



**Joe Lombardo**

*Governor*

**Valerie Clark**  
*Chair*

**Russell Cook**  
*Executive Director*

# Silver State Health Insurance Exchange

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## Silver State Health Insurance Exchange (SSHIX)

### Board Meeting

### Draft Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

#### **Meeting Location:**

Zoom and Teleconference, or 2310 South Carson St., Suite 3A, Carson City, NV 89701

#### **Members Present**

##### **Zoom:**

Valerie Clark  
Jonathan Johnson  
Lavonne Lewis  
Quincy Branch  
Sam Kumar  
Stacie Weeks  
Todd Rich  
Dr. Sarah Friedman

#### **Members Absent**

Amber Torres

#### **Staff Members Assisting**

Russell Cook, SSHIX  
Katie Charleson, SSHIX  
Rosa Alejandre, SSHIX  
Tiffany Davis, SSHIX  
Kaitlyn Blagen, SSHIX  
Kassie Fuentes, SSHIX  
Michael Detmer, DAG

#### **I. Call to Order, Welcome, Roll Call, Announcements**

Chair Valerie Clark called the 1:30 p.m. meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken by Tiffany Davis; a quorum was noted.

#### **II. Public Comment**

Mike Denham, VSP primary point of contact through the partnership with the Nevada Exchange, asked if he could address and review the letter presented to the Board for public comment. Mr. Denham noted the model in place is a co-branded redirect link, which required very little IT resource or human capital to implement and is cost neutral for the Exchange due to the hosting fee. Mr. Denham also explained how pivotal a well eye exam can be to overall health, and how well their customer service has been.

### **III. Executive Director Report: Report Providing Updates on Topics that Cover Operations of the Exchange.**

Russell Cook, Executive Director, provided the Board with a report, noting the Exchange completed a significant number of major milestones.

Chair Valerie Clark called for questions.

Sam Kumar asked why the response rate was 4% during the unwinding period.

Russell Cook explained that the inference was net premiums being the driving consideration for the majority of individuals.

Jonathan Johnson asked where Nevada was in comparison to other states.

Russell Cook acknowledged that Nevada was on the low end of the conversion rate but noted that other states were using methodologies that might have given a falsely inflated impression of that conversion rate.

Jonathan Johnson asked what the department looks like now, in terms of open positions, and if those employees' departures were voluntary.

Russell Cook stated they were amicable, and coincidentally were both due to out-of-state residency.

### **IV. Navigator Program Overview of Goals, Funding, and Selective Criteria.**

Russell Cook along with Rosa Alejandre, the Exchange's Navigator Program Coordinator, presented a slideshow concerning the Navigator Program, providing a summary general information about the background and framework of the program while also looking at perspective potential for future enhancement and future integration with Medicaid eligibility, enrollment assistance, and other activities.

Chair Valerie Clark thanked Mr. Cook for the very thorough report and opened the floor for questions.

Todd Rich explained various ways their office could and would help with this program if needed.

Stacie Weeks commented that she would like to work with this program in aligning it with Medicaid to leverage the 50/50 match.

### **V. Marketing and Outreach Update: Presented by the Exchange and Marketing Partner, The Abbi Agency.**

Katie Charleson, Communications Officer at the Exchange, presented a high-level overview of the report about what has been happening recently.

Connie Anderson, Chief Strategy Officer with the Abbi Agency, covered high-level tactics including additions this year.

**VI. Marketplace Stabilization Program Update: Presented by Stacie Weeks, Administrator, DHCFP.**

Stacie Weeks provided an update on the request from members about the public option called the Battle Born State Plans and the waiver that the state is seeking for the operation of the program and federal funding. She also spoke to the Governor's portion of the plan to implement the program under state law and mitigate any impacts to the market, thus being called the Market Stabilization Plan.

**VII. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Adoption of Silver State Health Insurance Exchange Bylaw Amendment as Proposed by Sub-Committee.**

Chair Valerie Clark presented the subcommittee's proposal to add language to Article IV to include, "The Board shall establish a procedure for an annual evaluation of the Executive Director."

**MOTION To adopt and accept the language as submitted by the subcommittee.**

**BY: Mr. Branch**

**SECOND: Ms. Lewis**

**PASS: Unanimously**

**VIII. Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Implementation of Recommended Executive Director Evaluation Process as Proposed by Sub-Committee.**

Chair Valerie Clark presented, on behalf of the subcommittee, the proposed process by which the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange subcommittee would work in reference to the evaluation of the Executive Director.

**MOTION To approve the process voted on by the subcommittee to evaluate the Executive Director of the Exchange.**

**BY: Mr. Kumar**

**SECOND: Ms. Lewis**

**PASS: Unanimously**

**IX. Review and Discussion of Continuance of Existing Agreement with VSP Individual Vision Plans.**

Russell Cook briefly introduced this agenda item with stating this was an opportunity to review the Exchange's existing contractual agreement with VSP and consider the future status.

Mike Denham, VSP point of contact with the Exchange, presented a power point showing why the Exchange should keep the existing contract with VSP Individual Vision Plans.

Chair Clark noted that, in her opinion, this was more of a matter of making sure there are competitors available.

It was determined that no change was needed to the current contractual agreement.

**X. Consideration and Possible Creation of a Formal Policy related to Vision Carrier Partnership.**

Sam Kumar asked Russell Cook if he would be able to do some research to determine if any other carriers would be interested in an opportunity to participate in order to provide a competitive marketplace and send them through the vetting process.

**XI. Discussion and Possible Action of Creating Various Advisory Committees for Proper Oversight and Support of the Exchange.**

Sam Kumar suggested, in the interest of time, to table this until the next meeting. Mr. Kumar also offered to prepare a document for members to pre-read to be better prepared.

**XII. Topics, Dates, Times, and Agenda Items for Future Meetings.**

Chair Clark referred to the previous agenda items as added topics for the next meeting.

Tiffany Davis noted that the next meeting is scheduled for December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**XIII. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**XIV. Adjournment**

Chair Valerie Clark called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Sam Kumar motioned to adjourn.

Lavonne Lewis seconded the motion.

Chair Clark thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting.