



## Illinois Health Benefits Exchange Advisory Committee (HBEAC) Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date | Time:** June 14, 2024 | 1:00pm to 2:00pm

**Location:** Illinois Departments of Insurance (DOI) and Healthcare & Family Services (HFS) conference rooms in Chicago and Springfield

### **HBEAC Members in Attendance:**

#### **Co-Chairs (\*)**

Patrick Besler, Health Care Services Corporation (HCSC)  
Paula Campbell, Illinois Primary Health Care Association (IPHCA)  
Wendy Epstein, DePaul University College of Law

#### **Ann Gillespie, Illinois Department of Insurance\***

Lance Kovacs, Illinois Health & Hospital Association (IHA)  
Laura Minzer, Illinois Life & Health Insurance Council (ILHIC)  
Kenneth Olson, Horton Group & Independent Insurance Agents of Illinois (Insurance)  
Julie Sampson, Citizen Action Illinois  
Scott Baskin, Small Business Advisory Council (SBAC) (Business)  
Lila Valinoti, Illinois State Medical Society (ISMS)

#### **Lizzie Whitehorn, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services\***

Note: Stephanie Altman attended due Stephani Becker's absence.

### **Absences Recorded:**

Stephanie Becker, Shriver Center  
Teresa Tudor (DHS)

### **DOI/HFS Staff in attendance**

Brian Gorman (GCI)  
Dana Kelly (HFS)  
Jaimy Paulson (HFS)  
Laura Pellikan (GCI)  
Matthew Pickett (DOI)  
Matthew Sebek (DOI)  
KC Stralka (DOI)  
Brodie Taylor (DOI)  
Andi VanderKolk (DOI)  
Carol West (GCI)  
Morgan Winters (GCI)

**Guests in attendance:**

Stephanie Altman, Shriver Center  
John D'Alessandro, JLD Consulting Group  
Brendan Hostetler, UnitedHealthcare  
Rebecca Kane, Optum Health  
Dan Klopfenstein, Carle Health  
Chini Krishnan, GetInsured  
Timmy Mogi, Oscar Health  
Jonathan Moody (?)  
Kate Morthland, ILHIC  
Paul Neutz, GetInsured  
OJ Oleka (?)  
Alanna Powers, Oscar Health  
Cristina Rodriguez (?)  
Kevin Smith, Health Alliance  
Dan Thomas (?)  
Gufran Vanjara, Deloitte

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Director Ann Gillespie (DOI) opened the meeting and welcomed HBEAC members, staff, and guests.

Director Gillespie introduced (or reintroduced) herself to the Committee members and guests.

Director Gillespie explained various housekeeping measures and discussed public comments. She noted the meeting minutes and notes protocol and that we will disseminate materials before the next meeting.

**I. Legislative Updates (Director Gillespie and Director Whitehorn)**

Director Whitehorn discussed the Medicaid omnibus package. It includes a) \$70 million for safety net hospitals (with federal matching dollars); b) a prior authorization gold card, no prior authorization for concurrent review(s) under 72 hours, and a removal of prior authorization requirements for MHSUD drugs; c) increased rates for nursing homes and nursing home rate reform; and d) medical debt relief.

Director Gillespie discussed the Healthcare Protection Act (HPA). It includes prior authorization and step therapy restrictions. Director Gillespie also noted that the General Assembly banned STLD policies and passed the SBM omnibus package which includes a special enrollment period for pregnancies.

**II. Roll Call**

A quorum was established. Stephanie Altman is attending in Stephani Becker's stead. As a general note, Stephanie Altman is unable to vote on any HBEAC matters while Stephani Becker is absent.

### **III. Housekeeping**

Brodie reminded everyone to use the sign-in sheets, mute their phones, and turn on their cameras for votes (if possible). He noted that everyone will be muted and asked attendees to raise their hands. Director Gillespie asked for an approval of the minutes. Lance Kovacs made a motion to approve, and Ken Olson seconded. The minutes were adopted via a vote of 11-0-0.

Morgan read the HBEAC charter that was circulated to members. Ken Olson asked about the wording in relation to milestones, timelines, and operational plans. Morgan took that under advisement.

Morgan asked about the HBEAC member survey and feedback/results. There was no discussion.

### **IV. Director's Report (Morgan)**

Morgan gave his presentation on the status of the SBM and its development. There is limited data due to Illinois still being on the federal exchange. Patrick Besler asked if we had year-over-year trends. Morgan noted it is variable. Ken Olson expressed optimism that a big insurer coming onto the market is a sign of health. Morgan agreed and explained that less plans lead to higher premiums. Risk plays a factor as well. Laura Minzer brought up rate review and publication and advocated for the members to review. Laura asked if there were any takeaways from QHP filings, but Morgan said there is nothing to share now.

Morgan skipped statistics due to a lack of time, but the members and guests had access to the stats in advance of the meeting. Patrick Besler inquired as to the status of the SBM blueprint and inquired if it was available. Morgan assured the blueprint will be filed in August and we can share after it is filed. Laura Minzer asked if the blueprint will be subject to public hearings. Morgan indicated they will be subject to hearings and that HBEAC members and their organizations can assist GCI, DOI, and HFS.

The Medicaid Integration will mirror the current platform and have two separate applications. It will ensure transfers if an applicant is found eligible for the opposite program. It can be fully integrated at a later date. Ken Olson asked if "no wrong" door is the best policy. What about Medicare?

The request for proposal (RFP) for the IT & CAC have been posted and have a 7/19 deadline (noon).

DOI and HFS have a joint NOFI for navigator grants. Advance planning documents will be sent to CMS.

### **V. Public Comment Period**

Director Gillespie opened the public comment period. There were no public comments.

### **VI. Other Business**

N/A

**VII. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will take place September 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. (in-person and virtual).

**VIII. Adjournment**

Director Gillespie called for a motion to adjourn. Lance Kovacs made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Ken Olson second the motion. The motion carried via a vote of 11-0-0.

**The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.**