

# **PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD MEETING**

**Monday, March 25, 2024**

## **Minutes**

### **AGENDA ITEM 1**

#### **Call Meeting to Order:**

Chair Van Mitchell called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**Board Members present:** Van Mitchell, Gerard Anderson, Ph.D., Eberechukwu Onukwugha, MS, Ph.D., Joseph Levy, Ph.D., Stephen Rockower, MD, FAAOS

### **AGENDA ITEM 2**

#### **Approval of minutes**

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to approve the January 29, 2024 meeting minutes as submitted. Stephen Rockower made the motion, which Gerard Anderson seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

**Action: Minutes APPROVED.**

### **AGENDA ITEM 3**

#### **Opportunity for Public Comment**

Executive Director Andrew York addressed multiple opportunities to provide public comment noting that written comments received after the deadline will be posted to the website and shared with the Board after the meeting. Dr. York also explained that the Cost Review Study Process is a tool for the Board to understand and study affordability issues and challenges around specific drugs.

Christina Shaklee advised that 16 written comments were received, provided to the Board and posted to the website.

Four people provided oral comment:

- Vincent DeMarco- President of the Maryland Health Care for All Coalition, Agenda Item Four- Cost Review Study- Selection of Drugs for Referral to the Stakeholder Council
- Amit Mickey Dhir- Clinician, Agenda Item Four- Cost Review Study- Selection of Drugs for Referral to the Stakeholder Council
- Mike Knaapen- HIV Policy Institute, Agenda Item Four- Cost Review Study- Selection of Drugs for Referral to the Stakeholder Council
- Derek Spencer- Gilead Public Health, Agenda Item Four- Cost Review Study- Selection of Drugs for Referral to the Stakeholder Council

#### **AGENDA ITEM 4**

##### **Cost Review Study - Selection of Drugs for Referral to Stakeholder Council**

###### **Attachment A, incorporated herein, Preliminary Identification of Potential Drugs for Referral to Stakeholder Council**

Through a powerpoint presentation, Executive Director Andrew York provided the Board with an overview of the Cost Review Study Process and presented information concerning the Potential Drugs for Referral to Stakeholder Council. As early as the next board meeting, members may select drugs for cost review study. This presentation is posted on the Board's website.

Chair Mitchell entertained a motion to approve for referral to the Stakeholder Council for input, Attachment A, March 25, 2024, Preliminary Identification of Potential Drugs for Referral to the Stakeholder Council (as submitted). Gerard Anderson made the motion which Stephen Rockower seconded.

Discussion was held on the motion and Attachment.

The motion proceeded to a vote. With no opposition, the Board unanimously approved, Attachment A, for referral to the Stakeholder Council for input.

**Action: Attachment A (March 25, 2024, Preliminary Identification of Potential Drugs for Referral to the Stakeholder Council) APPROVED for referral to the Stakeholder Council.**

#### **AGENDA ITEM 5**

##### **Regulations- Amend COMAR 14.01.02 Fee Assessment Regulations**

Assistant Attorney General Michele McDonald gave a short presentation addressing certain technical amendments to COMAR 14.01.02 Fee Assessment Regulations. This presentation and redlined amended regulations are posted on the Board's website.

Chair Mitchell requested a motion to approve the amendments to COMAR 14.01.02 Fee Assessment Regulations as submitted. Gerard Anderson made the motion which Stephen Rockower seconded. The motion proceeded to a vote. With no opposition, the Board unanimously approved the amendments to COMAR 14.01.02.

**Action: Amendments to COMAR 14.01.02 Fee Assessment Regulations APPROVED.**

## **AGENDA ITEM 6**

### **Administrative Update**

#### **a. Legislative Update**

Christina Shaklee briefed the Board on the 2024 Legislative Session and advised that PDAB staff have tracked approximately 38 bills (not including crossfiles) relevant to the Board's work..

#### **b. Website**

Executive Director Andrew York advised that the PDAB is working to transition the PDAB website to another hosting platform managed by the State of Maryland Department of Information Technology (DoIT). This transition should occur prior to the May 20, 2024 Board meeting.

#### **c. Stakeholder Council**

The next PDASC meeting will take place on April 29, 2024 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. If the PDASC needs more time to discuss the Drugs Referred to the Stakeholder Council a subsequent meeting may take place on May 6, 2024 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM These Stakeholder Council meetings will be held virtually.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

### **Chair's Update**

Chair Mitchell invited comments from the Board regarding today's meeting.

- Gerard Anderson expressed concern about staff capacity and the volume of work involved in the Cost Review Study Process as well as the process for handling confidential information. Joseph Levy echoed Gerard Anderson's comments.
- Stephen Rockower commented that he looks forward to the Cost Review Study Processing continuing and is also interested in how confidential information will be handled.

Chair Mitchell made closing remarks and advised that the next Board meeting will be held on May 20, 2024 at 2:00 PM. Board members should plan to attend the May meeting in person in Annapolis, Maryland.

## **AGENDA ITEM 8**

### **Adjournment**

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stephen Rockower made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Joseph Levy.

**Adjourned** at 2:48 PM