

Kentucky Medicaid Advisory Council (MAC) November Meeting Minutes

Date: November 3, 2025

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 4:10 p.m.

Location: Hybrid (In Person at Department for Public Health Conference Suites,
275 East Main Street, Frankfort, KY & Videoconference)

Call to Order

The organizational meeting of the new Medicaid Advisory Committee (MAC) was called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Roll Call

A roll call was conducted. Members present in person were Barry Martin, Dr. Sarah Moyer, Dr. Sheila Schuster, Zachary Hart, Commissioner Dr. Katie Marks, and Commissioner Lisa Lee. Members present virtually were Kendra Marsh, Susan Stewart, Heather Smith, Dr. Kelly Evans, Dr. Beth Partin, Dr. Dwight (Matthew) Burchett, Dr. Catherine Hanna, Philip Travis, Dr. Justin Kolasa, Nina Eisner, Iesha Elam, Bryan Proctor, Peggy Roark, Tania Whitfield, Theda Simpson-Mosby, Emily Beauregard, Taban Herrington, and Commissioner Lesa Dennis. Members not present were John Dadds, Kent Gilbert, Mackenzie Wallace, Ronald Butler, Eric Wright and Commissioner Dr. John Langefeld. A quorum was established.

Conflicts of Interest

The MAC discussed the federal requirement to disclose any conflicts of interest. A member requested that the definition of a conflict of interest be further clarified. This request was added as an action item.

Approval of Prior Minutes

The Committee approved minutes from the May 2025 meeting.

Election of Officers

Elections were held for chair, vice chair and secretary. After self-nomination, only one candidate was identified for each office. The following officers were elected by motion with unanimous consent.

Chair: Dr. Sheila Schuster

Vice Chair: Dr. Beth Partin

Secretary: Iesha Elam

Officers will serve until the next election. Elections occur at the first meeting held after the start of the next state fiscal year in which a quorum is present.

Review of Updated MAC Bylaws

Proposed bylaws were reviewed to align with new federal requirements and state expectations.

There was discussion and general agreement to amend the bylaw provision requiring the secretary to take minutes. A member requested that it reflect the duty to take notes and review drafted minutes that are prepared by the Department for Medicaid Services. A member also requested the bylaws be amended to allow only one officer to excuse an absence.

The meeting schedule was discussed. A member requested that a poll be sent to members for a decision on the length and day of the month for future meetings. This request was added as an action item. Meeting dates for 2026 will be set based on poll responses. Calendar invitations will be sent once the dates are set.

There was a discussion about whether workgroups are subject to Kentucky's Open Meetings law. A member requested confirmation that the law requires workgroup meetings to be open to the public. This request was added as an action item, and for the bylaws to be amended accordingly.

The MAC also discussed the bylaw provision that defines a majority as 14 members to approve a motion. After discussion, a member requested that the bylaw provision be reviewed and updated to make it clearer.

Lastly, a member requested that language be added to the bylaws about the requirement for the chair to attend the Medicaid Oversight and Advisory Board, or something to that effect.

The Department for Medicaid Services (DMS) committed to drafting revisions to the bylaws consistent with the discussion and send an updated version to members for review in advance of a vote at the next meeting.

Medicaid Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Lisa Lee provided program updates on enrollment and budget. She discussed House Resolution (HR) 1 that was signed into law on July 4, 2025, and its impacts on Medicaid eligibility and enrollment. She noted that Kentucky's pending 1115 Community Engagement Waiver that was submitted before HR 1 passed does not comply with the new requirements. She shared that the legislation will significantly reduce payments to hospitals. Commissioner Lee also discussed the Rural Health Transformation Program funding, and that Kentucky submitted its application that day. The focus areas include maternal health, behavioral health, chronic disease, oral health, and prevention.

Commissioner Lee also provided information about the six 1915(c) home and community-based waivers, the new Community Health for Improved Lives and Development (CHILD) waiver, and the 1915(i) initiative for severe mental illness.

Maternal Health Presentation

Dr. Judy Theriot, Medicaid Medical Director, presented maternal health metrics, including maternal mortality, C-section rates, and demographic data on births. She also discussed several initiatives around maternal health including work with a Maternal Desert Policy Academy and a Medicaid maternal health report and annual resource guide.

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Recommendations

The MAC voted to accept recommendations from three TACs:

Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) TAC submitted a recommendation regarding revisions to language related to involuntary termination of waiver services.

The Nursing Facilities TAC submitted two recommendations, one for changes to the Kentucky Level of Care System (KLOCS) to allow a 3-day window post admission for level of care approval and a second to allow other qualified providers such as a hospital clinicians to complete the Level 1 screening.

The Primary Care TAC submitted two recommendations, one for a collaboration to develop a better process to track and communicate eligibility information to providers, and a second to form a workgroup to streamline value-based programs.

New Business

No new business was raised.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.
