

**School Employees Benefits Board**  
**Meeting Minutes**

July 13, 2023  
Health Care Authority  
Sue Crystal Rooms A & B  
Olympia, Washington  
9:03 a.m. – 11:34 a.m.

The Briefing Book with the complete presentations and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at:  
<https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/school-employees-benefits-board-sebb-program/meetings-and-materials>

**Members Present in Olympia**

Lou McDermott  
Kerry Schaefer  
Amy Griffin  
Alison Poulsen  
Pamela Kruse  
Dawna Hansen-Murray

**Members Present via Zoom**

Terri House  
Myra Johnson

**Members Absent**

None

**SEB Board Counsel**

Katy Hatfield, AAG (in person)

**Call to Order**

**Lou McDermott, Chair**, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Sufficient members were present to allow a quorum. Board members and the public were able to attend either in person or virtually via Zoom.

**Meeting Overview**

**David Iseminger**, Director of the Employees and Retirees Benefits (ERB) Division, provided an overview of the agenda.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Alison Poulsen moved, and Dawna Hansen-Murray seconded a motion to approve the June 22, 2023 meeting minutes. Minutes were approved as written by unanimous vote.

### **2024 Non-Medicare Benefits Changes**

**Beth Heston**, Procurement Manager in the Employees and Retirees Benefits (ERB) Division, gave a presentation outlining some proposed changes to the SEBB portfolio plans in 2024. Information in the presentation included updates to the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington, Premera Blue Cross, the Uniform Medical Plan, and dental changes.

### **2024 SEBB Premiums**

**Megan Atkinson**, Chief Financial Officer, and **Tanya Deuel**, ERB Finance Manager in the Financial Services Division, provided information regarding the 2024 premiums for the SEBB Program. The presentation included information regarding the rate setting process with Kaiser Permanente, the annual renewal timeline, proposed 2024 employee premium information, and employer contribution details regarding dental, vision, life & AD&D, long-term disability (LTD) 2024 premium information. Also included were the proposed premium resolutions for 2024:

- *SEBB 2023-08 Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest 2024 Medical Premiums*
- *SEBB 2023-09 Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington 2024 Medical Premiums*
- *SEBB 2023-10 Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington Options 2024 Medical Premiums*
- *SEBB 2023-11 Premera 2024 Medical Premiums*
- *SEBB 2023-12 Uniform Medical Plan 2024 Medical Premiums*

No action was taken, and voting is scheduled to occur on these resolutions at the July 20, 2023 SEB Board meeting. The Board provided feedback on the resolutions requesting HCA provide alternative language for the word “endorses” for their consideration at the July 20, 2023 SEB Board meeting.

### **Kaiser Permanente Insights**

**Kelly Meehan Cook**, Director of Strategic Account Management from Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington, and **Jennifer Stacy**, Interim Vice President of Marketing, Sales, and Business Development from Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest, provided some insights related to the 2024 Kaiser Permanente plan offerings. The Kaiser Permanente team’s presentation included three slides that outlined increasing health care costs, and the benefits of Kaiser Permanente coverage.

The Board requested that the Health Care Authority (HCA) pursue another round of rates from Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Washington, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Northwest, and Premera Blue Cross. Depending on the response due to HCA on July 14, this could result in possible different proposed premiums for vote by the Board at the July 20, 2023 Board meeting.

### **Procurements Insights**

**Ryan Ramsdell**, Uniform Medical Plan TPA Unit Manager in the Employees and Retirees Benefits Division, provided insights about the procurement process used by the agency for the SEBB Program. The presentation included information about the agency's standard contract timeframe, what starts a procurement, procurement considerations, procurement time length, other factors impacting timeframes, and two examples using the procurement information.

### **SmartHealth: WebMD Implementation**

This presentation was moved to the July 20, 2023 meeting due to time constraints.

### **2024 Board Meeting Schedule**

**David Iseminger**, Director of the Employees and Retirees Benefits (ERB) Division, presented the proposed 2024 SEB Board meeting schedule. The schedule had no objections and will be filed with the code reviser..

### **General Public Comment**

The following members of the public provided comments:

- **Rick Chisa**
- **Jared Mason-Gere**
- **Nathan and Katie Johnson**
- **Shirley Chittenden**

Topics brought forth during public comments included concerns regarding the proposed 2024 SEBB premium increases (for all school employees, but especially classified staff), Kaiser Permanente's first fill program, and the benefits coverage level of SEBB Program benefits.

Their testimonies can be found in the audio recording for the July 13, 2023 SEB Board meeting at:

<https://www.hca.wa.gov/about-hca/programs-and-initiatives/school-employees-benefits-board-sebb-program/meetings-and-materials>

### **Next Meeting**

July 20, 2023  
9:00 a.m.

### **Preview of July 20, 2023 SEB Board Meeting**

**David Iseminger**, Director of the Employees and Retirees Benefits Division, provided an overview of potential agenda topics for the July 20, 2023 SEB Board Meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.