



## Audit Committee Meeting **MEETING MINUTES**

Location: Remote Meeting  
Date: Thursday, June 9, 2022  
Time: 10:00 a.m.

### **Members Present:**

Claudio Gualtieri (Chair); Grant Ritter; Cecelia Woods; Carleen Zambetti on behalf of Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner of Department of Mental and Health Addiction Services

### **Other Participants:**

Access Health CT (AHCT) Staff: James Michel, Susan Rich-Bye, Daryl Jones; Pamela Roe; Marcin Olechowski  
CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA): Nikoleta McTigue; David Flint

#### **A. Call to Order and Introductions**

The Regular Meeting of the Audit Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call for attendance was taken.

#### **B. Vote**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve the November 9, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Grant Ritter and seconded by Cecelia Woods. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed.**

#### **C. Fiscal Year 2022 Financial and Programmatic Audits**

Nikoleta McTigue from CliftonLarsonAllen (CLA) presented the plan for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Financial and Programmatic Audits. Ms. McTigue indicated that AHCT's auditors are required to submit an audit plan. After the audit work is completed, the results will be presented to the Audit Committee and the Board.

Ms. McTigue noted that CLA will be giving its opinion on the financial statements under auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and standards applicable to financial audits from the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Ms. McTigue added that for 2022, AHCT is subject to a Federal Single Audit. Ms. McTigue noted that in the fiscal year beginning July 2021, an American Health Benefit Exchange State Planning and Establishment Grant was made available to AHCT, thus the reason for the Federal Single Audit to be undertaken for the Exchange.

Ms. McTigue added that the programmatic audit report looks at compliance with the requirements set forth by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in accordance with Title 45 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 155. Ms. McTigue continued with the specific responsibilities for both the auditors as well as for the management.

Ms. McTigue noted that as part of the audit, the auditors will obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Ms. McTigue enumerated other responsibilities of the external auditors, which include but are not limited to planning and performing the audit to provide reasonable assurance about whether the Financial Statements are free of material misstatement. Ms. McTigue emphasized that under the Federal Single Audit, the auditors' responsibilities are very similar.

Ms. McTigue added that there are no relationships between any of the auditors and the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange that would impair the auditors' independence. Ms. McTigue presented a summary of information on other planning matters.

Ms. McTigue added that after the completion of the audit, the Auditors will communicate numerous items to the Exchange, such as qualitative aspects of accounting practices, significant audit adjustments, any disagreements with management and difficulties encountered in performing the audit. Ms. McTigue pointed out that they will also include potential information on any irregularities or illegal acts, consultation by management with other auditors, matters affecting independence of auditors as well as material weaknesses and significant deficiencies and control deficiencies. Ms. McTigue went on to provide a timeline of work for be performed by the auditors.

#### **D. 2021 State-Based Marketplace Annual Reporting Tool (SMART)**

Susan Rich-Bye, Director of Legal and Governmental Affairs, presented information on the 2021 State-Based Marketplace Reporting Tool. Ms. Rich-Bye stated that under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), State-Based Marketplaces (SBMs) AHCT) are required to keep accurate accounting of all activities, receipts and expenditures; monitor and report to Health and Human Services (HHS) on the Exchange-related activities as well as to complete an annual report; and engage an independent auditor to perform annual financial and programmatic audits.

Ms. Rich-Bye added that the Audit Committee's role is to make sure that AHCT is compliant with federal and state requirements and provides oversight of AHCT's operations. Ms. Rich-Bye stated that SMART has four components: eligibility and enrollment, the financial and programmatic audits, program integrity and attestation. Ms. Rich-Bye stated that AHCT filed its SMART on May 31. Ms. Rich-Bye noted that the organization anticipates obtaining a response from CMS within a few months.

Ms. Rich-Bye emphasized that AHCT does not anticipate any recommendations from CMS. Ms. Rich-Bye provided a brief summary of past SMART submissions and very minor recommendations from CMS over the last few years, which were implemented by AHCT. Ms. Rich-Bye stressed that last year's SMART was clean without any recommendations.

Chair Claudio Gualtieri asked what tends to be the biggest issues from the nationwide perspective. James Michel, CEO, noted that there have not been any major noticeable issues, with the exception of verification of consumers who could be eligible for Financial Assistance. Ms. Michel stressed that AHCT is one of the strongest Exchanges in terms of verifying consumers' eligibility. Brief discussion took place pertaining to observing best practices and cooperation between other SBMs. Mr. Michel stressed that strong partnerships between various SBMs exist, and information-sharing is important.

### **E. Adjournment**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Grant Ritter and was seconded by Cecelia Woods. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.