



BOARD OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES



MINUTES

Tuesday September 20, 2022

10:00 AM

Present: Basim Khan, Maureen S Hollowell, Michael H Cook Esq., Ashley Gray, Elizabeth Noriega, Paul Hogan, Tim Hanold, Ashish Kachru

Absent: Patricia T Cook MD

Virtual Attendees: Greg Peters, Kannan Srinivasan

1. Call to Order

Michael Cook, Board Chair called to order the regular meeting of the Board of Medical Assistance Services at 10:14 am on September 20, 2022 at 600 East Broad Street, Conference Rooms A & B, Richmond, Virginia 23219.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the June 14, 2022 meeting were introduced and approved.

Moved by Ashish Kachru; seconded by Ashley Gray to Approve The

Motion : 8 - 0

Voting For: Basim Khan, Maureen S Hollowell, Michael H Cook Esq., Ashley Gray, Elizabeth Noriega, Paul Hogan, Tim Hanold, Ashish Kachru

Voting Against: None

3. Director's Report

Acting Director Cheryl Roberts reported to the Board on the return of remaining staff back into the building after Labor Day. Director Roberts reported on priority updates with the agency including the Partnership for Petersburg which is Governor Younkin's project. The public health emergency unwinding was discussed along with July 1 Budget Initiative, Objectives and Key Results (OKRs) and Managed Care Organization (MCO) contracting. Additional priority updates discussed were Provider Services Solution (PRSS), MES Module Certification, Maternal & Child Health, Early and Periodic Screen, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT), Traumatic Brain Injury Workgroup, Nursing Home Value Based Purchasing (VBP) project and Community Stabilization.

4. CFO Updates

Chris Gordon, CFO, provided the Board with updates on the current position of FY23 Appropriation, historical trends, and Public Health Emergency (PHE) impacts, MES certification status and the upcoming RFPs. In summary, Federal Public Health Emergency creates instability for Commonwealth appropriation and contingent financial need. Medicaid Expansion population is rising faster than any other group, within six years will be largest population if growth trend continues along with PHE, particularly Childless Adults. Medicaid policy decisions need to be contextualized relative to market forces, provider network, labor workforce, and member needs.

5. State Based Exchange - SCC

Kevin Patchett, Acting Director of the State Corporation Commission presented to the Board on the Virginia Health Benefit Exchange. The Virginia Health Benefit Exchange was created by the Virginia General Assembly in 2020, as a new division within the State Corporation Commission.

The statutory duties of the Exchange include:

- To transition Virginia from Healthcare.gov to a Virginia based marketplace
- Support health insurance continuity
- Reduce the number of uninsured
- Promote a transparent and competitive marketplace
- Promote consumer choice and education
- Assist individuals with access to programs, policies, and procedures related to obtaining health insurance coverage
- Assist individuals with premium tax credits and cost sharing reductions

The Individual Market is the private marketplace that serves people who do not receive group coverage through their employer and who do not qualify for Medicaid.

Independently funded by user assessment fees.

Immediate Benefits of a State-Based Marketplace:

- Allows Virginia to manage the full scope of Virginia marketplace services provided to Commonwealth consumers.
- DMAS, DSS, and other state agencies will be able to closely coordinate with the marketplace to help Virginia consumers access and maintain health coverage.
- Greater flexibility to tailor the consumer experience to better meet the needs of Virginians.
- Engage directly with consumers to address issues locally.

Exchange Snapshot

- 307,946 plan selections, ~15% increase from the same period in 2021.
- 76,300 SHOP plan selections
- 12 insurance carriers offering plans on the Exchange.
- 8 standalone dental carriers offering plans on the Exchange.
- 1,400 agents and brokers have signed exchange agreements.
- 35 navigators and 34 certified application counselor designated organizations (CDOs).
- All Virginia counties covered by plan offerings on the Exchange.
- For the first time since 2014, Virginia's individual ACA market will now have at least 2 carriers in every region of the Commonwealth (Plan Year 2023).

6. SDOH Update - Aetna & VA Premier

Paula Starnes, Chief Operating Officer of Aetna and Margaret Wise, Director of Clinical Health Services presented to the Board on Aetna's Membership Outreach and Engagement Strategies, Care Management Strategies and Health Improvement Incentives.

Chantel Neece with Virginia Premier presented to the Board on Vaccination Status.

7. New Business/Old Business

8. Regulations

Regulations were provided to Board members and the public via Townhall.

9. Adjournment

Michael Cook, Board Chair motioned for adjournment at 12:54 pm.

Moved by Ashley Gray; seconded by Ashish Kachru to Adjourn

Motion Passed: 8 - 0

Voting For: Basim Khan, Maureen S Hollowell, Michael H Cook Esq., Ashley Gray, Elizabeth Noriega, Paul Hogan, Tim Hanold, Ashish Kachru

Voting Against: None

10. Sub-Committee

Present: Maureen S Hollowell, Michael H Cook Esq., Ashley Gray-Chair, Elizabeth Noriega, Paul Hogan, Tim Hanold, Ashish Kachru

Absent: Patricia T Cook MD, Basim Khan

Virtual Attendees: Greg Peters

The subcommittee met immediately following the regular BMAS Board meeting to discuss the Boards role within DMAS.

Topics of discussion included:

- What other State agencies are doing that have a Policy setting Board
- Need focal issues or five-year strategic plan
- Decision Packages
- Emergency Regulations
- Additional meetings
- Retreat focused on what the Board is going to do
- Reporting to the Board and not representing your organization's or it's interest

In summary, the Board wants to engage and be of service to DMAS.

Ashley Gray, Chair motioned and moved for adjournment at 2:17pm.; seconded by Paul Hogan to Adjourn

Motion Passed: 7 - 0

Voting For: Basim Khan, Maureen S Hollowell, Michael H Cook Esq., Ashley Gray, Elizabeth Noriega, Paul Hogan, Tim Hanold, Ashish Kachru

Voting Against: None