

California Public Employees' Retirement System

Board of Administration Pension and Health Benefits Committee Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2021

The Pension & Health Benefits Committee (PHBC) met in Open Session on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, in the Lincoln Plaza North Building, 400 Q Street, Sacramento, California.

The meeting was called to order at 2:41 p.m. with the following members present:

Rob Feckner, Chair
Ramon Rubalcava, Vice Chair
Margaret Brown
Henry Jones
David Miller
Nicole Griffith for Eraina Ortega
Theresa Taylor
Karen Greene-Ross for Betty Yee

Other Board Members Present:

Frank Ruffino for Fiona Ma
Lisa Middleton

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of the September 14, 2021, PHBC Timed Agenda

On **MOTION** by Theresa Taylor and **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Committee recommended to approve the September 14, 2021, PHBC Timed Agenda.

Agenda Item 3 – Executive Report(s)

Anthony Suine, Deputy Executive Officer, Customer Services and Support (CSS) highlighted retirement trends and updates on key activities in the CSS Branch.

Don Moulds, Chief Health Director, Health Policy & Benefits Branch (HPBB), provided some background information for the Health Benefit Program Proposals that will be discussed, and gave an update on the Biosimilars First Pharmaceutical Initiative.

Agenda Item 4 – Action Consent Items

On **MOTION** by Theresa Taylor and **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Committee voted to accept the following Action Consent Item:

4a. Approval of the September 14, 2021, PHBC Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item 5 – Information Consent Items

The Committee accepted the following Information Consent Items:

5a. Annual Calendar Review

- 5b. Draft Agenda for the March 15, 2022, PHBC Meeting
- 5c. California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) Health Benefits Program Annual Report for Plan Year 2020

Agenda Item 6a – Approval of Health Benefits Program Proposals for the 2023 Plan Year

Ms. Karen Páleš, Acting Division Chief, Health Plan Research & Administration Division (HPRA), and Dr. Julia Logan, Chief Medical Officer, Clinical Policy and Programs Section (CPPS), presented a summary of the proposed 2023 new health plans, service area changes, and benefit design changes with recommendations for action.

On **MOTION** by Theresa Taylor and **SECONDED** and **CARRIED**, the Committee voted to approve the following health plan proposals for the 2023 plan year:

- 1) Anthem Blue Cross benefit changes for its Medicare Advantage plan
- 2) Blue Shield of California Access+ EPO service area expansion into 11 counties
- 3) Blue Shield of California Trio expansion into 7 counties
- 4) Blue Shield of California Trio pharmacy shared savings program
- 5) Kaiser Permanente Basic and Medicare service area expansion into Monterey county
- 6) Kaiser Permanente new Senior Advantage \$0 copay plan
- 7) Kaiser Permanente Senior Advantage quarterly OTC allowance
- 8) Western Health Advantage MyCare Select HMO Medicare Advantage post-discharge meal benefit

As well as the following CalPERS team proposals:

- 1) Reproductive health equity language change
- 2) Fertility care language change
- 3) Adjustments to the hearing aids benefit
- 4) Primary Care Provider match for Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) members.

The following people spoke on this item:

Stephanie Hueg, California State Retirees
Larry Woodson, California State Retirees
J.J. Jelincic, Retired Public Employees Association

Agenda Item 7a – Summary of Committee Direction

Mr. Moulds provided a summary of the Committee direction from the November 16, 2021, meeting. The Committee directed staff as follows:

- Look at utilization of acupuncture and chiropractic services in Anthem's Medicare Preferred PPO and report back.
- Incorporate projected utilization of benefits into future benefit enhancement presentations, where data is available.

Agenda Item 7b – Public Comment

The Committee received Public Comment from David Haxton, Retiree, regarding Medicare Part D Premiums.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

The next meeting of the PHBC is scheduled for March 15, 2022, in Sacramento, California.

Prepared by: Jenna Hayes
Committee Secretary

Don Moulds
Chief Health Director
Health Policy & Benefits Branch