

**Washington State Health Insurance Pool
Board Meeting Minutes (Approved 1-11-17)
Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Talaris Conference Center, Maple Room**

Board Members Present:

Shaun Koos, Chair	Lisa Matthews	Sheela Tallman (by phone)
Roger Bairstow (by phone)	Alison Mondt	Kristen Walter Wright
Jamie Clark (by phone)	Scott Plack	
AnnaLisa Gellermann	Mark Rose	

Board Members Absent: Andi Bailey

Also Present:

Sharon Becker, WSHIP Executive Director
Anita Wuellner, WSHIP Executive Assistant
Anne Redman, Legal Counsel, Perkins Coie LLP

Guests:

BMI (by phone): Bernie Jamieson, Debbie McCormick and Denise Wilkens
Leif Associates: Liz Leif
First Choice Health: Bob Hinman and Katie Justice

Audience Members:

Michael Dunlop, Evergreen Health Insurance Program
Wendy Galloway, Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner
Karen Laible, Fresenius Medical Care
Anthony Moore, Northwest Kidney Centers

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shaun Koos at 9:08 a.m.

1. **Introductions, Review Agenda.** Board members, staff, guests and members of the audience introduced themselves. No changes were made to the Agenda.
2. **Consent Agenda**
 - A. **Minutes of September 14, 2016**
 - B. **2016 Board Schedule and Work Plan**

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried.

(Agenda Item 8, the Executive Committee Report, was next addressed.)

3. **Administrator's Report:** Debbie McCormick reviewed the Administrator's Report included in the meeting materials.
 - A. **Monthly Operations report – September 2016:** Ms. McCormick reviewed the September 2016 Operations Report included in the meeting materials.

B. Enrollment Update – October 2016: Ms. McCormick reviewed the October 2016 Plan and Age Distribution Summary included in the meeting materials.

4. Executive Director’s Report: Sharon Becker reviewed the Executive Director’s Report included in the meeting materials. Discussion ensued.

A. 2017 Medicare Advantage Study: Liz Leif reviewed the 2017 Medicare Advantage Study included in the meeting materials, noting that the purpose of the study is to determine whether there are counties not offering a reasonable choice of Part C Medicare Advantage plans, thereby enabling individuals to be eligible for WSHIP coverage. Discussion ensued as to the number of counties with carriers who have been in the market for less than five years resulting in enrollees being eligible for WSHIP coverage.

5. Treasurer’s Report:

A. September 2016 WSHIP Financials (ACTION): Scott Plack presented the Treasurer’s Report included in the meeting materials. Consideration was given to raising the 3-week minimum cash balance to a 4-week minimum, resulting in having approximately \$4 million on hand. The Financial Principles would be revised accordingly. Of note, a breakdown of key drivers by Medicare and non-Medicare is now included in the report packet.

Denise Wilkens reviewed the September 2016 WSHIP Financials included in the meeting materials and provided additional information for October 2016. An \$8.5 million Interim III assessment is proposed, lowering the total 2016 assessment to \$33 million. Discussion ensued.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to accept the September 2016 WSHIP Financials as presented. The motion carried.

B. 2017 Cash Flow Forecast: Ms. Wilkens reviewed the 2017 Cash Flow Forecast included in the meeting materials. Of note, a \$35 million assessment is projected for 2017.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to increase the minimum cash balance objective in WSHIP’s Financial Principles from 3 weeks to 4 weeks to reflect greater volatility of claims expense associated with smaller enrollment. The motion carried.

C. New Report – Medicare vs Non-Medicare Cash Flow: Ms. Wilkens reviewed the Medicare vs Non-Medicare Cash Flow report included in the meeting materials.

D. 2016 Interim Assessment III: Ms. Wilkens presented the \$8.5 million assessment request for Interim III.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve an Interim III assessment in the amount of \$8.5 million as presented. The motion carried.

6. Preliminary 2017 Board Schedule and Work Plan: Ms. Becker presented and reviewed the 2017 Board Schedule and Work Plan included in the meeting materials.

A. Updated 2017 Meeting Schedule: Ms. Becker presented the updated 2017 meeting schedule included in the meeting materials.

7. Preliminary 2017 Administrative Budget: Ms. Becker presented the preliminary 2017 Administrative Budget included in the meeting materials, noting that when presented in January, it will contain updated information. Discussion ensued.

Public Comment: Anthony Moore requested that the eligibility verification form be put on the website, and he inquired as to the 2017 rates.

(A break was taken from 10:13 a.m. to 10:38 a.m.)

8. Executive Committee Report: Mr. Koos provided an update on the most recent Executive Committee meeting. Of note, an RFP will not be issued for plan administrator for 2017, and the Planning Committee has been asked to begin a benefit review project in 2016 rather than waiting until the end of the 2017 legislative session to allow time for WSHIP to file plan changes for 2018 if deemed appropriate.

A. Draft 2017 Policy Agenda: Mr. Koos presented the draft 2017 Policy Agenda included in the meeting materials which Ms. Becker then reviewed, pointing out potential barriers and enrollee examples. Discussion ensued. Board consensus is to add the current number of non-Medicare enrollees that may encounter barriers to obtaining new coverage.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the Draft 2017 Policy Agenda with the suggested addition as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

9. Planning Committee Report: Lisa Matthews provided an update on the Planning Committee's recent meeting, noting that enrollees will be receiving their 2017 open enrollment packets along with their annual eligibility verification forms soon.

A. Recommendation for Connected Diabetes Program: Ms. Becker presented and reviewed the Connected Diabetes Program proposed by MedWatch for WSHIP non-Medicare enrollees with diabetes included in the meeting materials, noting the Planning Committee recommends implementing the program. Discussion ensued.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded to approve the Connected Diabetes Program as presented. The motion carried.

B. Pharmacy Pricing Review: Ms. Becker advised that Pharmaceutical Strategies Group (PSG) conducted a market analysis of Express Scripts' pharmacy pricing and found it to be generally market competitive. PSG suggested some enhancements that Express Scripts has agreed to provide, the largest area being rebates and rebate guarantees on certain specialty drugs.

C. Benefit Evaluation Project: Ms. Becker advised that the committee discussed its benefit design review project with a consensus to consider discontinuation of some plans and/or modifications to benefit design versus developing entirely new plans. The committee will next report its recommendations to the Board in March.

D. First Choice Health Network Report: Bob Hinman, Vice President and Network Management, and Katie Justice, Account Manager of First Choice Health Network, distributed and presented a report on their 2015-2016 PPO network performance, dialysis network performance, and a look ahead at the 2016-2017 network outlook. Discussion ensued.

10. Board Education: AnnaLisa Gellermann distributed and provided Board education on the individual health insurance market in 2017. Discussion ensued.

11. Executive Session: No executive session was held.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:39 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. in the Maple Room of the Talaris Conference Center, Seattle, WA.