

1 **Washington Vaccine Association**
2 **Board of Directors Meeting**
3 **June 16, 2022; 2:00-4:00 p.m. (PT)**
4

5 **I. Attendance.** Due to COVID-19, this meeting was conducted solely by webinar. Participating in all or part of the
6 meeting were the following individuals:
7

8 <u>Directors</u>	21 <u>WVA</u>
9 Chad Murphy, PharmD, <i>Chair</i> , Premera	22 Julia G. Zell, MA., Esq., Executive Director
10 Beth Harvey, MD, South Sound Pediatrics, <i>Vice Chair</i>	23
11 Ed Marcuse, MD, Emeritus Professor of	24 <u>Helms & Company, Inc.</u>
12 Pediatrics, University of Washington, <i>Secretary</i>	25 Patrick Miller, MPH, WVA, Administrative Director
13 Randy Parker, Carpenters Trusts	26 Lisa White, MS, JD, Customer and Financial Support
14 John Sobeck, MD, Regence Blue Shield	27 Specialist
15 Michele Roberts, Washington Department of Health	28 Leslie Walker, CPA, Mason+Rich, PA
16 Lydia Bartholomew, MD, Aetna	29
17 John Dunn, MD, MPH, Kaiser Permanente	30 <u>Others</u>
18 Cathy Falanga, Aetna (proxy)	31 Anne Redman, Perkins Coie
19 Kara Manley, United	32 Rick Hourigan, MD, Cigna
20	33 Janel Jorgenson, Washington Department of Health
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35 **II. Summary of Actions Taken and/or Recommended**
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37 Actions Taken (votes adopted)

- 38 i. To approve the minutes of the April 14, 2022, Board meeting with edits to line 106.
39 ii. Vote to confirm K. Manley as a Board Member
40 iii. Vote to appoint J. Sobeck as Treasurer
41

42 **III. Minutes**
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44 Welcome and Introductions

45 Mr. Murphy called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m. Ms. Zell announced that the meeting would be recorded for the
46 benefit of the minute taker, to be deleted once the minutes are approved. Ms. Zell introduced Ms. Manley to the
47 Board. Mr. Murphy previewed the agenda.
48

49 Consent Calendar

50 Mr. Murphy asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously
51

52 **VOTED: To approve the minutes of the April 14, 2022 Board Meeting with edits to line 106**
53 **regarding a Department of Health (DOH) report.**
54

55 Mr. Murphy asked for a motion to confirm Ms. Manley as a board member. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it
56 was unanimously
57

58 **VOTED: To confirm Ms. Manley as a Board Member whose term expires in 2025 pursuant to**
59 **RCW 70.290.030 (3)(a).**
60

61 Mr. Murphy asked for a motion to appoint Dr. Sobeck as the WVA Board Treasurer. Upon motion duly made and
62 seconded, it was unanimously
63

64 **VOTED: To appoint Dr. Sobeck as the Board Treasurer.**
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66 **IV. Financial Update**
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68 Financial Statements

69 Ms. Walker reported that the WVA is in a strong cash position with approximately \$12 million held in liquid cash and
70 approximately \$44 million with investments. She reported that the WVA cash balance has not decreased as much as
71 anticipated, with about a \$2 million dollar decreases reported to date in the current fiscal year.

72
73 Mr. Miller reported that the fund source split is expected to impact the WVA's overall fiscal position; however, the
74 DOH will continue to review practice profiles and work with the CDC through the summer months so that any change
75 should not take effect until much later in the year.

76 77 **V. DOH Updates**

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79 Ms. Roberts and Ms. Jorgenson provided an update on the status of hiring a director for the Office of Immunization
80 and Child Profile, which was a position Ms. Roberts held. Once the position is filled, Ms. Roberts will transition her
81 board seat, but expects it will be closer to 2023 when she rotates off.

82
83 Ms. Roberts reported that the DOH is close to a rollout of COVID vaccines for children aged six months through age
84 five. Guidance from the FDA is expected in the next week. Ms. Roberts reported that the DOH is expecting
85 clarification from the FDA and CDC in the coming months regarding booster dose recommendations for the COVID
86 vaccine in all ages.

87
88 Ms. Roberts provided an update on a report the DOH has produced with two years of data around routine childhood
89 vaccinations and the impact the pandemic had on those rates. Ms. Roberts committed to sending the report by email
90 to Ms. Zell.

91
92 Ms. Jorgenson provided an update on the Childhood Vaccine Program (CVP). She noted various efforts DOH has
93 made to increase vaccination rates. She noted that DOH has been using Immunization Information System records to
94 target parents. She described letters that the DOH distributed to parents of kindergarten age children, letting them
95 know if they were past due for school entry required vaccinations and encouraging them to make an appointment to
96 get their child vaccinated. Next, Ms. Jorgenson noted a new GSK MMR vaccine is expected to receive a recommended
97 and will potentially be added to the state contract for inclusion in the universal program. The WVA will need to add
98 this product to its Grid. Lastly, she stated that the CVP program is going through its standard audit, the results of which
99 will be shared with the Board.

100 101 **VI. ED/AD Updates**

102 103 Provider Outreach

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105 Ms. Zell provided an update on provider outreach work. She noted that she and Mr. Miller had been utilizing payer
106 generated data to target the largest volume providers with apparent errors in their DBA processes. She described the
107 various issues that they had identified. Simultaneously, Ms. Zell and Mr. Miller have been working on increasing
108 overall compliance through their direct mailings of the statutory assessment grid and new provider-specific billing
109 guide. She also noted that the WVA has been updating its contact lists to create an accurate database of two to three
110 contacts at each facility. Mr. Miller reported that provider outreach calls have been successful in that there are
111 recoveries in progress. Mr. Miller reminded the group that when a new practice comes on with the DOH, Ms. White
112 reaches out directly to the office billing staff to provide an overview of the WVA process.

113 114 Direct Care Practices

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116 Ms. Zell introduced the topic of direct care practices and raised a concern for discussion that these practices are an
117 area of leakage because they do not bill insurance and therefore cannot completed the DBA process. dosage-based
118 Ms. Roberts reported that the DOH has committed to having an internal discussion, with guidance from the WVA,
119 about how to address this issue and will circle back with this group with an update in the next few months. Several
120 Board members commented about the problems generated by direct care practices.

121 122 Quarterly Goals

123

124 Ms. Zell highlighted a few key quarterly goals not otherwise mentioned in the meeting. First, she reported that website
125 improvements are underway which will improve accessibility. She also noted Board governance updates and the Board
126 handbook, to be delivered to Ms. Manley as a new member. Lastly, she called upon Mr. Miller who reported that the
127 annual mailing to providers has been completed with approximately 2,100 provider packets mailed out.
128

129 **VII. Public Comments.**

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131 Dr. Hourigan, a member of the public and employee of Cigna, commented that in consideration of direct care groups,
132 he would advise that the payers cover the costs of vaccines because it is more important to get children immunized.
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134 **VIII. Executive Session.** Confidential.

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136 **IX. Closing.**

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138 With no further business before the Committee, Mr. Murphy closed the meeting at 4:01 PT.