



**Joint Meeting of the
Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (VCMCC)
dba Gold Coast Health Plan and the Compliance Oversight Committee**

Special Meeting

Monday March 27, 2023 2:00 p.m.

The meeting is being held virtually pursuant to AB 361.

Members of the public can participate using the Conference Call Number below.

Conference Call Number: 1-805-324-7279

Conference ID Number: 767 062 599#

Para interpretación al español, por favor llame al: 1-805-322-1542 clave: 1234

Due to the declared state of emergency wherein social distancing measures have been imposed or recommended, this meeting is being held pursuant to AB 361.

AGENDA

CLERK ANNOUNCEMENT

All public is welcome to call into the conference call number listed on this agenda and follow along for all items listed in Open Session by opening the GCHP website and going to ***About Us > Ventura Country Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission > Scroll down to Commission Meeting Agenda Packets and Minutes***

CALL TO ORDER

INTERPRETER ANNOUNCEMENT

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

The public has the opportunity to address Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (VCMACC) and Committee doing business as Gold Coast Health Plan (GCHP) on the agenda.

Persons wishing to address VCMACC and Committee are limited to three (3) minutes unless the Chair of the Commission extends time for good cause shown. Comments regarding items not on the agenda must be within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission and Committee.

Members of the public may call in, using the numbers above, or can submit public comments to the Commission and Committee via email by sending an email to ask@goldchp.org. If members of the public want to speak on a particular agenda item, please identify the agenda item number. Public comments submitted by email should be under 300 words.

CONSENT

- 1. Findings to Continue to Hold Remote Teleconference/Virtual Commission and Committee Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361**

STAFF: Scott Campbell, General Counsel

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Committee and Commission should make the findings and determine that teleconferencing under AB 361 will promote and protect the public's health, safety and welfare.

ADJOURNMENT

Date and location of the next meeting to be determined at the April 24, 2023, Regular Commission Meeting

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Administrative Reports relating to this agenda are available at 711 East Daily Drive, Suite #106, Camarillo, California, during normal business hours and on <http://goldcoasthealthplan.org>. Materials related to an agenda item submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public review during normal business hours at the office of the Clerk of the Commission.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact (805) 437-5512. Notification for accommodation must be made by the Monday prior to the meeting by 1:00 p.m. to enable the Clerk of the Commission to make reasonable arrangements for accessibility to this meeting.



AGENDA ITEM NO. 1

TO: Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission and Compliance Oversight Committee

FROM: Scott Campbell, General Counsel

DATE: March 27, 2023

SUBJECT: Findings to Continue to Hold Remote Teleconference/Virtual Commission and Committee Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361

SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION:

At their February 27, 2023 joint meeting, the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (“Commission”) dba as Gold Coast Health Plan (“Plan”) and the Compliance Oversight Committee (“Committee”) adopted findings to continue to meet remotely pursuant to Assembly Bill 361. To continue this practice, it is required, that the Commission and Committee determine that they have considered the facts of the COVID-19 state of emergency in deciding to continue to have teleconference meetings under AB 361 and that state officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19 and that as a result of these considerations and findings, meeting in person or pursuant to traditional teleconferencing rules would impose risks to the health or safety of attendees and that teleconference meetings under AB 361 should continue.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Traditionally, the Brown Act allows for teleconference or virtual meetings, provided that the physical locations of the legislative body’s members joining by teleconference are posted on the agenda, that those locations are open to the public and that a quorum of the members is located within its jurisdiction. AB 361 provides an exception to these procedures in order to allow for fully virtual meetings during and after proclaimed emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic. Now that the state and county state of emergency declarations are over, the Commission and Committee may continue to meet remotely pursuant to AB 361 if it makes both of the following findings:

- The Commission and Committee have reconsidered the circumstances of the prior states of emergencies; and
- State officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

COVID-19 continues to present a threat to the health and safety of Commission and Committee members, and its personnel. Although vaccines are now widely available, many people in the State and County are still not fully vaccinated and remain susceptible to infection and the vaccinations have not proven successful in stemming the spread of COVID-19. According to the State of California's COVID-19 Dashboard, updated on March 9, 2023, there are an average of 2612 new cases statewide each day, 35 in Ventura County, and an average of 17 deaths statewide per day. Additionally, several Commissioners and Committee members attend meetings in medical facilities or offices, and allowing members of the public to attend meetings at these posted locations when they may not be vaccinated would pose a threat to the health or safety of attendees. Further, on February 3, 2023, a new set of non-emergency COVID-19 prevention regulations were issued by Cal/OSHA which carry over some of the same requirements imposed by earlier regulations, including social distancing measures. These new measures will continue to be imposed, unless changed, until February 3, 2025. Thus, facts supporting the continued findings exist.

As such, it is recommended that the Committee and Commission should make the findings and determine that teleconferencing under AB 361 will promote and protect the public's health, safety and welfare. **CONSEQUENCES OF NOT FOLLOWING RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Commission and Committee will have to follow the Brown Act provisions that existed prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

FOLLOW UP ACTION:

That the Commission and Committee make the findings under AB361 at their joint April 24th 2023 meeting.

ATTACHMENT:

None.