

**MINUTES OF MEETING
KENTUCKY GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE BOARD
KENTUCKY EMPLOYEES' HEALTH PLAN
MONTHLY MEETING AUGUST 25, 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 August 25, 2026, the following members were present: Secretary Mary Elizabeth Bailey, Larry Totten, Tommy Loving, Tanya Bradshaw as proxy for Robbie Fletcher, Aaron Roberts as proxy for Auditor of Public Accounts Allison Ball, Steve Gillespie, Shawn Boggs as proxy for Sharon Clark, and Beth Atkinson as proxy for State Budget Director John Hicks. 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 Carl Felix, Eric Posten, Camille Burgess, Vicky Dempsey, Emily Rosetter, and Connie Pettyjohn.

Secretary Bailey called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. Ms. Jen Thompson called roll.

Secretary Bailey asked for a motion to accept the July 28, 2026, board minutes as read and approved. The motion was made by Larry Totten and seconded by Tommy Loving. 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:

Open Enrollment Preparations

- Open Enrollment deadline has been extended to Monday, October 26, from October 23 as we announced prior. This avoids a system process conflict with a final payroll cycle and gives members an additional three calendar days to complete enrollment. To reconfirm, the Open Enrollment dates are October 5 through October 26. Our communications will reflect this change.

- As announced prior, this is a mandatory enrollment for all populations.
- An exceptions process will be available until January 31, 2027, for those with extenuating circumstances and who missed the deadline.
- We will have 13 fairs across 12 locations, from September 28 through October 15. The full fair schedule has been shared by Jen.

Plan Design

- The plan design for 2027 has been approved and finalized. Full details will be published with the KEHP Benefits Selection Guide on September 15.
- There will be an increase to both employer and employee premiums in the next year, as provided in the budget bill passed last session. Dental premiums will see a modest increase, but vision rates will remain the same.
- We cannot go into detail before we are ready to publish OE materials, but the plan design changes are a response to higher costs and utilization rates, including increasing drug claims as well as medical spend. In addition, we are making changes in response to the projected annual costs of the dispensing fee increasing to \$16.31 (up from \$10.64 in 2026).

Procurement Update

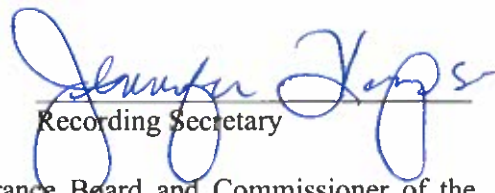
- On the Benefit Administration RFP. Vendors submitted over 250 RFP questions, which were responded to by our Cabinet and the Commonwealth Office of Technology. The current RFP closing date is September 11.

Secretary Bailey introduced the agenda item *LivingWell Update*. Emily Rosetter, Director, Strategic Accounts Manager, and Vicky Dempsey, Team Lead, of WebMD, updated the board on the 2025 Highlights and 2026 YTD Summary for the LivingWell program. The focus was on meeting KEHP members where they are. Over 21,480 total member engagements in 2025, by methods of tabling, presentations, virtual events, and onsite programming. The team took a deeper dive into the various groups under KEHP and created informed current and future programming to meet the needs of each population group. Preparations for 2027 initiatives have begun by implementing recommendations of the Department of Employee Insurance.

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 Tommy Loving and seconded by Steve Gillespie. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 pm.

Copies of all documents presented are incorporated as part of the minutes of the Kentucky Group Health Insurance Board held August 25, 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 August 25, were approved on September 29, 2026.


Chairperson


Commissioner

I have reviewed the Minutes of the August 25, Kentucky Group Health Insurance Board Meeting for content, form, and legality.


Office of Legal Services

