

**Clinton-Essex-Warren-Washington
Health Insurance Consortium**

P.O. Box 455
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

DATE: February 27, 2020
KIND OF MEETING: Board of Directors Meeting
PLACE: CVES Instruction Services Center
Plattsburgh, NY

Board Members Present:

Mark Davey
John Donohue
Justin Gardner
Robb Garrand
Stephen Gratto
James Knight, Jr.
William Larrow
Jay Lebrun
Phil Lupe
Daniel Mannix
Daniel Mayberry
Kim Mayer
Joshua Meyer
Scott Osborne
Thomas Palmer
Javier Perez
Emy Pombrio
Bob Porter
Paul Savage

Board Members Absent:

Shari Brannock

Chairperson:

Jay Lebrun

Recording Secretary:

Jessie Moulton

Others Present:

Eric Bell
Jacqueline Kelleher
Christine Myers
Jon Parks
Kevin Klemm
Vanessa Flynn
Brian Gilligan
Rosemary Souza-Botten
Audience Members

MEETING
TO ORDER

Chairperson Lebrun called the meeting to order at 9:42 a.m.

PUBLIC
COMMENT
SESSION

No comments.

EMPIRE
BLUECROSS
LOCAL
REPRESENTATIVE

Mr. Lebrun turned the meeting over to Jon Parks.

Mr. Parks introduced Rosemary Souza-Botten, the new Empire BlueCross local representative.

Rosemary began by saying that she retired after 30 years as an insurance broker, and that she also served 14 years as a school board member. She is very excited to promote education to the members. Mr. Mannix agreed that it is very important to keep education at the forefront, and Rosemary stated that was part of Empire's plan.

Mr. Parks shared a letter with the districts which included Rosemary’s information, and asked that it be shared with each district’s active and retired members.

Mr. Lebrun reminded the districts that Rosemary may need office space to meet with members, as needed.

Rosemary was welcomed.

Mr. Parks introduced Vanessa Flynn and Kevin Klemm of Segal Consulting.

MINUTES OF
PREVIOUS
MEETING

Mr. Perez moved, seconded by Dr. Davey, to adopt the minutes of the December 12, 2019 and January 9, 2020 meetings. All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

APPOINTMENT OF
EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE

Mr. Osborne moved, seconded by Mr. Meyer, to approve the appointment of the Executive Committee as follows, for the remainder of the 2019-2020 fiscal year:

- Jay Lebrun
- Dan Mannix
- Eric Bell
- Jennifer Brown
- Laurie Cossey
- Danielle Fosella
- Danielle McAfee
- Randy Sapp

This will be an annual appointment.

There was discussion regarding the differences between the Executive and Advisory Committees. The Executive Committee deals with various problems that arise, along with the documentation of procedures. The Advisory Committee is more involved with the financial stability and future of the Consortium.

All Board Members present voted yes, with the exception of Mr. Lebrun, who abstained – motion carried.

APPROVAL OF
EXTERNAL
AUDITOR, WEST
& COMPANY, FOR
2019 – 2024, FROM
THE JANUARY
2020 RFP, AT A
COST OF \$5,500
ANNUALLY

Mr. Donohue moved, seconded by Mr. Gratto, to approve West & Company as the external auditor for the period 2019 – 2024, from the January 2020 RFP, at a cost of \$5,500 annually. All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

APPROVE
CONTRACT WITH
BOND,
SCHOENECK &
KING, PLLC FOR
LEGAL SERVICES

Mr. Osborne moved, seconded by Mr. Mayberry, to approve the contract with Bond, Schoeneck & King, PLLC, for legal services.

Mr. Parks explained that Bond, Schoeneck & King (BS&K) will help with issues such as eligibility rules, including how they relate to school board members. Mr. Lebrun added that BS&K does not represent any districts, so there will be no conflicts.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

RECEIVE 2019-
2020 FINANCIAL
UPDATE

Handouts – 1) 1 Page Budget
2) Financials

Christine Myers reviewed the information. The Consortium should be receiving a prescription drug rebate from Excellus BC/BS. We're still waiting for the prescription drug reconciliation.

APPROVE
CHANGE TO
ELIGIBILITY
RULES
LANGUAGE
PREVIOUSLY
APPROVED ON
JANUARY 9, 2020
(ATTACHMENT)

Mr. Osborne moved, seconded by Mr. Mannix, to approve the following change to the Eligibility Rules language previously approved on January 9, 2020: Change the sentence “excepting those identified and attached hereto...” to “excepting those identified and reported to the Consortium Secretary on January 9, 2020.”

Handout – Eligibility Rules (Approved 1/9/2020)

It was clarified that this change did not go to the Executive Committee, but the rest of the document was reviewed by them.

There was discussion regarding eligibility. Jaci Kelleher explained that nobody contracts directly with the Consortium; eligibility needs to be vetted by the district.

Mr. Mannix expressed his concern for the need to set parameters for board members, whereby the board member must enroll upon retirement.

All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

AUTHORIZE THE
CHAIRPERSON TO
SIGN THE GROUP
CONTRACT AND
MINIMUM
PREMIUM RIDER
WITH EMPIRE
BLUECROSS,
EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1, 2020

Mr. Donohue moved, seconded by Mr. Osborne, to authorize the Chairperson to sign the Group Contract and Minimum Premium Rider with Empire BlueCross, effective January 1, 2020.

Handouts - 1) Empire Group Contract
2) Empire Group Rider

Mr. Parks explained that the agreement is similar to what we had with Excellus BC/BS.

Jaci Kelleher recommends that the Executive Committee look at formally delineating the roles and responsibilities between the Consortium and the districts.

All Board Members present voted yes, with the exception of Mr. Lebrun, who abstained

– motion carried.

APPROVE
BUDGET AND
PREMIUM
EQUIVALENT
RATES FOR 2020-
2021 FISCAL YEAR

Mr. Lebrun turned the meeting over to Kevin Klemm of Segal Consulting.

Handout – Segal Health Benefits Report (along with one page correction)

Kevin reviewed the information, and explained the reasons for the transition to Empire.

There was discussion regarding:

- possible lag in claims
- premium income does not take into account what new rates will be
- Article 47
- possible increase in prescription drug rebates

Handout – One page document showing 5 Options

Mr. Lebrun noted that the differential is now shown between Actives and Medicare eligible, instead of between Plans 1 and 2.

Mr. Parks continued reviewing the information. Option 3 puts the Consortium in a good position for Article 47, if the decision is made to move forward in that direction. It was noted that Segal does not make recommendations, but provides the plan with the necessary data to make informed decisions. This information has been presented to the Advisory Committee.

There was extensive discussion regarding the different options.

Mr. Mannix moved, seconded by Mr. Garrand, to approve the budget and Option 4; a 6% aggregate increase in premium rates.

Discussion followed.

A roll call vote was taken to approve Option 4 as is: Mr. Savage—no; Mr. Mannix—yes; Mr. Meyer—yes; Mr. Osborne—no; Dr. Davey—no; Mr. Mayberry—yes; Mr. Larrow—no; Mr. Garrand—yes; Mr. Knight—no; Dr. Palmer—no; Mr. Lebrun—yes; Mr. Perez—no; Mr. Gratto—no; Mr. Donohue—no; Mr. Gardner—no; Ms. Pombrio—no; Mr. Porter—no; Mr. Lupe—no; Ms. Mayer—no—motion failed.

Dr. Davey moved, seconded by Mr. Porter, to approve Option 3 as is; a 5% aggregate increase in premium rates.

A roll call vote was taken to approve Option 3 as is: Mr. Savage—yes; Mr. Mannix—yes; Mr. Meyer—yes; Mr. Osborne—yes; Dr. Davey—yes; Mr. Mayberry—yes; Mr. Larrow—yes; Mr. Garrand—yes; Mr. Knight—yes; Dr. Palmer—yes; Mr. Lebrun—yes; Mr. Perez—yes; Mr. Gratto—yes; Mr. Donohue—yes; Mr. Gardner—yes; Ms.

Pombrio—yes; Mr. Porter—yes; Mr. Lupe—yes; Ms. Mayer—yes—motion carried.

Mr. Garrand moved, seconded by Dr. Davey, to approved the 2020-2021 budget as presented. All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

It was noted that on 2/14/2020, the Superintendents were presented with the BOCES budget. With the passing of the premium rate increase, necessary adjustments will be made, and the budget will be redistributed.

PUBLIC
COMMENT
SESSION

No comments.

OTHER

Mr. Osborne thanked Dr. Davey and Eric Bell for their lobbying efforts on behalf of small schools.

Dr. Davey gave an overview of Lobby Day.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Osborne moved, seconded by Mr. Mayberry, to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m. All Board Members present voted yes – motion carried.

Jessie Moulton, Recording Secretary