

NH Prescription Drug Affordability Board

In-person / Remote Hybrid Meeting

Meeting January 29, 9:30 A.M.

NOTE: This meeting was recorded. All related documents (and a recording of the entire meeting) are available at: [New Hampshire Prescription Drug Affordability Board | New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services \(nh.gov\)](#)

CALL TO ORDER: Representative Gary Merchant called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M.

ATTENDING: *In person:* Representative Gary Merchant, Todd Fahey, Representative Jess Edwards, Executive Director Kirk Williamson, Jason Aziz. *Virtually:* Tom Sherman. Rep. Merchant elevated Tom Sherman to full member. A quorum was established. 8 minutes in, Dr. Robert Woodward joined. About 11 minutes in, Senator Daryl Abbas joined.

ABSENT: Senator Cindy Rosenwald, Senator Sharon Carson, Representative David Nagel.

AGENDA REVIEW: Rep. Edwards expressed his desire to talk about the redundancy report. A short discussion followed about the report, and that it was not posted in time to review the document at the meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR INTRODUCTION: Rep. Merchant introduced the new Executive Director, Kirk Williamson. MR, Williamson reviewed his pertinent extensive background with the Board. HE spoke about his vision and the need for prioritizing the facilitation and formation of the advisory council.

OCTOBER AND DECEMBER MINUTES: Rep. Merchant spoke about revising the October minutes to reflect his impression that everyone agreed, including Rep. Edwards, about the 3–4-year executive director position, striking the joint fiscal committee review for the position and that all were in support of the 3 LSRs. Edwards stated that he did support it, but he stated what he said first was that he didn't want to change the term length until the redundancy report was completed. He stated he felt peer pressure and that is why he went along with it. When he thought about it later, he didn't want to make substantive changes to the Board before getting the redundancy report in and reviewed. There was a disagreement between Rep. Merchant and Rep. Edwards as to how the October minutes should be worded. Tom Sherman made the point that the minutes for this meeting will reflect the fully captured sentiments. Todd Fahey made the motion to approve the October 30th minutes by changing "supports" to "supported" and Representative Edwards' noted his position today is at odds with his prior position. The motion was seconded by Tom Sherman. Motion to approve the December 18th minutes made by Tom Sherman, seconded by Todd Fahey. Motion passed with Merchant, Fahey, Woodward and Sherman in favor; Abbas and Edwards abstained. Motion passes.

PCMA PRESENTATION: Johnny Garcia made a presentation on White Bagging from PCMA's point of view. Pharmaceutical Care Management Association. The slide show is available for review on the website referenced above, as well as captured in the video. A lengthy discussion among Board members followed.

2024 GOALS

ADVISORY COUNCIL: Kirk Williamson spoke about sending out the letters to the advisory council members and having them fully established over the next couple of months. The Board discussed the parameters of such an establishment.

REDUNDANCY REPORT: Jason Aziz spoke about the redundancy report. There is a preliminary report. Deadline to publish on or before October 1, 2024. It is currently in the hands of the Insurance Commissioner.

He reviewed what the structure of the final report will be, including 3 main sections. A short discussion followed with the Board members, mostly regarding the timeline of the report's rollout.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Rep. Merchant spoke about the 3 bills. Conflict of interest was the first discussed and was, again, reviewed with the members, specifically about the process of removal. HB 1601 was discussed regarding the length of time for the executive director position, with it now being 4 years. Also discussed was the fiscal committee review aspect. HB 1365 was also reviewed, regarding the interchangeability of biologics.

FUTURE MEETING: February 26, 2024, at 9:30.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Heidi Kroll spoke, virtually, about white bagging, to provide an alternative to the buy and bill model, especially regarding hospital mark-ups. Heidi plans to send related documents to the Board for future discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: Representative Merchant adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

