

# SC PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT AUTHORITY- BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## Health Care Policy Committee-Minutes Approved 9.16.15

200 Arbor Lake Drive, Columbia SC, Main Conference Room 2nd Floor

**Wednesday, June 17, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.**

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### **Health Care Committee Members Present:**

Mr. Art Bjontegard

Mr. Steve Heisler

Mr. Frank Fusco

Mr. Audie Penn

### **Health Care Committee Members Absent:**

Mr. Joe “Rocky” Pearce, Chairman

### **Others present for all or a portion of the meeting:**

Peggy Boykin, Phyllis Buie, Sarah Corbett, Mason Gregory, Denise Hunter, Ariail Kirk, Megan Lightle, Heather Muller, Justice Perkins, Jacalin Shealy, Laura Smoak, Rob Tester, Travis Turner, Stephen Van Camp, Charles Varn, Justin Werner, and Heather Young from the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority (PEBA); Rex Gale, Brooks Goodman, Dr. Will Harms, and Matt Shaffer from Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina; Wayne Pruitt and Donald Tudor from the State Retirees Association of South Carolina; Scottie Claiborne, Stephanie Heckart, and Natalie Johnston from Companion Benefit Alternative; and Thompson Kinney from Milliken Law Firm.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Steve Heisler called the PEBA Health Care Policy Committee (Committee) meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., and stated that the public meeting notice was posted in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.

#### **2. ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA**

Mr. Audie Penn made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Frank Fusco, and approved unanimously, to adopt the proposed Committee meeting agenda.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: MAY 20, 2015**

Mr. Art Bjontegard made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Penn, and approved unanimously, to approve the May 20, 2015, Committee meeting minutes.

#### **4. TELEHEALTH UPDATE**

As a follow-up to the presentation on telemedicine at the March 26, 2015, meeting, Dr. Will Harms from Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Carolina, clarified the difference in Telemedicine and Telehealth, and discussed current regulatory limitations on Telehealth in South Carolina. Dr. Harms advised that Telemedicine is a clinician-to-clinician interaction on behalf of the patient via a real-time, bi-directional, secured electronic audio and video telecommunications system to provide medical care to a patient in circumstances that do not require face-to-face contact. Telehealth is the use of telecommunications technologies to deliver health-related services and information that support patient care, administrative activities, and health education. Dr. Harms added that Telehealth services cost about \$40 for 15 minutes of consultation, and includes treatment for: upper respiratory infections; colds; allergies; lab interpretation; pediatric fever; and sports injuries.

Dr. Harms also reported current SC Board of Medical Examiners (BME) regulatory policy with respect to Telehealth. It is the position of the BME that prescribing drugs to individuals the licensed

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physician has never personally examined based solely on answers to a set of questions is unprofessional.

### **5. COMPANION BENEFIT ALTERNATIVES- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTRACTOR FOR THE STATE HEALTH PLAN**

Mr. Rob Tester, PEBA's Health Care Policy Director, introduced Ms. Stephanie Heckart, Chief Operating Officer for Companion Benefit Alternatives (CBA). Ms. Heckart presented an overview of services for treatment of mental health and substance abuse, as well as autism-related services in the State Health Plan (SHP). Ms. Heckart stated that the CBA was established in 1992 to administer benefits for substance abuse and mental health treatment, and currently serves more than 2.2 million members. Ms. Heckart advised that CBA has been managing the SHP's behavioral health benefits since January 1, 2012, and these benefits include: inpatient and outpatient services; partial hospitalization; intensive outpatient; residential treatment centers; case management; and applied behavioral analysis. Ms. Heckart concluded her presentation by stating that CBA works closely with the SHP to ensure that a member's care for both physical and mental issues is coordinated for better outcomes.

### **6. COMMITTEE CHARTER ANNUAL REVIEW**

Ms. Peggy Boykin, PEBA's Executive Director, presented the Health Care Policy Committee Charter for review, and advised that all of the Committee Charters will be reaffirmed at the upcoming Board meeting. Upon review, the Committee agreed to delete item number (E) (4) of the Committee Charter due to redundancy.

### **7. STRATEGIC PLANNING STATUS REPORT**

Ms. Sarah Corbett, PEBA's Chief Operating Officer, provided a progress report on each of the PEBA Board Strategic Plan-Staff Action Plans related to the Health Care Policy Committee, and confirmed that staff anticipates meeting the 2015 target completion dates.

### **8. HEALTH CARE POLICY LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

Mr. Tester advised that the funding of the State Health Plan is the same in both the House and Senate, and is currently under review in a budget conference committee. Mr. Tester added that the 2016 SHP is fully funded, and includes a 4.5 percent employer increase and no additional employee increase. Mr. Tester also reported that the Senate version of the appropriations bill included a proviso to waive the patient cost-sharing on contraceptives for 2016.

### **9. OLD BUSINESS/DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Boykin stated that there are several contractual matters that need to be discussed in executive session.

### **10. EXECUTIVE SESSION: PURSUANT TO SC CODE OF LAWS § 30-4-70 (a)(2)**

At 11:25 a.m., Mr. Bjontegard made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Penn, and approved unanimously, to recede into executive session to discuss contractual matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 30-4-70.

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The Committee reconvened in open session at 12:15 p.m. It was noted that no action was taken while in executive session.

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, and upon motion by Mr. Fusco, which was seconded by Mr. Penn, and approved unanimously, the Committee meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.