

**MINUTES OF THE
CAPE COD MUNICIPAL HEALTH GROUP**

STEERING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 26, 2011, 8:30 AM
Barnstable Town Hall
Barnstable, MA

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (“CCMHG”) was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2011 at the Barnstable Town Hall, 2nd Floor Hearing Room, Barnstable, MA. The following people attended the meeting:

Committee Members Present:

A. Francis (“Skip”) Finnell, Chair	Dennis-Yarmouth RSD
Noreen Mavro-Flanders, Board Chair	County of Dukes County
Gerry Panuczak	Town of Chatham
Marie Buckner	Town of Sandwich
Erin Orcutt	Cape Cod Technical High School
Maggie Downey	Barnstable County
Sue Milne	Town of Yarmouth

Guests Present:

Heather Harper	Town of Falmouth
Suzanne Donahue	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBS)
Bill Hickey	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC)
Fred Winer	Tufts Health Plan (THP)
Carol Cormier	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)
Karen Carpenter	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)

Skip Finnell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (PPACA) – Grandfathering Plans:

Carol Cormier said that she received updated information from the health plans stating that there would be a minimal increase to the rates. She said that, approximately 1% is estimated to account for changing the co-pays to \$0 for preventative services. Ms. Cormier said that Skip Finnell, Erin Orcutt, and she attended the Town Managers meeting in the Town of Barnstable on January 13, 2011 for their input and said that this new information was not known at that time. Ms. Cormier also said that the health plans are not grandfathering their insured business.

The Committee discussed the new information and agreed to stand by the previous Board vote to not grandfather the health plans.

FY12 Preliminary Rate Projection discussion:

RDS Cash Disbursement- Carol Cormier said that the Committee is recommending giving a one-time Retiree Drug Subsidy cash distribution to each of the CCMHG units based on the January 1, 2007 retiree plan enrollments. She said that CCMHG is filed as the RDS plan sponsor and not required to distribute the payments. Ms. Cormier said to get a rough estimate of the amount that a unit will receive, multiply the number of Medex and Medicare Enhance enrollments times \$500 dollars.

Gerry Panuczak motioned to recommend to the Board a one-time distribution of the FY2007 RDS receipts to each of the units based on the January 1, 2007 retiree enrollments.

Motion

Sue Milne seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

FY12 Rate Projections- Carol Cormier said that the Committee was in favor of Scenario 3b at the last meeting using \$6M of trust fund surplus to reduce the rates.

Gerry Panuczak motioned to recommend Scenario 3b using \$6M of trust fund surplus to reduce the rates to the Board.

Motion

Sue Milne seconded the motion.

Heather Harper said that she has concerns about the impact of the rate increases and said that she would like to utilize more surplus. She said that the Fund Balance powerband has been consistently sustained at its highest level. She said that this scenario appears overly conservative.

Carol Cormier explained concerns about a future year “rate shock”. She said that the Committee is looking at a long term plan and philosophy.

Noreen Mavro-Flanders joined the meeting.

A vote was taken on Mr. Panuczak’s motion, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

Steering Committee Vacancy:

Skip Finnell said that there are three excellent candidates for the vacancy: Heather Harper, Hans Baumhauer and Joyce Mason.

Each candidate introduced him/herself and said why they wanted to be on the Steering Committee.

Marie said that the candidates that are not chosen are still welcome to come to the Board meetings and said that they will still have a voice whether or not they are chosen to serve on the Committee.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

Noreen Mavro-Flanders made a motion to adjourn.

Maggie Downey seconded the motion.

Chair Skip Finnell adjourned the meeting at 9:15 AM.

*Prepared by Karen Carpenter
Group Benefits Strategies*