Health Care Cost Transparency Board meeting minutes

April 13, 2021
Health Care Authority
Meeting held electronically (Zoom) and telephonically
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Note: this meeting was video recorded in its entirety. The recording and all materials provided to and considered by the board is available on the Health Care Cost Transparency Board webpage.

Members present
Sue Birch, chair
Lois Cook
John Doyle
Bianca Frogner
Sonja Kellen
Pam MacEwan
Molly Nollette
Mark Siegel
Margaret Stanley
Kim Wallace
Carol Wilmes
Edwin Wong
Laura Kate Zaichkin

Call to order and welcome remarks
Sue Birch, chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Agenda items

Welcoming remarks
Sue Birch
Ms. Birch welcomed the Board to the second meeting. She shared her perception of public confusion about the work of the Board and pointed out a role for Board members in public outreach. She discussed the difference between the data call to carriers, and the role of the state All Payer Claims Database in determining cost drivers.

Adoption of March 15 minutes
The March 15 minutes were adopted unanimously, and consensus was put on the record.

Discussion and Adoption of Proposed Charter and Operating Procedures
The Board reviewed the proposed changes to the charter proposed in the materials. An additional motion was brought by Laura Kate Zaichkin to amend the vision statement. In the Board discussion, it was determined to keep some “flavor” of the stricken purpose statement related to the impact of the Board’s work on negotiations between
providers and carriers and new language was developed. Laura Kate Zaichkin moved to adopt a new vision statement, seconded by Molly Nollette. The Board approved the new vision statement. After thorough discussion of the strike out language, Margaret Stanley proposed a revised statement to be inserted into the purpose section. A motion was made by Margaret Stanley and seconded by Carol Wilmes to adopt the new statement. The Board voted affirmatively to adopt the changes to the statement. Laura Kate Zaichkin moved to adopt the amended document with submitted changes, and this motion was seconded by Carol Wilmes. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

Discussion and Appointment: Advisory Committee of Health Care Providers and Carriers

The Board reviewed the list of nominations received from nominating entities, and the proposed slate recommended by HCA staff. The Board requested additional representation from the Eastern region of the state, and representation from large provider and hospital systems. Laura Kate Zaichkin moved to approve the recommended slate and Molly Nollette seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. AnnaLisa Gellermann was directed to look for the additional representation requested by the Board.

Presentation: Beginning the process of defining the benchmark methodology and decisions we will cover today
Michael Bailit, Bailit Health

Presentation: Defining total health care expenditures
January Angeles, Bailit Health
Discussion of programs in Massachusetts, Delaware, Rhode Island, Oregon, and Connecticut.

Note: due to time, the remainder of the presentations scheduled for this meeting were deferred until the next Board meeting.

Public comment
There was no public comment.

Next meeting
Thursday, May 13, 2021
Meeting to be held on Zoom
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.