

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

STEERING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 27, 2010, 8:30 AM
COMM Fire District, Centerville, MA

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (“CCMHG”) was held on Wednesday, October 27, 2010 at the COMM Fire District, Centerville, MA. The following people attended the meeting:

Committee Members Present:

Bob Whritenour, Chair	Town of Falmouth
Dave Withrow	Town of Orleans
Debra Blanchette	Town of Barnstable
Gerry Panuczak	Town of Chatham
Marie Buckner	Town of Sandwich
A. Francis (“Skip”) Finnell	Dennis-Yarmouth RSD
Susan Milne	Town of Yarmouth
Maggie Downey	Barnstable County

Guests Present:

Erin Orcutt	Cape Cod Technical High School
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)
Ginger Hastings	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)
Karen Carpenter	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)

Dave Withrow, Board Vice-Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:38 a.m.

Approval of the Minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting:

Marie Buckner moved approval of the September 15, 2010 minutes as written.

Motion

Gerry Panuczak seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Suzanne Donahue said that the minutes reflect a decision made by the Committee to recommend to the Board to remove the Master Health plan’s Mental Health Office Visit co-pay to bring that plan into parity as required by the Mental Health Parity Act. Ms. Donahue said that the recommendation should be to remove co-pays on all mental health/substance abuse out-patient services to bring the plan into parity.

Martha’s Vineyard Public Schools request for Special Open Enrollment:

Carol Cormier said that she distributed the request from James Weiss, Superintendent of Schools on Martha’s Vineyard, for a special open enrollment for Up-Island and MV Regional High School teachers and non-union staff due to the conclusion of union negotiations. Ms. Cormier said that the requested effective date is January 1, 2011. She said that the District is incentivizing the staff to move off the indemnity plans this year and will eliminate the plan completely effective July 1, 2011.

Skip Finnell made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the special open enrollment as requested.

Marie Buckner seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion

Bob Whritenour, Steering Committee Chair, joined the meeting.

Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (PPACA) – Adult Child Eligibility:

Carol Cormier said that she received an email and letter from a member asking the Board to reconsider its vote to wait until it is required by law to implement coverage of adult children to age 26. Ms. Cormier said that the member asked that her letter be included in the Board packet and said that the member would be attending the meeting.

Maggie Downey joined the meeting.

The Committee discussed the request made by several CCMHG members at the Steering Committee meeting held on Martha's Vineyard on September 15th.

Mr. Whritenour said that the covered employees asked the Committee to communicate their opinions to the CCMHG Board and ask them to reconsider the Board vote and implement the law earlier than July 1, 2011. He said that the Committee said that they would give an overview of the issue at the Board meeting, stating the facts, and then give the employees time to make their statements. The Committee discussed the Board vote and noted that it was passed by a unanimous vote.

Election of Officers:

Carol Cormier said that there were three Board representatives that expressed an interest in the Steering Committee vacancy. She said that those interested are Erin Orcutt from Cape Cod Tech and Hans Baumhauer from Nauset RSD. She said that Linda O'Brien had expressed interest as well until she learned that most of the Committee meetings were held in Sandwich. Ms. Cormier said that Erin Orcutt was in attendance and introduced her to the Committee.

Dave Withrow suggested that the newly elected officers and Steering Committee members take office after the conclusion of the Board meeting so that he would be able to chair the full meeting. Mr. Withrow said that he was stepping down from the Committee due to special Town of Orleans projects that will be requiring more of his time. He said that he would remain as the Board delegate from the Town.

Carol Cormier reminded the Committee that the Board Vice-Chair position will also be vacant with the resignation of Dave Withrow.

Marie Buckner said that she is interested in the position of Board Vice Chair.

Other Business:

Dave Withrow, Board Vice-Chair, signed the BCBS Minimal Credible Coverage Attestation in the absence of Noreen Mavro-Flanders.

There was no other business.

Skip Finnell made a motion to adjourn.

Marie Buckner seconded the motion.

Chair Robert Whritenour adjourned the meeting at 9:20 AM.