

Vermont Education Health Initiative (VEHI)  
Board of Directors  
Teleconference Meeting Minutes  
August 24, 2021

**Present:**

VEHI Board Members: Tracy Wrend – Board Chair – Joel Cook - Vice Chair, Peggy Maxfield, Lisa Grout, Zack McLaughlin and Geo Honigford

VEHI Management Team: Mark Hage, Chris Roberts, Bobby-Jo Salls and Jonathan Steiner

Members of the Public: None

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m., by Board Chair Tracy Wrend.

**Review and Adoption of Agenda:**

The agenda was adopted as presented.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Approval of Board Minutes: May 12, 2021**

Peggy Maxfield made a motion, seconded by Lisa Grout, to approve the meeting minutes of May 12, 2021 as presented. The motion passed.

**Set Annual Meeting Date**

A motion was made by Geo Honigford, seconded by Peggy Maxfield, to set the date and time of the meeting for November 5, 2021 at 8:15 a.m., at Lake Morey Resort and to set the date to close the Membership Books on October 22, 2021. The group discussed and agreed to inquire about a Zoom/conference line option for board members. The Motion passed.

**Management Updates**

a. VSTRS Transition Status (1/1/22)

Mark Hage updated the board on the status on the VSTRS transition to Medicare Advantage for their Medicare eligible population effective January 1, 2022. He noted:

- The extensive and complete VEHI/VSTRS contract for CY 2022
- The recent announcement to the field

- The full team (VSTRS/VEHI/VBA/BCBSVT) working collaboratively to communicate and educate members; including written materials, webinars and phone calls.

b. Contract Updates

Bobby-Jo Salls confirmed the contracts approved for signature in May have been completed and signed by VEHI and their partners; including Remedy Analytics, BCBSVT, VSTRS and Gallagher.

By request, Bobby-Jo provided a synopsis of the Compliance services provided by Gallagher and Mark provided an overview of the Remedy Analytics partnership.

c. Report on Optum Transition (7/1/21)

Mark noted that the transition to OptumRx was completed for a July 1, 2021 effective date, with only a small number of issues that were quickly handled by BCBSVT.

d. COVID-19 / DFR Request

Bobby-Jo noted that the review by DFR of the VEHI financials and claims data did not find a need for rate adjustment due to COVID, however, DFR indicated that it would be reviewed again at renewal time.

**Review VEHI Financials to-date**

Chris Roberts reviewed the FY 21 year-end financials; overall finishing the year better than anticipated, partially due to the positive change to the Market.

Geo Honigford motioned to accept the financials as presented by Chris Roberts. Joel Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Vermont-NEA**

**Quarterly Evaluation / Service Agreement**

Mark offered to answer any questions on his quarterly report that he provided in advance of the meeting. There was discussion about the retiree workshops that are specific to VT-NEA members and whether that should be offered for all as a VEHI benefit. Zach McLaughlin asked about education for all members and any validation that the work being done is effective. Mark explained that the VEHI Management Team did statewide presentations before the change in benefits for 2018. But since then the focus has been more toward

member materials and the general information on the website, although both Mark and Bobby-Jo would go to schools upon request, until COVID-19 prevented in-person visits.

There was a question on the research that Mark does on broader topics, like OneCare Vermont and the PCP shortage. Mark explained his position on research and when it began, and why he believes it is important and how it affects his VEHI work. Mark was asked by Geo to try and capture the amount of time spent on researching these broader topics.

Lisa made a motion to accept the VT-NEA service agreement as presented with the slight decrease in annual total compensation. Peggy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

### **Review and Adopt VEHI Budget**

Chris presented the FY 22 budget to the Board for consideration. The overall decrease to the budget of \$100,502 from FY 21. Joel Cook made a motion, seconded by Geo, to approve the FY 22 budget presented. The motion passed.

### **Discuss Future Agenda Items**

- Employee Education
- VEHI Audit
- FY 23 Rate Renewal

### **Set Date for Next Board Meeting to review and approve rate filing for FY 23**

The next VEHI Board Meeting will be Wednesday, October 13, 2021, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Bobby-Jo Salls