

**PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD MEETING**  
**Monday, July 25, 2022**  
**Minutes**

Chair Van Mitchell called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

**Board Members present:** Van Mitchell, Gerard Anderson, Ph.D., Eberechukwu Onukwugha, MS, Ph.D.

**AGENDA ITEM 2**

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

No persons registered for an opportunity to provide public comment.

**AGENDA ITEM 3**

**Approval of minutes**

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to approve the May 23, 2022 minutes as submitted. Dr. Anderson moved the motion, which Dr. Onukwugha seconded, and the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

**Action: Minutes APPROVED.**

**CHAIR'S PREROGATIVE**

The Chair exercised his prerogative to hear a portion of Agenda Item 9 (Chair's Update) out of order to recognize the work and support of the Maryland Health Care Commission (MHCC) and Dr. Renee Bovellev. Executive Director Andrew York presented the Maryland Health Care Connection and Dr. Bovellev with proclamations recognizing their service and contributions.

**AGENDA ITEM 4**

**FY 22 Contracting Annual Report**

Dr. York presented an annual review of PDAB's contracting activity.

The presentation is available on the Board's website.

**AGENDA ITEM 5**

**Fee Assessment Regulations COMAR 14.01.02 and .03**

Assistant Attorney General Michele McDonald advised that no comments were submitted in response to proposed regulations COMAR 14.01.02 and .03 (Fee Assessments) and the

regulations are ready for final adoption. If adopted at the July meeting the regulations would be published in the Maryland Register on August 12, 2022, and take effect on August 22, 2022.

The presentation is available on the Board's website.

### **Motion to Adopt Fee Assessment Regulations COMAR 14.01.02 and .03- Prescription Drug Affordability Fund**

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to approve the amendments to COMAR 14.01.02 and .03 as final. Dr. Onukwugha made the motion, and Dr. Anderson seconded. The Board voted unanimously in favor of adopting the final regulations.

**Action: Amendments to Regulations COMAR 14.01.02 and .03- Prescription Drug Affordability Fund APPROVED as final.**

## **AGENDA ITEM 6**

### **Cost Review Process**

Dr. York presented an overview of the statutory Cost Review Process provided in HG §21-2C-09 and discussed various options for additional metrics to identify drugs causing affordability issues.

The presentation is available on the Board's website.

## **AGENDA ITEM 7**

### **Supply Chain Report Policy Recommendations**

Dr. York provided an overview of the Supply Chain Report and the policy recommendations identified in HG § 21-2C-07, including the upper payment limit (UPL) action plan identified in HG § 21-2C-13 and § 21-2C-14. Dr. York also shared public comments received by the Board concerning these items.

The presentation is available on the Board's website.

### **Motion to Approve Supply Chain Report Policy Recommendations**

Chair Mitchell asked for a motion to approve the four policy recommendations as a single item (consent calendar): determine if it is in the best interest of the state to establish a process for setting UPL, develop a UPL action plan in accordance with HG § 21-2C-13 and § 21-2C-14, develop a transparency program, and develop an insulin affordability program. Dr. Anderson made the motion, which Dr. Onukwugha seconded. The Board then voted unanimously in favor of the motion approving the four policy recommendations.

**Action: Supply Chain Report Policy Recommendations APPROVED**

**AGENDA ITEM 8**

**Administrative Updates**

Dr. York provided an update on the implementation of the FY 23 Fee Assessment, and the status of the FY 22 Assessment. Dr. York discussed the *Inflation Reduction Act* and the potential overlap the proposed national policy could have on the Board's work. Additionally, Dr. York shared that as of July 1, 2022, PDAB officially transitioned to an independent agency and formed a new partnership with Maryland Health Benefit Exchange (MHBE). Dr. York advised that recruitment for the Health Policy Analyst position was concluded.

**AGENDA ITEM 9**

**Chair's Update**

Chair Mitchell announced that the next Board meeting will be held virtually on September 26, 2022.

The Chair asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Anderson made the motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Dr. Onukwugha.

**Adjourned** at 3:52 p.m.