Remarks and move to Executive Session, *Diane Lewis, Chair***

Pursuant to DC Codes Section 2-575(b)(10) the Board will move to a closed session to discuss personnel.

The public meeting ended at 6:37 p.m.