



## Finance Committee

**April 13, 2023**  
**Regular Meeting -- Remote**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Claudio Gualtieri on behalf of Jeffrey Beckham, Office of Policy & Management (OPM) Secretary; Commissioner Andrea Barton Reeves, Department of Social Services (DSS); Commissioner Manisha Juthani, Department of Public Health (DPH)

**Access Health CT (AHCT) Staff:** James Michel; Sinisa Crnkovic; Marcin Olechowski  
**Department of Social Services (DSS):** Nicholas Venditto

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

**The Regular Meeting of the Connecticut Health Insurance Exchange Finance Committee was called to order at 10:03 a.m.** Roll call for attendance was taken.

### **B. Public Comment**

No public comment was submitted.

### **C. Vote: Review and Approval of Minutes**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve the November 10, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Andrea Barton Reeves and was seconded by Manisha Juthani. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

### **D. FY 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget – Operating**

James Michel, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Interim Director of Finance, introduced the topics and as well as action items for this Committee meeting. Mr. Michel noted that Daryl Jones, the former Director of Finance, left the organization and the recruitment for this vacancy is ongoing.

Mr. Michel added that AHCT is asking the Committee to approve an increase in the FY2023 Budget of \$2.7 million which will cover the marketing and outreach to support the Medicaid Unwinding activities. Mr. Michel stated that AHCT continues to work closely with the Department of Social Services (DSS) and the Office of Health Strategies (OHS) to

ensure maximization of efforts. He added that AHCT continues to work on the FY 2024 Operating Budget which will be presented to the Finance Committee in June.

Sinisa Crnkovic, Head of Financial Planning and Analysis presented the FY 2023 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report.

Mr. Crnkovic indicated that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Budget Report reflects that as of March 31, 2023, AHCT is under budget by \$609,252 with the variance being due to timing mainly. Mr. Crnkovic added that through the first three quarters of FY 2023, AHCT has received an additional grant of \$10,000 as well as an increase in the reserve fund balance of well over \$227,000 due to higher interest rates.

Mr. Crnkovic pointed out that the total combined AHCT and DSS expenses through March 31, 2023 were \$36,145,250. A brief discussion followed regarding variances being due to timing as well as accumulated savings relying on the use of more in-house staff as well as limiting the number of notices that are sent to consumers.

Mr. Crnkovic presented the FY 2023 Proposed Final Budget, which would include an additional \$2.7 million in expenses to come out of reserves for the marketing and outreach needed to support the Medicaid Unwinding efforts. Mr. Crnkovic noted that the FY 2023 proposed final budget would be \$57,546,301, with an increase of \$2.7 million on the AHCT expense side.

Mr. Crnkovic provided detailed line-by-line information on the FY 2023 Proposed Final Budget. He highlighted two budget line items. Mr. Crnkovic noted that AHCT hired additional staff to assist with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) changes to IT security compliance requirements. The equipment and maintenance budget line item increased as well mainly due to the vendor transition cost for the Enterprise Operating Model (EOM). Mr. Michel provided some context for the AHCT Medicaid Unwind marketing and outreach proposed financial contribution as well as contractual expenses.

Mr. Crnkovic explained that the FY 2023 Projected Reserve Fund Balance at the end of the current Fiscal Year will be \$19,185,305, which amounts to 6.8 months of operating budget. Mr. Michel stressed that reserves equaling 6.8 months of operating funding are adequate for the organization, however, having more reserve funding would be more comfortable for the organization. Mr. Michel noted that continuous usage of the reserves would become a cause for concern.

### **E. Grant Updates**

Mr. Crnkovic provided a summary on the Grant Funding. He noted that AHCT has applied for 11 grants in FY 2023, three grants have been awarded and two grants are currently pending award. Mr. Michel added that most of the grants support the Broker Academy. A brief discussion followed regarding the Broker Academy graduates potentially assisting in the Medicaid Unwinding efforts.

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve FY 2023 – 3rd Quarter Budget Report as presented by Exchange staff. Motion was made by Andrea Barton Reeves and was seconded by Manisha Juthani. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve the approve a transfer of up to \$2,700,000 from the reserves to support Medicaid Unwinding. Motion was made by Manisha Juthani and was seconded by Andrea Barton Reeves. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **F. Adjournment**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was made by Andrea Barton Reeves and was seconded by Manisha Juthani. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.