



**MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING SUBCOMMITTEE
TO THE STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS COMMITTEE
APRIL 15, 2024**

The Health Policy & Planning Subcommittee to the State Employee Benefits Committee (the “Committee”) met at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, April 15, 2024 in a meeting. The meeting was held virtually and in-person at 841 Silver Lake Blvd., Suite 200, Dover, DE 19904.

Subcommittee Members Represented or in Attendance:

Director Faith Rentz, Statewide Benefits Office (“SBO”), Department of Human Resources (“DHR”) (Appointee of DHR Secretary Claire DeMatteis), Chair
Matt Clark, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (“AFSCME”) (Appointee of Shaun O’Brien, Policy Director, AFSCME)
Courtney Stewart, Deputy Director, Office of Management & Budget (“OMB”) (Appointee of OMB Director Cerron Cade)
Ashley Tucker, Deputy State Court Administrator, Administrative Office of the Courts (“AOC”), (Appointee of Chief Justice Collins Seitz, Delaware Supreme Court)
William Oberle, Delaware State Trooper’s Association (Appointee of Thomas Brackin, Executive Director, DSTA)
Treasurer Colleen Davis, State Treasurer, Office of the State Treasurer (Designee Matthew Rosen, Senior Policy Advisor, OST)
Stuart Snyder, Chief of Staff, Department of Insurance (“DOI”) (Appointee of Commissioner Trinidad Navarro, Insurance Commissioner, DOI)
Russell Larson, State Retiree (Appointee of Karen Field Rogers, State Retiree)
Robert Scoglietti, Deputy Controller General, Office of the Controller General (“OCG”) (Appointee of Controller General Ruth Ann Miller)

Subcommittee Members Not Represented or in Attendance:

Keith Warren, Chief of Staff, Office of the Lt. Governor (Appointee of Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long)
David Bentz, Deputy Director of Health Care Reform, Dept. of Health and Social Services (“DHSS”) (Appointee of DHSS Secretary Josette Manning)

Others in Attendance:

Deputy Director Leighann Hinkle, SBO, DHR	Jaclyn Iglesias, WTW
Stephanie Hartos, SEBC and SEBC Manager, SBO, DHR	Michelle Gast, WTW
Nina Figueroa, Health Policy Advisor, SBO, DHR	Walter Mateja, Merative
Pam Barr, SBO, DHR	Jennifer Moyer, Aetna
Brittany Ford, SBO, DHR	Charlene Hvrinak, CVS
Wendy Hrupsa-Sherwood, SBO, DHR	Sara Dunlevy, CVS
Susan Meadows-Arnold, SBO, DHR	Bria Greenlee, 302 Strategies
Samantha Mountz, SBO, DHR	Paula Roy, Roy & Associates
Leslie Ramsey, SBO, DHR	Louisa Phillips, DHA
Aaron Schrader, SBO, DHR	Cortney Smith
Crystal Sheats, SBO, DHR	Steven LePage
Cherie Dodge Biron, Director, Financial & Administrative Services, DHR	Carole Mick, SBO, DHR - Recorder, State Employee Benefits Committee and Subcommittees
Heather Johnson, Controller, DHR	

STATE OF DELAWARE STATEWIDE BENEFITS OFFICE

CALLED TO ORDER – DIRECTOR FAITH RENTZ, SBO

Director Rentz called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DIRECTOR FAITH RENTZ, SBO

A MOTION was made by Courtney Stewart and seconded by Bill Oberle to approve the minutes from the Health Policy & Planning Subcommittee meeting on March 18, 2024.

Abstentions – Robert Scoglietti, Stuart Snyder

MOTION ADOPTED.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT – DIRECTOR FAITH RENTZ, SBO

Director Rentz highlighted agenda items from this morning’s Financial Subcommittee meeting and the upcoming Retiree Healthcare Benefits Advisory Subcommittee and SEBC meetings. It was reported that on April 12, 2024, the Delaware Supreme Court issued an opinion reversing the Superior Court’s decision that the SEBC violated the Administrative Procedures Act by not following APA requirements to implement a Medicare Advantage Plan.

Russell Larson arrived to the meeting.

DISABILITY INSURANCE PROGRAM (DIP) RULES AND REGULATIONS – AARON SCHRADER, STATE HR ADMINISTRATOR, SBO

Subcommittee members were provided the Registrar of Regulations mark-up of the revisions to the DIP Rules and Regulations a week prior to this meeting to provide additional feedback or share concerns related to the proposed changes. In addition to the proposed changes that were reviewed and discussed by Subcommittee members at last month’s meeting, the Registrar mark-up document includes formatting and minor word changes as required by the Registrar of Regulation’s Delaware Manual for Drafting Regulations.

A Subcommittee member addressed concerns over the defined term “Health Care Provider” not aligning with the definition written within the Delaware Code. A concern was raised by a Subcommittee member on the word “misconduct” being used within the regulation and not being defined in the definitions section. Director Rentz will consult with the Deputy Attorney General on both concerns.

Subcommittee members recommended to support the revisions to the DIP Rules & Regulations and forward these revisions to the SEBC for consideration and approval subject to further discussion by the SEBC on the two outstanding concerns.

GROUP UNIVERSAL LIFE – MARKETPLACE REVIEW – JACLYN IGLESIAS, WTW

Jaclyn Iglesias provided an overview of the Group Universal Life (GUL) marketplace, impact of transitioning from GUL to a Term Life policy, and potential GUL procurement versus a contract renewal with the current vendor, Securian Financial. Subcommittee members were asked to provide feedback for the SEBC’s consideration.

Subcommittee members had a lengthy discussion on the options presented for life insurance and expressed mixed interest in the opportunities associated with a future procurement for life insurance benefits.

Subcommittee members recommended to negotiate a one-year extension with Securian Financial to allow the Subcommittee more time to further explore life insurance options. This discussion will continue at the May Health Policy and Planning Subcommittee meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A Member of the public provided comment on Delaware House Bill (HB) 350.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Robert Scoglietti and seconded by Courtney Stewart to adjourn the public session at 2:24 p.m.

MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Carole Mick, Executive Secretary, Statewide Benefits Office, Department of Human Resources
Recorder, State Employee Benefits Committee, and Subcommittees