

**Washington Vaccine Association
Executive Committee Meeting**
February 16, 2023; 2:30-3:30 p.m. PT

- I. Attendance.** This meeting was conducted solely by webinar. Participating in all or part of the meeting were the following individuals:

Directors:

John Dunn, MD, Kaiser Permanente, **Chair**
Beth Harvey, MD, South Sound Pediatrics, **Vice
Chair**
Ed Marcuse, MD, Emeritus Professor of Pediatrics,
Secretary
John Sobeck, MD, Regence, **Treasurer**

WVA:

Julia Walter Zell, MA., Esq., Executive Director

Helms & Company, Inc.:

Patrick Miller, MPH, WVA Administrative Director
Ashley Ithal, MPH, WVA Program Support

Others:

Anne Redman, Esq., Perkins Coie, Outside Counsel
Kiran Griffith, Esq., Perkins Coie, Outside Counsel
Chris Schattenkerk, GSK (Retired)

II. Summary of Actions Taken and/or Recommended

Actions Taken (votes adopted)

- i. To approve December 8, 2022 meeting minutes.

III. Minutes

Welcome & Introduction

Dr. Dunn called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. and subsequently took attendance and provided notice of recording. Ms. Redman introduced Ms. Kiran Griffith, a partner at Perkins Coie who will serve as back-up legal counsel for the WVA.

Calendar Consent Items

After hearing no comments, Dr. Dunn asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve December 8, 2022 meeting minutes.

Current Financial Position

Ms. Zell gave a financial overview, noting some of the cash flow unpredictability the WVA has experienced in recent months. She asked Mr. Miller and Ms. Walker to provide additional details. Mr. Miller reported that the WVA's current cash levels are \$3 million under projections, however, there are ample reserves for vaccine funding activities. By maintaining the same Assessment Grid amounts for the past three years, the historical over collections have leveled out. Additionally, the fund source split changes were not part of last April's projections as the WA Department of Health (DOH) had not completed their analysis at that time. We will receive a final projection packet from the DOH on April 1, 2023, to assist us in our future fiscal year projections. Ms. Zell reported that Morgan Stanley will attend the board meeting next week to provide an update on the bond portfolio. Ms. Zell added that the WVA will continue to move cash from KeyBank to Morgan Stanley in between vaccine funds transfers to take advantage of higher interest rates. Ms. Zell noted that instead of keeping available funds in the bond portfolio, the WVA has been utilizing the money market account which is "ultra liquid" and has return rates close to 4%. Dr. Marcuse commented that he thinks the Board and Finance Committee should take another look at the reserve targets given the instability in the healthcare market and vaccine world. He advised that there may continue to be upheaval in vaccine developments that could impact WVA funding needs.

46 FY2024 (2023-24) Budget Draft

47 Mr. Miller reviewed the timeline for the WVA FY2024 Budget and Vaccine Assessment Grid development
48 processes, which are expected to be finalized at the end of April 2023. Mr. Miller displayed the first draft of the
49 budget and reported that several of the budget items are increasing from last year; they include: clearinghouse
50 processing fees due to consolidation of clearinghouse organizations, insurance premiums, and potentially, the
51 Helms administrative contract. Mr. Miller reported an expected 6% total increase in the 2023-2024 budget. An
52 updated budget will be presented to the Finance Committee in March and the Board of Directors in April.

53
54 FY2023 (2022-23) Audit Process

55 Ms. Zell stated that she anticipates retaining Clifton, Larson, and Allen for the FY2023 audit, but noted a
56 significant change in the engagement letter and proposed master services agreement with an accompanying
57 statement of work Due to changes in the agreement format, language, and terms, Ms. Zell will have Ms.
58 Redman review the documents prior to sending to the Finance Committee for approval.

59
60 COVID-19 Updates

61 Ms. Zell shared new information about the planned transition to COVID vaccine commercialization and the
62 impact to the WVA. August 11, 2023 is the anticipated commercialization date per the WA DOH with pricing
63 expected to be \$110-130 per dose prior to the CDC discount. Mr. Miller stated that the provider network
64 composition will play a significant role in determining the WVA rollout and cost. He reviewed the workplan –
65 primarily communications related – outlined in the meeting materials. Dr. Marcuse stated that future COVID
66 vaccines could look very different over the next few years. He stated that the COVID vaccine pipeline is a
67 moving target, and we have already moved from monovalent to bivalent vaccines and multivalent formulations
68 may be next. Dr. Dunn expressed agreement. Ms. Zell has asked the WA DOH to provide a report at the Board
69 meeting next week.

70
71 WA DOH Flu 2023/24 Pre-Buy

72 Ms. Zell reported that the DOH flu vaccine pre-purchase and booking information was submitted last week,
73 which included reductions over last year due to Kaiser Permanente’s private purchase strategy. Further
74 discussion followed regarding private payer flu data that was given to the WVA for analysis. After reviewing
75 the data, it appears that in prior years the WVA funded more vaccines than were administered. Mr. Miller and
76 the Committee speculated as to the reasons for the discrepancy but cited the fund source split allocation as the
77 most likely cause.

78
79 Compliance Update

80 Ms. Zell provided an update on payer compliance as it relates to patient responsibility. Last month, a meeting
81 was held with WVA Board members from three of the largest payers to review what the WVA believes shows
82 that these payers are still imposing patient responsibility for vaccine costs. Subsequently, each payer was
83 provided with a sample data file to review and provide comments. Follow-up meetings with two of the three
84 payers have been scheduled to review their findings. Workplans tailored to the findings will be created. Ms.
85 Redman and Ms. Griffith stated that there may be conflicts of interest between some Board members that might
86 require future recusals on decisions related to patient responsibility. Ms. Zell agreed and provided plans to
87 follow-up with the Board and each payer.

88
89 **IV. Closing.** The meeting concluded at 3:30 p.m.