

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
MUNICIPALITIES, COLLEGES, SCHOOLS INSURANCE GROUP  
February 23, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

The President called the regular meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 11:30 a.m.

\*Special Note: This meeting was a Zoom (virtual) meeting due to a Worldwide Pandemic. Attendees attended virtually by phone or computer.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve McDougall, Ana Aguillon, Glen Hanneman, Ryan Altemeyer, Patricia Garfoot, Yvonne Perez, Yolanda Salazar, Griselda Ortiz

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Neddie Sarmiento, Interim Executive Director  
Julia Hernandez, Executive Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Christine Riley, Keenan & Associates  
Tom Edwards, Keenan & Associates  
Eddie Barfield, Keenan & Associates  
Bordan Darm, Keenan & Associates  
Laurena Grabert, SETECH  
Mignon Strong, Blue Shield of California  
Amy Dehart, Blue Shield of California  
Brandie Barrows, Taylor English Duma, LLP  
David Koop, Delta Dental  
Steve Spigarelli, Delta Dental  
Katie Bassler, SVFT

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – February 23, 2023

Motion to adopt the agenda.

**MOTION:** Yvonne Perez                      **SECONDED:** Griselda Ortiz                      **MOTION CARRIED**

**YEA:** Steve McDougall, Ana Aguillon, Glen Hanneman, Ryan Altemeyer, Patricia Garfoot, Yolanda Salazar

**ABSENT:** None      **NAY:** None                      **ABSTAIN:** None

3. COMMENTS

No comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA: Notice to the Public:** The consent agenda is a component of the meeting agenda that enables the Committee to dispatch routine, standard, non-controversial, self-explanatory,

implementing (follow-up) items or items not requiring any discussion with one vote. Separate items on the consent agenda are not discussed before the vote and the entire consent agenda is voted on at once without any explanations or comments. If a board member or member of the public feels that an item on the consent agenda should be discussed, he/she may request the removal of that item from the consent agenda at the time the consent agenda is announced. Removed consent agenda items are considered separately, in their turn, after the consent agenda vote.

4. APPROVE Regular Minutes: Executive Committee Meeting: January 26, 2023
5. Renewal of Customer Service Contract with Rhonda Horn

The Executive Director recommended for Executive Committee to approve 3-year renewal (2023-2026) of existing terms with no increase over the previous contract.

**MOTION:** Glen Hanneman                      **SECONDED:** Griselda Ortiz                      **MOTION CARRIED**

**YEA:** Steve McDougall, Ana Aguillon, Ryan Altemeyer, Patricia Garfoot, Yvonne Perez, Yolanda Salazar

**ABSENT:** None                      **NAY:** None                      **ABSTAIN:** None

**ACTION ITEMS:**

6. CONSIDER FINAL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH

The Executive Committee on their February 23, 2023 narrowed the search to two firms: Bob Murray and Associates and CPS HR Consulting, they wanted a list of placements from each firm in Monterey County. Upon review and discussion of placements, Executive Committee unanimously agreed to contract with CPS HR Consulting.

**MOTION:** Yvonne Perez                      **SECONDED:** Griselda Ortiz                      **MOTION CARRIED**

**YEA:** Ana Aguillon, Glen Hanneman, Ryan Altemeyer, Patricia Garfoot, Yolanda Salazar, Steve McDougall

**ABSENT:** None                      **NAY:** None                      **ABSTAIN:** None

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

7. DELTA DENTAL PROVIDER NETWORK

David Koop and Steve Spiragelli, from Delta Dental, came before the Executive Committee to address the concerns of Monterey County Dental Providers leaving Delta Dental Network brought to them by Executive Committee, MCSIG and Keenan & Associates. David Koop stated that as a result of COVID, providers have chosen to retire, consolidate, close, evaluate insurance participation or go insurance free.

Delta Dental contracts with 124 PPO providers and 177 Premier providers in San Luis Obispo County, total number of dental providers are 177, there is an overlap with PPO and Premier providers. From February 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023 7 providers terminated from Delta Dental Network: all 7 were voluntary. From February 1, 2022-January 31, 2023 Delta Dental added 28 new providers and MCSIG members utilized 1 of those new providers.

Delta Dental contracts with 225 PPO providers and 277 Premier providers in Monterey County, total number of dental providers are 277, there is an overlap with PPO and Premier providers. From February 1, 2022 – January 31, 2023 15 providers terminated from Delta Dental Network: 10 were voluntary, 3 attrition (deceased, retired, moved), 2 were voluntary (due to fee schedules or leaving). From February 1, 2022-January 31, 2023 Delta Dental added 27 new providers and MCSIG members utilized 13 of those new providers.

Delta Dental stated they continue to have the strongest network in Monterey County, despite the geographic challenges. Delta Dental conducted an analysis to insure they are staying competitive; which showed that Delta Dental was reimbursing significantly above market for specialty providers. As a result, effective 1/1/2023 they decreased the reimbursement rate for specialty dentistry providers and increased reimbursement rate to general dentistry providers. Due to proprietary reasons, Delta Dental could not disclose what providers were affected with the decrease. Delta Dental will be conducting outreach to terminated providers to potentially bring back into the Delta Dental Network.

Delta Dental will present their Annual Financial Utilization report later this year.

#### 8. ALTAIS EVERSIDE CLINICS UPDATE

Background: In an effort to alleviate concerns of primary care and behavioral health access to MCSIG members Blue Shield subsidized pilot program to set up and manage two Altais & Everside Clinics (one in Monterey and one in Salinas) for exclusive use by MCSIG & CVT members; which was the main reason MCSIG decided to contract with Blue Shield as their medical plan provider.

Mignon Strong and Amy Dehart of Blue Shield came before the Executive Committee to inform them that in January 2023 Blue Shield had notified Altais & Everside Clinics of its intent to terminate all existing contracts, effective July 23, 2023. Disclosure: Blue Shield failed to disclose and state in contract that the expectation for pilot program to continue after the three initial pilot year; MCSIG and CVT members had to amount to 70% of membership by end of pilot, which was not met by January 2023.

As of January 2023, 1,632 MCSIG members were registered and 611 were provided with 2,519 services in 2022. In 2021, 570 members were provided with 2,766 services and in 2020 202 members were provided with 455 services. Blue Shield pays through Altais & Everside Clinics a total of 6.2 million annually, which equates to \$10,000 per member per year. Blue Shield's decision to terminate is solely on a financial basis.

The Executive Committee overstated their anger, concern, disappointment and surprise with Blue Shield on their decision to terminate Altais & Everside Clinics. Some of the Executive Committee members reiterated if only they would have known about Blue Shield's metric membership requirement or come to

them sooner about their intent to terminate contract, they could have made efforts to meet it or done something about it. Executive Committee also agreed that 3 years is just not enough time to change the behavior of our members to establish new doctor-patient relationships, especially during a global pandemic.

The Executive Director also expressed her disappointment. She stated that Blue Shield publicly committed to the pilot program in efforts to bring access to better healthcare to Monterey County and that Blue Shield knew this would be a huge investment not only financially but that of time.

Blue Shield provided alternatives that are still being explored with Everside. Blue Shield will provide an update at the next Executive Committee meeting.

#### 9. BROWN ACT TELECONFERENCING OPTIONS AND UPDATES

Brandie Barrows of Taylor English provided the Executive Committee with a chart, per their request, of the requirements to abide by for returning to in person meetings. Pre-existing Brown Act Rules must be followed. A quorum must be met at a single physical location, identified on the agenda within the boundaries of the local agency and needs to be open to the public. The public must be provided with either a two-way audiovisual platform, or a two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting. However, new rule AB 2449 provides flexibility to those board members that cannot attend in person. AB 2449 allows board members to attend remotely if they notify the board at their earliest opportunity and provide a general description of their just cause or emergency circumstance.

#### 10. SUNSET OF THE HIPAA MENTAL HEALTH PARITY EXEMPTION

Brandie Barrows of Taylor English provided recap that the provision that allowed self-funded non-federal governmental plans to opt-out of the requirements of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act will be sunsetting and after this year there is no opt-out allowed and all must comply. Ms. Barrows has been coordinating with Mignon Strong, of Blue Shield, and Tom Edwards, of Keenan, to identify benefits that are not in parity and require changes. List of changes will be brought to March meeting for action.

#### **REPORTS:**

- 11. FINANCIAL REPORT-Laurena Grabert, SETECH
- 12. BLUE SHIELD & WELLVOLUTION REPORTS-Mignon Strong- Blue Shield
- 13. KEENAN REPORTS-Bordan Darm & Tom Edwards, Keenan & Associates

Blue Shield and Keenan Reports were tabled to March 23, 2023 Meeting

**MOTION:** Ryan Altemeyer                      **SECONDED:** Glen Hanneman                      **MOTION CARRIED**

**YEA:** Steve McDougall, Griselda Ortiz, Ana Aguillon, Patricia Garfoot, Yvonne Perez, Yolanda Salazar

**ABSENT:** None                      **NAY:** None                      **ABSTAIN:** None

14. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Among the activity provider, the Executive Director reported that Bay View Academy's Board approved at their February 21, 2023 meeting to move forward with MCSIG membership. Participation Agreement will be brought to March 23, 2023 meeting for formal approval.

**CLOSING COMMENTS:**

15. COMMENTS FROM EC MEMBERS -None

19. DATE/AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETINGS (3/23/2023 11:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.)

1) Revised FY23 Budget, 2) Annual Audit Report, 3) Job Class & Comp Study Proposals

20. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 2:08 p.m.