

# **NY44 Health Benefits Plan Trust Board Meeting**

Minutes: Number 125, June 23, 2022

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## **Opening of Meeting 3:06 PM**

In attendance: Chair Jim Fregelette, Trustees Elizabeth Freas, John Pope, Michelle Okal-Frink, Candace Reimer, Christa McHale, Bob Giannicchi, Deborah Piatek and David Scalzo. Also attending: Office Coordinator, Lora Schasel, Benefits Specialist, Stacey Porter, Darcie Falsioni, Esq., Representatives from Oswald Companies, Steve Baltas, Janet Lukacs, John Kertis, Medhat Kaldas, and Jess Michel .

Not in Attendance: Vice Chair Donna Walters

### **1. Public Comments and Questions**

None

### **A. Presentations/ Informational Items**

#### **1. Fiscal Update**

Lora Schasel reported that from June through May there was little change in the equity position and the population had no significant change.

The first Rx rebate from Capital Rx was received for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2022 on 4/1/22 in the amount of \$1.4M and another rebate from PBD was received on 5/3/22 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> quarters of 2022 in the amount of \$57K bringing the total rebates received for the 2021- 22 plan year to \$4.8M.

The Trust will be requesting a payment from RDS for the 2021- 22 plan year by mid-August and have completed the steps for the application for the 2022-23 plan year. Enrollment grew by 175 from 7/1/21 to 7/1/22. Total cash and investments is currently \$63M. Revenue versus Expenses shows the Trust continues to be in good financial health with revenues ahead of expenses.

Dental claims showed a normal upward trend during August and September due to summer break for school/college as well as during December and January for winter recess. This was seen again during March/April due to spring break and it is predicted that they will likely level off in June.

## **Administrative Report**

### **1. Subrogation Report**

Lora Schasel reported in Stacey Porter's absence that there is a new negotiated subrogation reimbursement as of 6/10/22. The total claims incurred were \$36,618 and the negotiated reimbursement amount is \$17,839.12. The Trust will receive \$13,379.34 after the 25% vendor reduction is taken.

### **2. At Large Trustee Update**

Lora Schasel reported in Stacey Porter's absence that North Rockland has agreed to accept the Board of Trustees' invitation to join the Trust for the 2022 -2023 plan year with two At-Large

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Trustee positions. Several of the small schools have declined for the remaining two At-Large positions, and we have reached out to the next several small schools with an invitation to participate with a June 24<sup>th</sup> deadline for responses.

### **3. School Audits**

Lora Schasel reported in Stacey Porter's absence that 6 audits have been completed with the balance scheduled for July, August & September with the exception of North Rockland which still needs to be scheduled.

## **B. Consultant Report**

### **1. Subcommittee Updates**

#### **a. Financial Committee**

Medhat Kaldas, Oswald Companies, reported on utilization.

The month of April was 6% lower than the fiscal year (\$1,509 PEPM compared to \$1,603 PEPM). The fiscal year average of \$1,603 is 2% higher than the average from last year .

The average medical trend in our area ranges from 6.8 – 7.3%, but we are still below that average.

Annual claims utilization totaled \$106M and with fees and rebates totaled \$110.2M for an average of \$1,616 PEPM

The largest claimant has met the stop loss limit and the Trust's exposure is now capped. For the fiscal year, the 10 largest claimants averaged \$482K each.

The average prescription cost with the previous vendor was \$550.44 PEPM and the average cost with the new vendor (Capital Rx) is \$399.72 PEPM, a decrease of -27.7% (rebates are not included in this calculation )

#### **b. Communications Committee**

Janet Lukacs, Oswald Companies, reported on the website analytics.

The desktop continues to be the most used device to access the Trust website followed by mobile devices. As previously reported, the page-view report has moved to a complete quarter and incomplete current quarter format. The Enrollee/Western Region continues to have the most page views followed by Capital Rx. The number of users and page views for Q1 2022 was lower than for Q1 2021.

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## c. Population Health Committee

Michelle Okal-Frink reported that monthly wellness topics include:

- Men's Health Month
- National Safety Month
- 5 Fun Ways to Dive Into Aquatic Exercise

Michelle shared the updated district engagement points (excluding today's board meeting) and indicated that the districts should reach out to Jess Michel of Oswald Companies regarding points if they think the current total is incorrect. There will be a lot of upcoming opportunities to earn additional points.

A reminder was given that the Performance dashboard is a summary report of relevant district population health data such as demographics, top chronic conditions, top prescription drug utilization, etc. If schools are interested in a report for their district, they can send an email to [NY44@oswaldcompanies.com](mailto:NY44@oswaldcompanies.com) to request one.

A Wellness Committee Tool kit is available to help incorporate wellness into each district and includes the following information and documents:

- 'How-To' implement a wellness committee
- Meeting templates
- Sample agendas
- Mission statement assistance
- And more!

Interested districts should email [ny44@oswaldcompanies.com](mailto:ny44@oswaldcompanies.com) to request their kit

There are "On demand" wellness resources on the website under the participating schools tab which includes:

- Monthly Wellness Tips & Information
- On-demand Health/Wellness Articles & Videos
- Mindfulness Accessibility
- Tracking: Nutrition & Exercise

## d. Innovation Committee

Janet Lukacs, Oswald Companies, reported that the Subcommittee is presenting the Quality & Cost Transparency Member Incentive Program to the Trustees during the Executive Session today. The anticipated vendor for the program will be joining Executive Session to answer any questions regarding contract terms, guarantees on savings, and recommendations on setting member incentives with vendors.

Janet indicated that through April 30, 2022, there were net savings to the Trust in the amount of \$5.6M through Payer Matrix in claims costs for specialty drugs.

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## e. Benefits Committee

Steve Baltas, Oswald Companies, reported that the Sub Committee met on 6/22/22 and discussed the following:

- The Committee worked to analyze the College Tuition Benefit offered by our dental administrator, Guardian, in partnership with Sage. With very low participation of our members, and Guardian's discontinuance of the benefit, the Committee has made a recommendation to the Trustees.
- The Committee is analyzing the availability of the Independent Health Network for Erie1BOCES Southern Tier enrollees.

The Subcommittee's next meeting is scheduled for July 19, 2022.

## General Trust Business

### 1. Status of Districts

Depew Transportation Employees Administration, termination effective June 30, 2023

## Approval of Minutes

### 2. Meeting Number 124, May 19, 2022

The motion to approve the minutes from Meeting Number 124, held on 5/19/22, was made by John Pope, seconded by Michelle Okal-Frink and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

## C. Old Business

None

## D. New Business

1. Report on Board of Trustee Approval in Lieu of a Meeting:
  - a. Approval via email – confirmation of approval of District Engagement Incentive and Extension
2. Vote on Board Resolutions:
  - a. Approval of 2022/2023 Board Meeting Dates:
    - August 18, 2022, Noon
    - October 27, 2022, 3PM
    - November 17, 2022, 3PM
    - February 16, 2023, 3PM
    - March 16, 2023, 3PM
    - May 18, 2023, 3PM
    - June 22, 2023, 3PM

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The motion to approve 2022/2023 Board Meeting Dates, was made by Michelle Okal-Frink, seconded by John Pope and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

b. Approval of termination of SAGE Tuition Benefits

The motion to approve termination of SAGE Tuition Benefits was made by Elizabeth Freas, seconded by Deborah Piatek and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

## **Adjournment**

**1. Next Board of Trustees' Meeting will be on August 18, 2022 at 12:00 PM**

The motion to adjourn at 3:31 PM was made by John Pope, seconded by Michelle Okal-Frink and unanimously approved. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lora L. Schasel  
Secretary to the Board of Trustees