**Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board**

**Tuesday December 22, 2020 @ 10:30 am**

**Microsoft TEAMS Meeting**

Council members in attendance: Peter Hayes, Kenneth Mcall III (Mac), Noah Nesin, Jennifer Reck, Julia Redding, Rhonda Selvin & Susan Wehry

(Total = 7)

Council members absent: Frank Johnson

*(Council seat 0 vacant)*

Others Present:

Department of Administrative & Financial Services: Heather Perreault

Employee Health & Benefits: Shonna Poulin-Gutierrez, Paige Lamarre, Joel Hill & Roberta Leonard

All Others: Bethany Beausang; Kate Ende; Jonathon French; Matthew Guilbault; Jennifer Kent; Ryan Low; Holly Lusk; Collen McCarthy; Christina Moylan; Isabel Mullin; Rob Nadeau; Ann Robinson; Ann Woloson; Anne Wright; & Karen Yeaton

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| Agenda Item | Discussion; Christina Moylan | Action/Next Steps |
| I. Call to Order (10:31 am) | Kenneth Mcall called the meeting to order |  |
| II. Introductions |  |  |
| III. Approval of the Minutes (November 24, 2020) |  |

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| Anne Wright made motion to accept the amended minutes Kenneth Mcall seconded the motion; Motion passed.  |

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| IV. Monthly Business1. Presenters
2. Jennifer Kent - MEA Benefits Trust
 | Discussion highlights below:* Who We Are: The MEA Benefits Trust (MEABT) is a fully insured ERISA Trust established in 1993
* MEABT Health Plans: The Trust offers 4 health plan options to participating school districts
* Pharmacy Benefits: The Trust uses Ingenio Rx’s National formulary
* MEABT: Trust conducted an extensive RFP in 2018 for medical and pharmacy benefits
* LD1499 – MPDAB Powers & Responsibilities: Determine annual spending targets for prescription drugs purchased by public payors based on a 10-year rolling average of the medical care services component of the USDOL, Bureau of Labor Statistics CPI medical care services index plus a reasonable percentage for inflation and minus a spending target determined by the board for pharmacy savings;
* LD1499 MPDAB Recommendations: LD1499 proposed methods for public payors to meet spending targets established through the Board
* Kenneth McCall asks if the 58K active plan members includes employee’s families? Jennifer Kent answers yes, the 58K includes dependents
* Noah Nesin asks what is the mean age of your beneficiaries? Jennifer Kent answers 42.
* Noah Nesin asks how do your beneficiaries health risk scores compare to other large public contracts with the state? Jennifer Kent answers that she is unsure at the moment.
* Jennifer Reck asks when the current contract expires? Jennifer Kent answers June 2022
* Jennifer Reck asks is the Ingenio contract & the Anthem contract two separate units? Jennifer Kent answers no they are within the same contract but have separate agreements within the contract.
* Susan Wehry asks what is the parallel analysis of the between the pharmacy trends and the health outcomes for June 2020 and when will they see the whole picture? Jennifer Kent answers that they have recently reviewed their data up to June, and they need to review both the Pharmacy and Medical sides, but they do analyze at an annual basis.
* Kenneth McCall asks how many schools within the Maine district currently participate within the plan? Jennifer Kent is unsure at this time.
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| 1. Robert Nadeau – Maine Community College System
 | Discussion highlights below:* MCCS Staff:
	+ Estimated Full-Time employees: 800
	+ Estimated Part-Time employees: 650
	+ Approximately 770 employees on the health plan each year
	+ Average age of employee: 50
* MCCS:
	+ Serve approximately 16,000 students
	+ 7 locations
	+ The colleges are within 25 miles of 94% of Maine’s population
* MCCS Students: Since 2003, MCCS has awarded over 40,000 college credentials
	+ Average age of degree seeking student is 26
	+ 40% of adult learners age 25 or older
	+ 56% of students report that they work 20 or more hours per week in addition to their studies
	+ Over 70% of students receive some form of grant aid
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| iii. Anne Wright – Maine Municipal Employees Health Trust | Discussion highlights below:* What is the Health Trust: Established in 1983 as an ERISA plan and a VEBA Trust, a nonprofit group
* Our Health Plan Partners:
	+ Health Plan TPA: Anthem
	+ Pharmacy Benefit Manager: IngenioRx
	+ Reinsurer: Anthem
	+ Actuary: Cheiron
* Our Health Plans: Six health plans for active employees and non-Medicare retiree
* Prescription Drug Tiers:
	+ Tier 1a – Select Generic
	+ Tier 1b – Standard Generic
	+ Tier 2 – Preferred Brand Name
	+ Tier 3 – Non-Preferred Brand Name
	+ Tier 4 – Specialty and Lifestyle Medications
* Prescription Drug Affordability Board: Duties of the Board (PL Chapter 471, s. 2042 (1)):
	+ Determine annual spending targets for prescription drugs purchased by public payors
	+ Determine which public payors are likely to exceed the spending targets
	+ Determine spending targets on specific prescription drugs that may cause affordability challenges to enrollees in a public payor health plan
* MMEHT Questions:
	+ What is the ultimate goal of establishing spending target?
	+ How does establishing spending targets for public payors make prescription drugs more affordable to individual enrollees?
	+ Changing formularies might help to lower costs by not covering certain high-cost medications – but how does this help individual enrollees?
	+ Would it be more effective to educate providers on the cost of medications, so that they take that into account when prescribing for their patients?
* MMEHT Concerns: Public payors have different
	+ Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)
	+ PBM Contracting Arrangements
	+ Prescription Drug Formularies
	+ Rx Plan Cost Shares for Members (Copays, Deductibles, Coinsurance, etc.)
	+ Actuaries and Actuarial Needs
	+ Funding Arrangements and Requirements (fully insured, self-insured, etc.)
	+ Memberships (single employer, multiple employer, union, etc.)
	+ Plan Structures (governmental, ERISA, MEWA)
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| iv. Ann Woloson – Consumer for Affordable Health Care | * Rescheduled for next month’s meeting
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| V. Other Businessa. Open Discussion |  |  |
| VI. Education | No Education Planned This Month  |  |
| **VII. Adjourn (12:31 am)** |  |  |

**Next meeting: January 8, 2021**