

Pima County Health Care Benefits Trust Board Meeting August 12, 2021

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given that the Pima County Health Care Benefits Trust held a meeting open to the public on **Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.** The meeting was held virtually though Microsoft Teams.

MINUTES

A. Roll Call

Present

Keith Dommer, Chair, Board Member
Daisy Jenkins, Board Member
Jared Perkins, Board Member
Dr. Francisco Garcia, Board Member
Ellen Wheeler, Board Member

Also Present

Marchelle Pappas, Board Coordinator
Gayl Zambo, Pima County, Human Resources
Erin Higdon, Pima County, Human Resources
Debbie Knutson, Pima County, Human Resources
Toni Parkhurst, Pima County, Human Resources
Eric Rustand, CBIZ
Mike Zucarelli, CBIZ
Oscar Diaz, CBIZ
Ana Roth, CBIZ
Lisa Richard, CVS Health
Dr. Sean Liang, CVS Health
Kevin Wenceslao, Employers Health
Taylor Nervo, Employers Health
Ray Eveleth, Aetna
Karen Peters, Aetna
Andy Welch, Pima County, Finance
Anthony Batchelder, Pima County, Finance
Mandy Armenta, Pima County, Finance
Zulema Adame, Pima County, Finance
Monica Perez, Pima County, Administration

Meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

- All present joined in the pledge of allegiance.

C. Approval of May 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes

- Moved by Ms. Jenkins, seconded by Ms. Wheeler, approved 5:0.

D. Human Resources Items – Gayl Zambo and Erin Higdon

- **Update on Trustee Appointment**

Ms. Zambo introduced, Monica Perez, who is scheduled to replace Dr. Garcia. The Appointment will be considered by the Board of Supervisors on Monday, August 16, 2021. Ms. Perez gave a brief description of her experience.

- **Delta Dental Quarterly Packet (Informational Only)**

Ms. Zambo stated that the Delta Dental Quarterly Packet (Informational Only, slide 9 – slide 18) has been included within the Health Care Benefits Trust Meeting August 12, 2021 Meeting Packet as information only. This information will be sent every quarter.

- **Pima Monthly Planning Meeting w/ CBIZ**

Ms. Zambo provided a brief overview of the Pima County monthly planning meeting with CBIZ. A draft is sent out to the Trustees with topics outlined within the agenda. Two Trustee Board Members are eligible to attend the meeting(s). Mr. Dommer responded that he will attend the meeting(s), but if others are interested in attending he will step away to allow this.

- **Follow-up Items from Prior Meeting**

- a) **Pima Vaccination Status**

Ms. Zambo indicated that the “Pima Vaccination Status” information has been provided within the packet (slide 19 – slide 21). As of this meeting, 2,512 County Employees have requested an “I’m Vaccinated” badge, with this number being validated against the vaccination records submitted. Ms. Wheeler questioned if there has been any effort to find out more? Ms. Zambo stated that there is a lot going on behind the scenes and there will be an update at the next meeting.

- **Informational Topic – Virta Diabetes Program Update**

Ms. Higdon presented an update (slide 22 – slide 28) of the Virta Diabetes Program for patients enrolled in the treatment for 90 days as of June 2021, with a total number of enrolled patients being 183 (60 – Type II Diabetes cohort, 78 pre-diabetes cohort and 45 obesity cohort.) As of this meeting, there are 352 enrolled within the Virta Diabetes Program and 20 applications in process. Mr. Eveleth provided information that Aetna will launch a contract with Virta and has shared these results. Mr. Perkins asked if this information is sharable with staff to promote and build from. Ms. Higdon answered that she has been working with the Communications Department and there is an article to be published in the August 20, 2021 eScoop County Newsletter.

E. Aetna Presentation Summary – Ray Eveleth and Karen Peters

- **Medical Utilization Review – 07/01/2020 – 06/30/2021**

Mr. Eveleth presented a Summary of Key Findings (slide 31) for the review period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 for claims on a paid basis, not on an incurred basis. Mr. Eveleth stated that the medical trend is at national average: 6.3% versus the prior period. Mr. Eveleth highlighted that the number of High Cost Claimants had decreased -12.2 %, an increase in Utilization at +15.1 % over the prior period. Mr. Eveleth discussed the attributions to the medical cost categories that have had an impact on the increase of utilization and the decrease of High Cost Claimants from 49 to 43 over the prior period. Mr. Eveleth noted that there is a significant drop in many of the key categories but it is too soon to tell if it is related to COVID. Mr. Dommer indicated that the Summary of Key Findings, which is followed by the more detailed slide deck, is helpful. He asked that the use of acronyms be reduced and terms be spelled out, as not all may know what the acronym stands for. Ms. Jenkins agreed with this request.

- **High Cost Claims**

Ms. Peters discussed the HCC Claimant Overview (slide 35 – slide 40).

- **COVID-19 Update**

Mr. Eveleth briefly reviewed the COVID-19 Claims Impact (slide 32) and that there has been a total increase of +8.1%, with an increase of PEPM of \$3.83. Mr. Eveleth noted that there have been 3,292 COVID vaccinations billed to Aetna as of June 30, 2021, and he reminded the Board that not every vaccination is billed through Aetna.

- **Follow-up Items from Prior Meeting**

- a.) **Projected Impact of Telemedicine to Medical Plan**

Mr. Eveleth provided information and background on Arizona House of Representatives Bill: “HB 2454: telehealth; health care providers; requirements Sponsor: Representative Cobb, LD 5 Senate Engrossed” and the projected impact of telemedicine (slide 59 – slide 64.) There has been a question if this will drive an increase to the cost of care. Aetna will continue to watch. Mr. Diaz stated that CBIZ is seeing a drop in Telehealth across the board and that there is a good collaboration with insurance carriers. Mr. Rustand echoed that they are seeing a decrease in Telehealth visits. CBIZ will continue to monitor. Mr. Dommer indicated he has reviewed the bullet points, both positive and negative and asked whether the assessment is good. Mr. Eveleth answered that it looks positive going forward.

F. Caremark/CVS & Employers Health Presentation – Lisa Richard, Sean Liang and Taylor Nervo

- **Pharmacy Utilization Review – 07/01/2020 – 06/30/2021**

Ms. Richard presented the Pharmacy Utilization Review Report (slide 65) for July 2020 – June 2021. Ms. Richard provided an overview of the Total Gross Cost and reminded the Board that the rebate dollars are not factored in to the financial portion. Ms. Richard noted that there is an 11.5 % increase in specialty trend. Mr. Liang presented the Top 10 Therapeutic Class Review and Top 25 Drugs (slide 72 – slide 74) mentioning that the two most notable trends / main cost drivers are the Analgesics – Anti-Inflammatory and Hematological Agents.

- **Managing Spend and Trend**

Ms. Nervo presented an overview of the Managing Spend & Trend (slide 68). There is an overall gross trend of 6.8% without rebates / 5.4 % with rebates. Mr. Diaz questioned if the 5.4 % is normal. Ms. Nervo agreed that this is in line with her book of business. Mr. Rustand confirmed that this is in line. Ms. Nervo noted that the Q2 data has not been included in the reporting as it has yet to be received, but is estimated in the 2020 – 2021 report.

- **COVID-19 Update**

Ms. Richard provided an update on COVID-19 vaccines administered. As of July 20, 2021, there have been 773 COVID vaccines fully administered and 282 COVID vaccines partially administered. Ms. Richard noted that this data is only for the claims that are specifically billed through the pharmacy benefit and the numbers are possibly higher for those claims that are billed to Aetna.

G. CBIZ Presentation – Eric Rustand

- **Claims Review – July 2020 to June 2021**

Mr. Rustand presented the Paid Claims and Fixed Costs Overview through the month ending June 2021 (slide 75). Mr. Rustand noted that Pima County has an expected loss ratio of 89%, which CBIZ is constantly managing and reviewing with Pima County. Mr. Rustand noted that there are 58 large claimants that account for 27.1 % of paid claims billed. Ms. Wheeler asked if the medical and prescription claims should total 100 %. Mr. Rustand responded that they would not total 100 % due to the rebates. Mr. Dommer asked for clarification if there are a couple of years which Pima County had percentages costlier than the national trend of 8.1 %. Mr. Rustand stated that this is correct and that Pima County is lower than other County and State agencies within Arizona and the results are very good.

H. Call to the Audience

There were no audience comments.

I. Housekeeping

- Next Meeting Date - November 10, 2021 (November 11, 2021 is Veterans Day,) Pima County Finance will present their Annual Review.
 - Marchelle Pappas has been coordinating the meetings for the past nine years, Thank you, Marchelle. Debbie Knutson will be working with Ms. Pappas to

take over as coordinator for future meetings and will be sending out the information from this point forward.

- **Future Discussion Items**

- Mr. Dommer requested a schedule of the upcoming items for future meetings to be reflected as to which quarter and the item. Ms. Zambo will make this available.
- Mr. Dommer asked that the summary of rates to be reviewed for the November 10, 2021 meeting be provided in advance for a full review. Ms. Zambo will ensure that this occurs.

J. Adjournment at 10:48 a.m.