

**MINUTES OF MEETING
KENTUCKY GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD
KENTUCKY EMPLOYEES' HEALTH PLAN
MONTHLY MEETING JUNE 23, 2026, AT 2:00 P.M.
PERSONNEL CABINET, 501 HIGH STREET, FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
IN PERSON MEETING**

At the monthly meeting of the Kentucky Group Health Insurance Board held on June 23, 2026, the following members were present: Secretary Mary Elizabeth Bailey, Larry Totten, Camille Burgess for Tommy Loving, Robin Winkfield as proxy for Jason McGinnis, Nancy Haggerty as proxy for John Hicks, Aaron Roberts as proxy for Auditor of Public Accounts Allison Ball, Elizabeth Cunningham as proxy for Holly Johnson, Steve Gillespie, and Jessica Hiler. Staff members present were Deputy Secretary Robert Long, Commissioner Chris Chamness, Deputy Commissioner Brandon Adams, Will Adams, Jen Thompson, Donna Marcum, Grant Hakanson, and Steeley Franco. Also present were David Hume, Larry Totten, Carl Felix, Leah Locknane, and Heather Guidugli.

Secretary Bailey called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Ms. Jen Thompson called roll.

Secretary Bailey asked for a motion to accept the May 19, 2026, board minutes as read and approved. The motion was made by Steve Gillespie and seconded by Robin Winkfield. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Bailey introduced the agenda item *Kentucky Employees' Health Plan (KEHP) Update / Review goals*. Commissioner Chamness updated the Board on the following items:

Renewals / New Procurements

- We have renewals for UK Acupuncture and Merative that have been signed and entered into eMARS.
- As mentioned prior, other renewals have been signed and are awaiting final approvals at the Finance Cabinet and entry into eMARS.

- The Request for Proposal (RFP) for the financial statement and audit support services has been awarded and services will be continued by Blue & Company. The initial term runs through June 30, 2028.
- The contract for the medical claims vendor has been negotiated, and we expect it to be approved by the Office of Procurement Services soon. The Department received feedback that the pharmacy claims integrity vendor RFP needs to be rescinded and reissued; a new RFP will be issued soon.

PeerConnect

- The Department can announce an exciting new behavioral health pilot program with Kentucky State Police (KSP). Starting in July, KSP will have access to PeerConnect, a peer-to-peer counseling service and referral pathway to mental health providers who specialize in support to first responders.
- This pilot program will be tested for up to two years. If the program goes well, we may consider expansion to other first responder groups like corrections officers, park rangers, or onsite social workers.

Plan Design

- The Department continues to work with Aon on plan design and rates for 2027. Plan design specifics will be shared once they are approved.

Open Enrollment Preparations

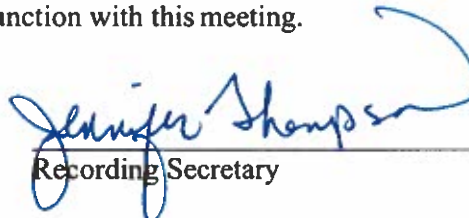
- Open Enrollment (OE) planning continues, including working on strategies to minimize KHRIS' system load during OE, in an effort to maintain sufficient system bandwidth, and to ensure employees do not experience long lags or wait times when making their elections for 2027.
- As a reminder, the official Open Enrollment dates are from October 5 through October 23. Personnel Cabinet employees and the employees of a few other cabinets will be encouraged to enroll early, both to help test the live enrollment process and to also ease the bandwidth burden on KHRIS.
- We can confirm that the Waiver without HRA will be the default plan for employees who do not elect a plan.

Secretary Bailey introduced the agenda item *Castlight Update*. Heather Guidugli, Director, Client Services, updated the board on the KEHP 2025 Review, Castlight Priorities, and What's New for 2026. Many key performance indicators top their book of business: registered subscribers, engagement, monthly active users, viewed programming, and added providers to care team. Additionally, the use of care guides by members drives cost saving for the plan. The new Castlight user experience will launch in August. This is a re-envisioned app experience for members.

Secretary Bailey introduced the agenda item *Old/New Business*. There being no further business, Secretary Bailey asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Steve Gillespie and seconded by Nancy Haggerty. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:27 pm.

Copies of all documents presented are incorporated as part of the minutes of the Kentucky Group Health Insurance Board held June 23, 2026.

I do certify that I was present at this meeting, and I have recorded the above actions of the Board on the various items considered by it at this meeting. Further, I certify that all applicable requirements of KRS 61.805-61.850 were met in conjunction with this meeting.


Recording Secretary

We, the Chair of the Kentucky Group Health Insurance Board and Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Employee Insurance, do certify that the Minutes of Meeting held on June 23, 2026, were approved on July 28, 2026.


Chairperson


Commissioner

I have reviewed the Minutes of the June 23, 2026, Kentucky Group Health Insurance Board Meeting for content, form, and legality.


Office of Legal Services