

**Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (VCMMCC)
dba Gold Coast Health Plan**

Special Meeting

Monday September 12, 2022 11:00 a.m.

Due to the public health emergency, the Community Room at Gold Coast Health Plan is currently closed to the public.

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: 860 719 616#

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

CALL TO ORDER

INTERPRETER ANNOUNCEMENT

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Persons wishing to address VCMMCC 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.

Members of the public may call in, using the numbers above, or can submit public comments to the 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 Community Advisory Committee Meetings Pursuant to Assembly Bill 361.

Staff: Scott Campbell, General Counsel

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the Committee adopt the findings to continue to meet remotely.

2. Appointment of New CalAIM Advisory Committee Members

Staff: Marlen Torres, Executive Director of Strategy & External Affairs

RECOMMENDATION: GCHP management recommends that the Commission approve the four proposed members of the CalAIM Advisory Committee. Once approved by the Commission, applicants will be notified of their selection. The first CalAIM Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Date and location of the next meeting to be determined at the September 26, 2022, regular commission meeting.

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

FROM: Scott Campbell, General Counsel

DATE: September 12, 2022

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

SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATION:

At its May 23, 2022, regular meeting, the Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission (“Commission”) dba as Gold Coast Health Plan (“Plan”) made findings pursuant to Assembly Bill 361 to continue to meet remotely. To continue this practice, it is required, that the Commission determine that the COVID-19 state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor still exists and has been considered by the Commission in deciding to continue to have teleconference meetings and that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19, and that as result of the COVID-19 emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. Because these findings must be made every thirty (30) days, it is time to remake the findings.

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. Newly enacted AB 361 provides an exception to these procedures in order to allow for fully virtual meetings during proclaimed emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since March of 2020 and the issuance of Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20, which suspended portions of the Brown Act relating to teleconferencing, the Commission and the Plan’s Committees have had virtual meetings without having to post the location of the legislative body members attending virtually. Most public agencies have been holding public meetings using virtual platforms since this time. In June of 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-08-21, which provided that the exceptions contained in EO N-29-20 would sunset on September 30, 2021.

On September 10, 2021, the Legislature adopted AB 361, which allows public agencies to hold fully virtual meetings under certain circumstances without the posting of the agenda from each location a legislative body member is attending. Governor Newsom signed the bill into law on September 16, 2021. Because it contained an urgency provision, it took immediate effect.

Specific Findings Required under AB 361

Under AB 361, the Commission, can hold virtual meetings without providing notice of the Commissioner's teleconference location if the Commission makes the determination that there is a Governor-proclaimed state of emergency which the Commission will consider in their determination, and one of two secondary criteria listed below exists:

1. State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19; or
2. The Commission determines that requiring a meeting in person would present an imminent risk to the health or safety of attendees.

COVID-19 continues to present an imminent threat to the health and safety of Commission members, and its personnel, and the Governor's declaration of a COVID-19 emergency still exists. Although vaccines are now widely available, many people in the State and County are still not fully vaccinated and remain susceptible to infection. Additionally, several Commissioners 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, a new variant is spreading through the county and world and social distancing requirements still exist. Recently, an outbreak in China resulted in over 10 million residents being directed to quarantine.

Re-Authorization is Required Within 30 Days

The Commission made the findings listed above at its October 25, 2021 and at many following meetings, Consistent with the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e), the findings must be made every 30 days "after teleconferencing for the first time" under AB 361. Thus, if the Commission desires to continue to meet remotely without having to post the location of each teleconference location, the Commission must again find that the COVID-19 emergency still exists and that one of the two following findings can be made: that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing in connection with COVID-19, or, that a result of the COVID-19 emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

It is recommended that the Commission make these findings.

CONSEQUENCES OF NOT FOLLOWING RECOMMENDED ACTION:

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

FOLLOW UP ACTION:

That the Commission make the findings under AB361 at its September 26, 2022 regular Commission meeting.

ATTACHMENT:

None.



AGENDA ITEM NO. 2

TO: Ventura County Medi-Cal Managed Care Commission
FROM: Marlen Torres, Executive Director, Strategy and External Affairs
DATE: September 12, 2022
SUBJECT: Appointment of New CalAIM Advisory Committee Members

SUMMARY:

Over the last few months, GCHP has received several applications from community members who are interested in joining the CalAIM Advisory Committee. GCHP management reviewed the applications, conducted interviews, and is recommending approval for the following individuals to join the CalAIM Advisory Committee:

1. **Vanessa Frank:** Ms. Frank is an immigration attorney who currently has her own practice. She formerly worked for California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA); a nonprofit law firm founded in 1966 to provide free civil legal services to low-income residents of California's rural counties.
2. **Maria Jimenez:** Ms. Jimenez works for Lucha/Poder Popular, an organization that serves as a food pantry in the Santa Clara Valley and provides resources and referrals to community members who reside in the Santa Clara Valley and the City of Oxnard.
3. **Carolina Gallardo:** Ms. Gallardo is the former chair of the Southwinds Neighborhood Council and is a community advocate representing the South Oxnard community. Ms. Gallardo hosts a weekly food pantry and coordinates other services in South Oxnard like the COVID-19 Vaccine clinic.
4. **Dr. Linda M. McKenzie:** Dr. McKenzie is the chief executive officer (CEO) of Global Empathy Training Academy, which delivers customized training around organizational culture and diversity and inclusion. Dr. McKenzie served more than 10 years as a program director for the Make-A-Wish Foundation, advocating for services for children in the Tri-Counties. She formerly served in the Ventura County Health Care Agency's Health Equity Council. Currently, Dr. McKenzie is as a member on the NAACP Ventura County Chapter.

RECOMMENDATION:

GCHP management recommends that the Commission approve the four proposed members of the CalAIM Advisory Committee. Once approved by the Commission, applicants will be notified of their selection. The first CalAIM Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22, 2022.