

Insure Montana Board of Directors Meeting 3/14/2012

Voting Board Present: Jim Edwards, John Thomas, Amanda Harrow, Katherine Buckley-Patton, and David Kendall (via phone)

Non-Voting Board members present: Carol Roy and Jessica Rhoades

Insure Montana Staff: Jill Sark, David Dachs, James Oster, Nancy Lightner, and Renee Little

Interested Parties: Ginger Lindsey (BCBS), Mark Walters (BCBS), Kim Weiser (MCC), Daren Engellant (phone), Howard Bouma (phone), Malinda Shafman (phone)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by John Thomas at 1:03 pm

Board Member Appointments: An updated list of the appointed board members was reviewed and discussed by John Thomas. His appointment was just renewed until January 2015. John also mentioned that Jim Edwards appointment expires as of June 30, 2012; so a decision will have to be made regarding his appointment in the upcoming future.

Approval of Minutes – Jim Edwards moved to adopt the prior board meeting draft minutes. Carol Roy seconded the motion. Public comment was invited. None was given. The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as written.

Insure Montana Staff Introductions: Jill Sark introduced Nancy Lightner as the new Purchasing Pool Specialist. Nancy will be handling the enrollment and changes for half the caseload with groups whose names begin with A-J.

Health Insure Co-op: Jim Edwards spoke to the board regarding the history and beginning stages of the approved Montana Health Co-op. He explained that the Affordable Care Act gave a provision for Health Co-ops to be allowed and to be set up by each state; he explained that not much information was provided in the ACA, so himself, his business partner Richard Miltenberger, along with former Commissioner of Insurance and Securities, John Morrison started researching and making connections to get more information regarding these mentioned co-ops. NASHCO – National Alliance of State Health Co-ops, has been set up as a result of their research, and they held their first conference in July of 2012. They were able to submit their application for federal funding by the required deadline and were awarded a federal grant to being the implementation of this co-op. The Health Co-op would be organized and run as a fully insured and state regulated health insurance carrier. Jim mentioned that they have just recently received the grant from the Federal government and now the necessary steps would be underway to begin enrollment in October 2013 for a January 2014 effective date. There was an article in the Helena IR on February 21, 2012 if you would like further information on this topic.

Financial Report

A. Current Budget – The current budget was discussed by Jill Sark in which she explained that by moving the funds from the Tax Credit to the Purchasing Pool will help balance this budget for fiscal year 2012.

B. Experience Projection – Jill Sark gave a brief explanation of the projected 2013 rate increase based off the current experience report for the Purchasing Pool provided by Blue Cross Blue Shield. It is on trend for about a 9.7% increase.

C. Enrollment report- Jill Sark gave a brief explanation of the enrollment of the Purchasing Pool, as of February 2012 there is 814 groups, with 1,871 subscribers and 3,443 members.

D. Transfer of Funds from the Tax Credit to the Purchasing Pool was the next item to be discussed. Jill explained to the board that 90 days notice has to be given to the budget office if Insure Montana wished to transfer funds from the Tax Credit program to the Purchasing Pool Program. She stated that the Purchasing Pool budget at this time was short by about \$1,000,000 and that funds could be transferred to balance the budget before the next fiscal year. David Kendall made a motion to give Jill permission to request that the money needed would be transferred from the Tax Credit program to the Purchasing Pool program by the deadline of March 31, 2012. Jim Edwards seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Renewal Report: James Oster gave a brief update regarding the Tax Credit program renewal. He indicated that to begin with there were 767 businesses participating in the Tax Credit program and that only 713 of them successfully completed their renewal. The majority of the businesses that were closed were due to non response, there were some closed due to lack of eligibility.

Renee Little explained that the Purchasing Pool January renewal was also completed and that while there were some groups that did not renew either because they were no longer meeting the participation requirements for the group health insurance, or not meeting the Insure Montana requirements, the majority of the renewals successfully completed their online and policy renewals and continue to be eligible.

Vision Exam Contract Update: Jill Sark gave an overview of the Vision Exam contract that was in effect January 2012 with VSP. In January 2012 there were 70 eye exams – 45 members, 13 spouses, and 12 children. In February 2012 there were 80 eye exams – 44 members, 16 spouses, and 20 children. Insure Montana has sent all the January eligible participants their \$15.00 Visa gift card and will process the February VSP file and disperse those gift cards.

Case Management: Ginger Lindsey stated that Blue Cross and VSP (the vision exam contractor) have been working diligently to transfer all of the necessary data from VSP to Blue Cross, and as of 3/14/2012 they were wrapping up the testing of the files and Blue Cross should begin to identify any high risk diagnosis codes and get the members into the Case Management program. She will give the board further information at the next meeting.

Association Renewals: Jill Sark gave a brief explanation that Insure Montana will begin to require that any Qualified Association Plans complete an annual renewal so that Insure Montana can document and keep up on any changes that might impact the Insure Montana program.

Audit Findings: James Oster gave a brief summary of the program Audits that he has been performing. He explained that instead of random group audits he has began Targeted Audits for areas in which there are high amounts of errors, this included household income reporting and group contribution. He requested tax forms and other income verification documents for all members who report their income in the 90% subsidy household bracket. He gave a breakdown of his results in which he explained 81% of the audits completed thus far, there is a projected annual savings of \$32,939.04. He also explained to the board that staff are making the necessary adjustments due to audit findings and going forward, and were not collecting any overpayments unless there is evidence of fraud.

Database Report: David Dachs gave a brief explanation of the changes that are happening with the Insure Montana database. He explained that the changes made to the renewal processes were successful and that he is currently working with the contractors to get the waitlist renewal to be completed online as well. He explained that changes with the database as in allowing members to receive their payment advices by email have also generated some savings for the program.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 1.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 2:28