

**MINUTES**  
**Eastern Connecticut Health and Medical Cooperative**  
**Board Meeting – December 16, 2021**  
**2:30 PM-Zoom Meeting**

**Members Present:** Mike Belden, Julie Pendleton, Kate Ericson, Holly McCalla, Deb Martin, Jan Perruccio, Peter Nero

**Others present:** Joanne Lund, Thomas Kowalchik, Lynn Iannuzzi

**Meeting called to order at 2:34 PM**

**Standing Agenda Items:** Discussion and Possible Action

**1. Approve minutes of November 17, 2021:**

*Motion to approve November 18, 2021 meeting minutes, Julie Pendleton, seconded by Deb Martin*

*Approved: 7-0*

**2. Financial Status Report**

- a. November net position of \$9.6m up \$76k due to excess of receipts over claims.
- b. Claims up \$650k /14.5% YOY.
- c. Anthem refunds of \$75k were received; waiting for details to post to member positions.
- d. Large claims for November increased to 13 representing \$1,011.920; no claims exceeding stop loss; amounts received late due to timing of the meeting and were not included in the distributed reports.

**3. Marketing – new members:**

- a. CT Coastal Academy inquired about joining our group. They are not a Board of Ed or a municipality, this makes them ineligible per state statute.
- b. Kate Ericson spoke to Superintendent Wihbey from Regional School District 17. He is open for discussion this June.
- c. ISAAC school meeting to discuss their needs. Small group with one plan through United Healthcare. USI numbers presented to the group.

*Motion to Accept ISAAC as new member into ECHMC Not Approved: 0-7*

- d. Budget for Marketing: Consider designating some dollars toward marketing efforts. For consideration: paid advertising to support the overall growth of the plan. Suggestions for possible use of the undesignated funds. Jan Perruccio will ask CAPSS, and Holly McCalla will reach out to CASBO both will be looking to find out the cost for ads, size, and length of time of running the ads. Tom Kowalchik offered USI marketing team to design our advertisements.

**4. Update from Vendors/Anthem Update**

- a. **Wellness funds**—LEARN has been building some programs with Anthem. Lynn offered her support to all districts in getting their Wellness Plan actualized.
- b. **Question on Hartford rates for short-term disability.** Rates should have gone down due to paid family leave. Hartford will be requesting a census from district. As a group we will review the whole group.

**Old Business:**

- a. Performance guarantees—ECHMC took the Anthem Survey
- b. ECHMC policy for reserve funds—tabled until January meeting.

## New Business

- a. **Initial discussion of annual renewal rates:** Tom Kowalchik presented his analysis which shows a decrease.
- b. **RFP Fiscal Agency of ECHMC--tabled**
- c. **Agenda setting and format for January 27, 2022 meeting**
  - i. **Discuss reserve policy**
  - ii. **Discuss RFP**
  - iii. **Report back on marketing**

*Meeting adjourned at 3:47 PM*

Next Meeting – January 27, 2022 at 2:30 PM. Zoom information will be provided in a calendar invite.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kate Ericson

