

MINUTES

PUBLIC AGENCY COALITION ENTERPRISE (PACE)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 24, 2022

2:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS:

CARMEL AREA WASTEWATER DISTRICT	Barbara Buikema
DESERT HOT SPRINGS, CITY OF	Denise Abriel
FOWLER, CITY OF	Angela Vasquez
GUSTINE, CITY OF	Melanie Correa
LINDSAY, CITY OF	Mari Carrillo
MCFARLAND, CITY OF	Marilyn Garza
MODOC COUNTY	Chester Robertson
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Jennifer Bower, President
SANGER, CITY OF	Becky Ramirez
SONORA, CITY OF	Chris Gorsky
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, EL DORADO COUNTY	Shelby Wineinger
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, MENDOCINO CO.	Kim Turner, Secretary/Treasurer
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, SUTTER COUNTY	Joe Azevedo
SUTTER CREEK	Karen Darrow
TRUCKEE-DONNER RECREATION & PARK DISTRICT	David Faris, Vice President
UPLAND, CITY OF	Theresa Doyle

ALTERNATES:

DANVILLE, TOWN OF	Qiana London
LEMOORE, CITY OF	Amanda Champion
LINDSAY, CITY OF	Francesca Quintana
REDWOOD COAST ENERGY AUTHORITY	Patrick Owen
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES	Christina Nygard
RIO DELL, CITY OF	Karen Dunham
SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, MENDOCINO COUNTY	April Allen

MANAGERS:

KEENAN & ASSOCIATES	Peter McNamara
	Stacey Comerchero
	Nancy Schott

OTHERS:

KEENAN & ASSOCIATES

Dayna Gowan
Laurie LoFranco
Chris Jordan
Pam Cote
Angela McCray
Mona Reese
Yvette Fields

REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Xavier Thomas

GALLAGHER

Jason Simpson

ANTHEM

Ashley Frohling

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – February 24, 2022

Action

Presented by Jennifer Bower

2022-001

Motion to approve the February 24, 2022 agenda: 1. David Faris and 2. Chris Gorsky. Motion unanimously approved by the Board.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 9, 2021

Action

Presented by Jennifer Bower

2022-002

Motion to approve the December 9, 2021 minutes: 1. Kim Turner and 2. Melanie Correa. Motion unanimously approved by the Board.

VI. CORRESPONDENCE

Information

Presented by E. Peter McNamara

2022-003

An email from Anthem regarding online ordering of COVID test kits was reviewed. The Executive Committee voted not to implement the program given COVID test kits are more readily available now and many counties are providing test kits. The Executive Committee will review activating the program if conditions change and include an estimated cost to PACE in the 2023 plan year renewal.

Flyers were reviewed outlining the EmpiRx glucose meter program available at no cost to PACE Anthem members, if a meter hasn't been received in the prior 12 months. The flyers will be sent to the Full Board for distribution to EmpiRx members.

VII. FINANCIAL

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REVIEW

Presented by E. Peter McNamara

Information

2022-004

The Monthly Financial Review as of January 31, 2022 was reviewed. Total assets were \$6.9M and total \$2.7M in liabilities resulting in a net position of approx. \$4M. On February 23, 2022 PACE received a \$1.879M cumulative invoice from Anthem for the January 1, 2022 – February 22, 2022 period which translates to approx. \$235k per week, close to what was budgeted. The first quarterly MCSIG deficit recoupment payment of approx. \$107k was made.

PACE INVESTMENT POLICY FOR LAIF ACCOUNT

Presented by E. Peter McNamara

Information

2022-005

The PACE investment policy approved by the Executive Committee at the February 23, 2022 meeting was reviewed. At the January Executive Committee Meeting, it was recommended PACE keep approx. \$225k in a checking account and all other funds transferred to its account with the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF). LAIF funds will only be transferred back to the checking account if needed to allow for maximum interest opportunities.

ANTHEM UPDATE

Presented by Ashley Frohling

Information

2022-006

The January 2022 Anthem utilization report was not available due to a data upload issue.

Anthem’s new optional Virtual Primary Care (VPC) program was reviewed and will be accessed through the Sydney Health mobile app, as is the LiveHealth Online (LHO) program. A member will answer questions on Sydney to determine if the member should be directed to VPC or LHO for care. VPC can be used to see a primary care physician for routine/preventative care and chronic condition management issues whereas LHO providers can address physical urgent care as well as urgent behavioral health concerns. Using VPC a visit can usually be scheduled within 5-7 days after the request has been made, while with LHO a doctor will call the member back within approx. 15 minutes. While there is not an additional administrative fee per month to offer the VPC program, claims costs will be processed as telemedicine claims to PACE. A primary care visit through VCP is \$39 to the plan, a lower cost to the plan than an LHO visit. For HDHP plans, a member would be responsible for the \$39 per visit until the deductible is met. The VPC program is not intended to replace the LHO program, rather to provide another access point for non-urgent care for members.

Peter McNamara requested Joelle Jarmillo bring a comparison of sample claims costs for VPC and LHO to the next Executive Committee Meeting for consideration.

ANCILLARY UPDATES

Presented by E. Peter McNamara and Stacey Comerchero

Information

2022-007

The LiveHealth Online (LHO) January 2022 utilization report was reviewed. In January there were 11 new registrations increasing total registrations to 315 for PACE since January 1, 2020. The providers, both for physical and behavioral health care, continue to receive high ratings from members. Approx. 66% of members using LHO would have gone to a more expensive service option if they hadn’t accessed LHO.

Accessing telemedicine options, such as LHO or VPC, saves members time and PACE money.

Mari Carrillo asked if someone enrolled in CompleteCare would be eligible to use LHO. Peter McNamara explained not unless the member's spouse has access to LHO through the spouse's Anthem benefits or third party administrator.

ConsumerMedical is hosting a Behavioral Health Support Webinar on March 2, 2022; a flyer was included with the February Wellness Newsletter sent to PACE groups by Dayna Gowan. There will be a ConsumerMedical 101 overview webinar in March. It will be recorded and sent to the Full Board Members in April.

The EmpiRx January 2022 utilization report was reviewed. Claims in January 2022 ran a bit higher than in January 2021. There was approx. \$350k in pharmacy spend in January 2022 with \$261k (75%) spent on specialty medications incurred by just 2% of claims. Members should be encouraged to consider using bioequivalents/generic drugs at a lower cost than specialty drugs when possible.

For PACE Kaiser members, generic pharmacy utilization is approx. 88%.

Jennifer Bower let the Full Board know the PACE Executive Committee is exploring incorporating a policy regarding cost sharing around bioequivalents/generic drugs and specialty drugs to encourage use of bioequivalents/generic drugs where appropriate. If Board Members, have specific questions, please contact Stacey Comerchero or their Keenan Account Manager.

WELLNESS UPDATES

Presented by Dayna Gowan

**Information
2022-008**

An update on the PACE 2022 Health Management Program was reviewed. The program began February 15, 2022. There have been 117 registrations (109 members and 8 spouses) and 24 of the 32 groups participating, high participation for so early in the year. For 2022, the maximum reward increased from \$125 to \$150 per member and requires earning 12 points for the maximum reward. There are 32 point earning options, including three required items (personal health assessment, biometric screening and one behavior change challenge). There will be four behavior change challenge options with the first one beginning March 1, 2022. A meditation app, Wise@Work, which all PACE members can use, will be available soon. Members who register on the WellSteps app will be eligible for an early registration gift card drawing.

The Wellness Advisory Committee Meeting was held on February 10, 2022 with 14 agencies participating.

PACE WEBSITE

Presented by E. Peter McNamara

**Information
2022-009**

The Executive Committee approved the Scope of Work for development of a PACE website at the February 23, 2022 Meeting with a cost of approx. \$8,000 plus \$25 monthly maintenance costs for the first year. The goal is to have the website live by July 1, 2022.

Board Members are welcome to email Peter McNamara, Stacey Comerchero or their Keenan Account Manager with any suggestions for content on the website.

VIII. ADMINISTRATION

PACE NEW MEMBER ACTIVITY

Presented by E. Peter McNamara

**Information
2022-010**

There were two requests evaluated and quoted as potential members of PACE since the last Board Meeting:

1. Palos Verdes Library District – 43 eligible employees with 3 waivers. They currently are with a small business private exchange with age banded rates. Keenan was notified the District will not be joining PACE.

2. City of Big Bear Lake – 66 eligible employees with 3 waivers with age rated plans. An 18-month rate was quoted to renew January 1, 2023. Laurie LoFranco indicated the City may be joining PACE as of July 1, 2022.

IX. INFORMATION

MEMBER COMMENTS

Information

There were no member comments

MANAGER COMMENTS

Information

There were no manager comments.

X. AGENDA ITEMS NEXT MEETING

Information

Members and others may suggest items for consideration at the next meeting which will be held May 26, 2022 via Zoom.

- Monthly Financial Review, Anthem update, LiveHealth Online update, EmpiRx update and ConsumerMedical update.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:46 pm.