

MINUTES
Eastern Connecticut Health and Medical Cooperative
Board Meeting – Nov. 16, 2023
2:00 - 3:30 pm

Members Present (in-person): Prem Aithal, Jeff Wihbey, Kate Ericson, Mike Belden, Ian Neviaser, Holly McCalla, Julie Pendleton, Kristina Martineau, John Hall, William Merrill (arrived 2:05pm).

Members Present (via zoom): Troy Hopkins

Others present (in-person): Thomas Kowalchik, Pamela Listorti (Old Saybrook).

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM

Standing Agenda Items: Discussion and Possible Action

1. Approve minutes of October 26, 2023:

Motion to approve October 26, 2023, meeting minutes made by Julie Pendleton, seconded by Holly McCalla.

Approved: 10-0 (Bill M. arrived after vote).

2. Financial Status Report

a. October net position of \$5.645M up \$357K for the month due to excess of revenues over claims of \$158 and a \$199K pharmacy rebate. YTD revenues over claims = \$155K. (See financial reports for further detail).

b. Large claims (over \$50K = 20 vs large claims last year of 10) as of the end of October. The ECHMC # of employees has grown from 742 last year to 1,167 this year due to the addition of Town of Westbrook, Westbrook Board of Education and RSD # 17.

3. Marketing – new members:

a. Ian N. stated he and Holly M. held a zoom meeting with the Monroe Board of Education and Wilton Board of Education. Both groups are currently self- insured.

4. Update from Vendors/Anthem Update

a. Tom K. provided an Executive Summary report comparing 10/1/2021 – 9/30/22 vs 10/1/22 – 9/30/23. A significant item discussed was the increase in specific costly prescription drug usage. Total claim expenditures were 17.0% higher compared to last year. Due to the increase in the group members, this increase was expected.

b. Tom is recommending a complete review of the Prescription drug expenditures and an RFP process. This will be reviewed at a future meeting.

c. Tom mentioned that he will have a preliminary projection for the next monthly meeting (12/14/23) to assist member groups with their budgeting process.

- d. Life Insurance Coverage – Tom mentioned that all groups should submit their latest census data (if they have not already) with life insurance contractual obligation amounts for each group. Tom will market Life Insurance Benefit to a variety of vendors. USI can then review options with other carriers besides The Hartford for a potential 1/1/24. LEARN will provide census data for Goodwin.

5. Old Business:

a. No Old Business

There was group discussion on how member allocation rates are set. This concern will be addressed at a future meeting.

6. New Business

a. Agenda setting and format for December 14, meeting.

1. Term Life Insurance – Census data to USI for each group, possibly seek alternative carriers.
2. Prescription Drug RFP
3. Preliminary rate allocation projection for budget purposes

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Holly McCalla, seconded by Kate Ericson, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2:50pm. – Approved 11-0

Next Meeting – December 14, 2023, at 2:00 PM.

Zoom information will be provided in a calendar invite if needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Belden

