



## **Audit Committee Regular Meeting**

### **Draft Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, November 13, 2025  
Remote

#### **Members Present:**

Claudio Gualtieri (Chair); Grant Ritter; Carleen Zambetti on behalf of Nancy Navarretta, Commissioner of Department of Mental and Health Addiction Services; Matthew Brokman; Thomas McNeill

#### **Other Participants:**

Access Health CT (AHCT) Staff: James Michel; Susan Rich-Bye; Holly Zwick; Glenn Jurgen; Marcin Olechowski

Whittlesey PC: Thomas Goldfuss

#### **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. Public Comment**

No public comment was submitted.

#### **C. Vote**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve the June 12, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion was made by Grant Ritter and seconded by Thomas McNeill. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **D. Fiscal Year 2025 AHCT Audited Financial Statements and E. Fiscal Year 2025 AHCT Programmatic Audit Report**

Susan Rich-Bye, Director of Legal and Governmental Affairs, stated that AHCT's independent auditor completed two required independent audits. AHCT is required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and State of Connecticut regulations to undergo annual independent financial and programmatic audits. The firm, Whittlesey PC (Whittlesey), was engaged to conduct these audits for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025.

Thomas Goldfuss of Whittlesey presented AHCT's FY 2025 Audited Financial Statements. Mr. Goldfuss noted that the main audit objective is to provide an opinion as to whether the financial statements are presented fairly and are in adherence with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

The audit of AHCT's financial statements was conducted in accordance with U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and Government Auditing Standards, which require obtaining reasonable, but not absolute, assurances that the financial statements are free from material misstatements due to error or fraud. The auditors gained an understanding of internal controls to plan the audit but did not perform a separate audit of those controls. A risk-based approach was used, focusing testing on high-risk and high-value areas and on critical accounting estimates requiring judgment. The auditors also maintained awareness of fraud risk, assessing controls designed to prevent and detect fraudulent activity.

Mr. Goldfuss added that an initial draft of the auditor's report, reviewed by management, concludes that the June 30, 2025 financial statements are fairly presented in all material respects in accordance with U.S. GAAP. Whittlesey's IT controls specialist reviewed AHCT's IT environment and related controls as part of the audit. The auditors reported no difficulties working with management, received all requested information promptly, and noted no uncorrected misstatements after discussing all adjusting journal entries with management.

Mr. Goldfuss summarized required communications and matters that need to be contained in them.

Mr. Goldfuss noted that the FY 2025 Programmatic Audit Report was clean and unmodified and explained the audit procedures.

Mr. Goldfuss added that significant accounting estimates are a normal part of financial statements. The two most notable estimates for AHCT are the subscription liability related to cloud-based service agreements and the lease liability recorded under newer accounting standards. Both involve some assumptions—such as service terms, renewal options, and discount rates—but require limited judgment once initially established. The auditors noted no issues with these estimates.

Financial statement highlights were presented. Total assets increased by approximately \$11 million, primarily due to higher cash balances driven by an \$8.5 million increase in unearned (prepaid) revenue. Total net position ended the year just under \$35 million.

Operating revenues rose by about \$3.5 million, while operating expenses decreased, mainly due to lower depreciation and amortization. Wages and benefits increased slightly, and consulting expenses decreased. Interest income totaled \$1.3 million, resulting in a net position increase of \$2.5 million, offsetting most of the prior year's deficit. The rise in cash was attributed to prepaid revenue timing rather than operating income.

Upcoming Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) standards were discussed. GASB 103 will require expanded Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) reporting, including budget-to-actual comparisons. A new standard on capital asset disclosures will promote consistency but is not expected to significantly change current reporting practices. Both standards will be implemented in the June 30, 2026 audit.

James Michel, Chief Executive Officer, noted that AHCT had summer interns and one of their main projects was to take inventory of the assets of the entire organization.

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve the FY 2025 Audited Financial Statements as presented. Motion was made by Thomas McNeill and was seconded by Grant Ritter. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to approve the FY 2025 Programmatic Audit Report as presented. Motion was made by Carleen Zambetti and was seconded by Thomas McNeill. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.**

#### **F. CMS State-Based Marketplace Annual Reporting Tool (SMART)**

Susan Rich-Bye, Director of Legal and Governmental Affairs, provided an update on the State-Based Marketplace Annual Reporting Tool (SMART) audit submitted to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires exchanges to keep an accurate accounting of all activities and expenditures; to monitor and report to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on exchange-related activities; to complete an annual report; and to engage an independent auditor to perform annual independent financial and programmatic audits to ensure compliance with regulations and standards.

The SMART Audit was completed on May 30, 2025, for plan year 2024. The audit covered eligibility and enrollment policies, AHCT's reporting of required performance data, financial and programmatic audits, program integrity, and an attestation of completion. CMS is delayed in issuing final SMART letters due to the federal government shutdown, but expects to release them in the coming weeks. With respect to AHCT's forthcoming SMART letter, no findings are anticipated, and all submitted data was satisfactory. The team will provide an update once CMS issues the final letter.

#### **G. Adjournment**

Chair Claudio Gualtieri requested a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Thomas McNeill and was seconded by Carleen Zambetti. Roll call vote was ordered. **Motion passed unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.