

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

Steering Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 26, 2016, 9:00 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 Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 9:00 AM at the COMM Fire District, Centerville, MA. The following people attended:

Steering Committee Members Present:

Skip Finnell, Steering Committee Chair	Dennis Yarmouth RSD
Noreen Mavro-Flanders, Board Chair	County of Dukes County
Marie Buckner	Sandwich, Town of
Susan Wallen	Nauset RSD
Erin Orcutt	Cape Cod Regional THS
Heather Harper	Town of Falmouth
Debra Blanchette	Town of Barnstable

Guests Present:

Richard Bienvenue, CPA	CCMHG Treasurer
Amy Bullock	Town of Harwich
John Kelly	Town of Orleans
Denise LaValle	Town of Mashpee
Laura Scroggins	Town of Barnstable
Melanie Becker	County of Dukes County
Michael Simmons	COMM Fire District
Richard Zaccaro	
Sandra Wright	Plymouth County
Bill Rowbottom	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBSMA)
William Hickey	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC)
Fred Winer	Tufts Health Plan
Carol Cormier	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)
Karen Carpenter	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)

Skip Finnell, Steering Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

Approval of minutes of the March 23, 2016 Steering Committee meeting:

The minutes of March 23, 2016 were not available and will be added to the next Steering Committee agenda.

Treasurer’s Report:

Rich Bienvenue said he would review the financial reports (unaudited) through February 29, 2016 at the Board meeting. He noted that two of the CCMHG member units are not paying as billed. He said there was a change in personnel and he would contact the units.

Steering Committee Vacancy:

There was a discussion about whether or not Christopher Clark would remain as the Alternate member of the Steering Committee or if he would be willing to become a full member of the Committee.

Noreen Mavro-Flanders said that the Committee voted at the last meeting to recommend a policy to the Board that would allow the Alternate member to become a full Committee member and to seek a nomination to fill the Alternate position.

Erin Orcutt said that Mr. Clark’s email confirmed that he would like to remain as an Alternate member.

Skip Finnell said that John Kelly, Town of Orleans, expressed interest in serving on the Committee and was the only Board member who expressed interest at this time.

The Committee agreed that Mr. Kelly would be a good addition to the Committee.

Erin Orcutt made a motion to recommend John Kelly to the Board to fill the vacancy on the Steering Committee.

Heather Harper seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

Motion

Proposed amendments to the Joint Purchase Agreement:

Carol Cormier said that the Steering Committee agreed at the last meeting to give a final review of the proposed amendments and to put together a recommendation for the Board to consider at its July meeting. She said the July meeting would be the first reading. Ms. Cormier said copies of the edited and non-edited versions of the Agreement were included in the meeting packets.

Skip Finnell asked the Committee members to review the copies and to send Ms. Cormier their questions and/or comments. Mr. Finnell asked the Committee to be mindful of the Open Meeting Law regarding communications outside of meetings. He asked that questions and comments be sent to Ms. Cormier only.

Communicating with State Legislators:

Erin Orcutt said that she and Christopher Clark have not met due to conflicting schedules and said she hopes to meet with him next week.

Carol Cormier said that Kate Sharry is going to meet a second time with Lieutenant Governor Polito.

Skip Finnell asked the Committee if they were still in agreement to meet with the legislators in groups of two regarding the inequities between the GIC and municipalities when it comes to making plan design changes.

The Committee agreed, and Heather Harper and Debra Blanchette offered to help.

Communicating with Cape Cod Healthcare (CCHC):

Skip Finnell said that the meeting with Michael Lauf, Cape Cod Healthcare, is scheduled for May 4th at 1:00 p.m. and asked if an agenda is needed.

Heather Harper said she would like to discuss developing a relationship to benefit both CCMHG and CCHC.

Marie Buckner suggested sending a communication of agenda items prior to the meeting and asking if they had other items to add.

Skip Finnell scheduled a phone conference with Carol Cormier, Heather Harper and Debra Blanchette to discuss an approach to the meeting.

Melanie Becker asked the Committee to keep in mind during the discussions that Martha's Vineyard has a different hospital and facilities than the mainland and that they do not want to be forgotten.

Update on Prescription Benefits Services:

Carol Cormier said that since the passing of the owner of Prescription Benefits Services (PBS), there has not been a disruption in services to CCMHG. She said that Abacus Health Solutions is going to put in a proposal to purchase PBS. She said in any case, Abacus is capable of doing the work that PBS did. She referred to the letter from Michael Follick, President & CEO of Abacus, included in the packet.

Rich Bienvenue suggested looking at CCMHG to do the work.

Carol Cormier said it may not be in the group's best interest to do what Mr. Bienvenue is suggesting and explained the additional liabilities..

TelaHealth – Life Benefits Consulting (LBC):

Carol Cormier said that she and Karen Carpenter met with representatives from LBC, Kevin Petite and Dick Zaccaro to hear about the TelaDoc benefit that they offer. She noted that Mr. Zaccaro was at the meeting. She suggested adding the topic to the May Steering Committee Agenda and to determine which of the telehealth services fits best for CCMHG, the BCBS and HPHC, programs, LBC/TelaDoc or other. Ms. Cormier said she would send the exhibits to the Committee for review.

Plan design issues for FY18:

Carol Cormier said that HPHC and BCBS will be presenting alternative plan designs to consider for FY18.

Mr. Hickey said he will have samples of plans and their impact to the group.

Carol Cormier asked to include 4 or 5-tier prescription drug tier proposals.

Mr. Hickey said he will need about 20 minutes not counting questions asked to present at a high level.

Carol Cormier said an additional Board meeting may need to be scheduled.

The following meetings were scheduled:

CCMHG Steering Committee Meetings – June 16th and a tentative July 20th meeting, both at 9:00 AM at the Sandwich Town Hall. Marie Buckner said she would confirm availability.

A Board Meeting was scheduled on July 27th at 10:00 AM with a Steering Committee meeting at 9:00 AM to be held at COMM Fire District, Centerville, MA.

ACA Affordability Requirements:

Carol Cormier said she spoke about ACA Affordability at prior meetings and the concept of adding a low cost plan to the CCMHG menu of offerings. She said it was decided to take no action. She said at the time most employers agreed that paying the government surcharge may be less expensive than adding another plan option. She said she reviewed a town with a 50/50 contribution split and used the plan with the lowest plan monthly premium. She said the town may have an issue based just on the employee income.

Carol Cormier asked the health plans to consider ACA affordability when presenting their alternative plan designs at the May 16th meeting.

Other Business:

There was no other business.

Marie Buckner made a motion to adjourn. Deb Blanchette seconded the motion.

Chair Skip Finnell adjourned the meeting at 9:50 AM.

Motion

*Prepared by Karen Carpenter
Group Benefits Strategies*