GROUP INSURANCE COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, June 18, 2025
8:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M.

Meeting held virtually through online audio-video platform (ZOOM) and accessible on the GIC's YouTube channel.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

NUMBER:	Six hundred and ninety-four
DATE:	June 18, 2025
TIME:	8:30 A.M.
PLACE:	Meeting held virtually through online audio-video platform (ZOOM) and accessible on the GIC's YouTube channel

Commissioners Present:
VALERIE SULLIVAN (Chair, Public Member)
BOBBI KAPLAN (Vice Chair, NAGE)
MATTHEW GORZKOWICZ (Secretary of Administration and Finance) Designee: Dana Sullivan
MICHAEL CALJOUW (Commissioner of Insurance) Designee: Rebecca Butler
KRISTIN PEPIN (NAGE)
EDWARD T. CHOATE (Public Member)
GERZINO GUIRAND (Council 93, AFSCME, AFL-CIO)
EILEEN P. MCANNENY (Public Member)
JASON SILVA (Massachusetts Municipal Association)
ANNA SINAIKO, Ph.D. (Health Economist)
MARTIN CURLEY (Public Safety)
CATHERINE WEST (Public Member)

Commissioners Not Present:
PATRICIA JENNINGS (Public Member)
TIMOTHY D. SULLIVAN (Massachusetts Teachers Association)
MELISSA MURPHY-RODRIGUES (Massachusetts Municipal Association)
TAMARA P. DAVIS (Public Member)
JANE EDMONDS (Retiree)

I. Introduction and Approval of the Minutes

At 8:30 A.M. The Chair started the meeting and introduced Commissioner Matin Curley who is filling the open Public Safety seat. The General Counsel announced the Commissioners in attendance followed by the Executive Director's overview of the meeting agenda.

The Chair then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the meeting held on May 15, 2025. Designee Butler motioned and Commissioner Choate seconded. The General Counsel took a roll call vote. The motion was passed unanimously of those voting, with Vice Chair Kaplan and Commissioner Curley abstaining.

I. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director provided an overview of his written report to the Commissioners. He announced that Maureen Quinn and Brock Veidenheimer were retiring in June and July, respectively.

The Executive Director stated that the legislature passed the GIC's supplemental budget on May 15, 2025. This allowed the GIC to lift the pend on claims. He also noted that CVS is changing the preferred GLP-1 medication from Zepbound to Wegovy for weight loss.

Commissioner Kaplan asked to confirm that those members who are on GLP-1 medication for diabetes will not be impacted by this change. The Executive Director confirmed it.

II. Vote on Life and Long-Term Disability (LTD) Consultant

Presented by Cameron McBean, Director of Vendor Managment

Mr. McBean presented about the procurement process and scoring for the life and long-term disability (LTD) consultant and made a recommendation to approve Boston Benefit Partners, now known as Allera Group, as the apparent successful bidder.

The Chair, Vice Chair, and Commissioner West asked about the supplier diversity program and scoring. Mr. McBean provided additional details about the program and scoring.

The Vice Chair asked what role the consultant plays after the procurement. Mr. McBean stated that it depends on what the consultant was hired for, but in this case the major role they will play is to assist with evaluating the annual review of the Life and LTD vendor.

Commissioner Choate moved to approve the recommendation and to proceed with contracting; Vice Chair Kaplan seconded it. The General Counsel took a roll call vote. The motion passed unanimously.

II. Employee Trust Fund Request

Presented by Catherine Moore, Interim CFO

Ms. Moore presented information on the GIC Employee Trust Fund. She presented three requests to authorize certain funds under this Trust Fund for use for administrative services, member engagement improvements, and for potential temporary help authorizations if necessary.

The Vice Chair requested that the Commission be notified in advance if the GIC needs to hire temporary employees, being provided with the reason for the hire. The Executive Director agreed.

Commissioner McAnneny motioned to approve the funding request and Vice Chair Kaplan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously of those voting.

III. Annual Enrollment Updates

Presented by Erika Scibelli, Deputy Director and Paul Murphy, Director of Operations

The Executive Director noted that the GIC has had thirty-nine (39) annual enrollments, before turning the meeting to Ms. Scibelli and Mr. Murphy.

Mr. Murphy presented information and data on the use of the GIC's member portal, including how many members use it, the types of reasons they use it, and the enrollments made through the portal. He also presented how many cases members submit. He then presented data on the movement of enrollees in the various plans, occurring during annual enrollment.

Ms. Scibelli then presented on member outreach and communications efforts during annual enrollment. She presented data around website use and social media engagement. She stated that the GIC is exploring moving off "X" and to use Threads instead since X is now charging for certain data that other platforms do not.

The Executive Director stated that as we are building and adding capabilities of the portal, we have also been tracking how people use the portal and where people get stuck. We've explored using artificial intelligence tools to help build a frequently asked questions tool.

The Executive Director thanked the myriad people who have helped build the portal and all its capabilities.

IV. Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Report

Presented by Catherine Moore, Interim CFO

Ms. Moore began by clarifying that the data presented did not include the supplemental funds that the GIC received from the MA legislature. She presented the state and employee share of spending through May. The spending in May was impacted by the claims pend, even though the pend was very brief. It means that not all claims that were incurred in May were paid or included and it is expected to see those claims impact the June numbers. Overall, the GIC has a deficit of claims to funding that will be offset by the supplemental funding.

The Executive Director thanked Ms. Moore for her work and support in the absence of a CFO.

V. Other Business and Adjournment

The General Counsel reminded Commissioners that there will be two contracts needing signatures that will likely come in the next week.

The Chair reminded Commissioners that the next meeting will be September 18, 2025.

Vice Chair Kaplan moved to adjourn. Commissioner West seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned.