

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

**Steering Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, April 29, 2015, 9:00 AM

Centerville Osterville Marstons Mills (COMM) Fire District Building, Centerville, MA

**MEETING MINUTES**

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (“CCMHG”) was held on Wednesday, April 29, 2015 at 9:00 AM at Centerville Osterville Marstons Mills Fire District Building, Centerville, MA. The following people attended:

**Steering Committee Members Present:**

Skip Finnell, Steering Committee Chair	Dennis Yarmouth RSD
Noreen Mavro-Flanders, Board Chair	Dukes County
Gerry Panuczak, Board Vice Chair	Chatham, Town of
Debra Blanchette	Barnstable, Town of
Margaret Downey	Barnstable County
Erin Orcutt	Cape Cod Regional Technical HS
Marie Buckner	Sandwich, Town of
Heather Harper	Falmouth, Town of

**Guests Present:**

Richard Bienvenue, CPA,	CCMHG Treasurer
Melanie Becker	Dukes County
Linda Loiselle	The Abacus Group
Bill Rowbottom	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBSMA)
Bill Hickey	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care
Carol Cormier	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)

Skip Finnell, Steering Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

**Approval of minutes of the March 18<sup>th</sup> and March 25<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee meetings:**

Marie Buckner moved to approve the minutes of the March 18 meeting.

Motion

Debra Blanchette seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote with Noreen Mavro-Flanders abstaining.

Marie Buckner moved to approve the minutes of the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Motion

Debra Blanchette seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Treasurer’s update:**

Treasurer Rich Bienvenue, CPA distributed the Management Report with the financials through March 31, 2015. He reviewed the combined Income Statement for the Trust (health) and Dental funds. He said that there was a year-to-date operating loss of about \$3.7 million but that the Dental fund had a \$259K profit and the health fund a slightly greater than \$3.9 million loss. He said that March was a terrible month for claims. Mr. Bienvenue said the CCMHG expects to use about \$4.8 million from the Fund Balance in FY16. He said he will be working on adding efficiency improvements to the transactions processes.

**Wellness program reports:**

Maggie Downey reviewed the programs in progress on the Cape including *Walking Works* which she said recently kicked off with great participation. She said that the *Healthy Me* program is starting in Yarmouth and employees can do it on break time.

Noreen Mavro-Flanders said that the Vineyard's wellness program consultant is looking for someone to take over the programs for her so that she can address some other issues. She said that Melanie Becker recently resigned from the Vineyard's Wellness Committee.

Carol Cormier mentioned a large study on worksite wellness programs sponsored by the US Dept. of Labor and carried out by the Rand Corporation. The Committee requested copies, and Ms. Cormier said that she would email the study report to the members.

**GBS reports:**

Carol Cormier said that the expense to funding ratio as of March 31 was 101.8% for health plans and 97.5% for dental. She said that Blue Care Elect Preferred PPO was under-funded by 6.5%, resulting in a \$2.3 million funding shortfall. There was a brief discussion about a possible distribution of Retiree Drug Subsidy (RDS) monies to the employers.

Rich Bienvenue recommended that the Committee wait until the fall to consider an RDS distribution.

The Committee agreed with Mr. Bienvenue's recommendation.

Skip Finnell said the Committee should be able to make the decision about the RDS distribution at the annual meeting on the Vineyard in September.

Carol Cormier said that if the CCMHG is entertaining making plan design changes for FY17, that decision should be made at the October Board meeting.

The following meetings were scheduled:

- May 20, 9 AM – Steering Committee meeting, place TBD;
- June 3, 9 AM – Steering Committee, place TBD;
- July 29 - Steering Committee at 9 AM and Board at 10 AM;
- August 26, 9 AM - Steering Committee, place TBD;
- September 16, 10 AM - Steering Committee on Martha's Vineyard; place TBD;
- October 21 – Steering Committee at 9 AM and Board at 10 AM.

**Strategic Plan:**

Skip Finnell said it was time to update the Strategic Plan. He suggested that a small subcommittee should take on this project. He noted that Heather Harper had emailed the Steering Committee with some suggestions for goals.

Heather Harper said she is willing to work on the project.

Marie Buckner and Erin Orcutt volunteered to work with Heather to update the Strategic Plan.

Skip Finnell said he would join the subcommittee if he is available on the dates of meetings.

Carol Cormier asked to be copied on correspondence on this issue.

**Possible Plan Design Changes for FY17:**

Skip Finnell said that the March meeting with the Managers and Superintendents went very well and that there seemed to be considerable interest in moving forward with some plan design changes.

There was a discussion about possibly holding meetings with managers more frequently going forward.

Maggie Downey said she would like to have the attendees drive the agenda.

Heather Harper suggested inviting legal counsel to a meeting in the fall to discuss collective bargaining issues.

Erin Orcutt recommended including representatives of Labor at the fall meeting(s).

Carol Cormier agreed to create a timetable for decisions by CCMHG and subsequent implementation of MGL Ch. 32B, Sections 21-23 by participating employers.

**Reaching out to Cape Cod Healthcare Systems:**

Heather Harper referred to Bob Sanborn's statement at the end of the Managers meeting. Mr. Sanborn referred to the high cost of care at Cape Cod Healthcare as was mentioned in the meeting and said that the CCMHG should try to engage leadership at CC Healthcare in finding solutions to this problem for CCMHG. Ms Harper said that Falmouth Finance Director, Patrick Murphy, picked up on this and asked what he could do.

It was decided that Heather Harper will try to set up a meeting with representatives of leadership at Cape Cod Healthcare Systems and that a small subcommittee, including Skip Finnell and Carol Cormier, will work with Ms. Harper on developing an agenda for the meeting.

**Other Business:**

There was no other business.

Maggie Downey moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion
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Erin Orcutt seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Chair Skip Finnell adjourned the meeting at 10:03 AM.

*Prepared by Carol Cormier  
Group Benefits Strategies*

