MNsure Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 1 – 3 p.m.
81 East 7th Street, St. Paul, MN, 1st floor atrium

Participants in attendance: Phil Norrgard – Chair, Peter Benner, Martha Eaves, Commissioner Tony Lourey, Suyapa Miranda

Not in attendance: Kathy Sheran – Vice Chair, Edgardo Rodriguez

Staff in attendance: Nate Clark, Aaron Sinner

Meeting Topics

Welcome

Phil Norrgard, Board Chair

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Phil Norrgard, board chair.

Phil read MNsure’s purpose: The purpose of MNsure is to ensure that every Minnesota resident and small business, regardless of health status, can easily find, choose and purchase a health insurance product that they value and does not consume a disproportionate share of their income.

Phil welcomed Commissioner Tony Lourey to the board and noted the departure of Commissioner Emily Johnson Piper, expressing gratitude for her service.

Phil noted Edgardo Rodriguez and Senator Kathy Sheran were unable to attend the day’s meeting.

Public comment

None.

Administrative items

Phil Norrgard, Board Chair

Approve November 14 meeting minutes

MOTION: Peter Benner moved to approve the draft November 14, 2018 meeting minutes. Suyapa Miranda seconded. All were in favor and the minutes were approved.
Annual Report

Aaron Sinner, Board and Federal Relations Director, presented the draft MNsure 2018 Annual Report. Aaron noted that the report emphasized MNsure’s enrollment success, focus on consumers, and technological improvements made and planned for the future.

MOTION: Peter moved to approve the annual report as presented and authorize staff to present it to the Legislature. Martha Eaves seconded. All were in favor and the motion was approved.

CEO report

Nate Clark, CEO

Nate Clark, CEO, reported that as of the close of open enrollment on January 13, MNsure had enrolled 123,731 Minnesotans in QHPs. This is MNsure’s highest open enrollment QHP sign-up total ever. Nate noted nearly 23% of these sign-ups came from new consumers.

Nate thanked MNsure’s 870 certified brokers, 650 navigators and 375 certified application counselors for their help in accomplishing these historic sign-up levels, as well as in assisting tens of thousands of Minnesotans in applying for public programs. He noted brokers had assisted consumers with their MNsure enrollments while juggling multiple competing priorities unique to this enrollment period, most notably assisting a high volume of Medicare consumers in their transition off of Medicare cost plans onto other Medicare products.

Nate noted that in total, MNsure helped 228,438 Minnesotans find either private or public coverage during open enrollment. Over three quarters of these Minnesotans are receiving tax credits or are enrolled in a public program, meaning they don’t have to pay the sticker price of a private plan. On average, Minnesota households receiving tax credits will save over $5,500 in 2019.

Nate also reported that MNsure’s GetInsured implementation project for fall 2019 continued to progress on schedule. He noted unit testing would begin in February, followed later in the spring by integration testing and then full end-to-end testing, with testing with health insurance carriers planned for the summer.

Nate welcomed Libby Caulum, MNsure’s new director of public affairs, who started with the agency on December 26. He also expressed his gratitude to Patrick McQuillan, MNsure’s government relations manager, who was departing the agency. Finally, he joined Phil in expressing gratitude to Commissioner Piper for her role in bringing MNsure to where it is today.

IT and Executive Steering Committee update

Greg Poehling, MNIT

Greg Poehling of MNIT presented slide 11 of the slide deck.

Greg reported that the winter release successfully deployed the weekend of January 6, followed by a successful Form 1095-A deployment on January 14. He noted 1095-A forms were in
processing and on track to all be mailed out by the end of the month. The week’s batch was approximately 77,000 forms, followed by a second batch the following week of approximately 4,000 forms.

Greg noted the spring release was on track to deploy the weekend of April 7.

Greg reported that the GetInsured project remained on track for the fall release.

Martha asked if the federal government shutdown was affecting development or operations work. Greg reported that in relation to MNsure, there had been no effect.

**New business**

*_Phil Norrgard, Board Chair_*

None.

**Adjourn**

Phil moved to adjourned. There were no objections, and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.