

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

Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2020, 9:00 AM
Virtual Meeting by Remote Participation

MEETING MINUTES

A meeting of the Steering Committee of the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group (“CCMHG”) was held on Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 9:00 AM. Attendance was by online remote participation. The following people attended the meeting:

Steering Committee members present:

A. Francis (“Skip”) Finnell, Steering Committee Chair	Dennis-Yarmouth RSD
Noreen Mavro-Flanders, Board Chair	County of Dukes County
Denise Coleman	Town of Falmouth
Beth Deck	Cape Cod Collaborative
Robert Whritenour	Town of Oak Bluffs
Debra Blanchette	Town of Barnstable
Susan Wallen	Nauset Regional School District
Erin Orcutt	Cape Cod Regional Technical High School

Guests Present:

Rich Bienvenue, CPA	CCMHG Treasurer
Triva Emery	CCMHG Wellness Consultant, Vineyard
Bob Kademian, RPh	PBIRx
Garbrielle Pitcher	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBSMA)
Julie Scansaroli	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BSBSMA)
Bill Hickey	Harvard Pilgrim Health Care (HPHC)
Fred Winer	Tufts Health Plan- Senior Products
Nina Conroy	Delta Dental Plan of Mass.
Carol Cormier	Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)
Joseph Anderson	Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)
Karen Quinlivan	Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)

Skip Finnell, Steering Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. He said that the meeting was being recorded and asked if there were any objections. There were none.

Mr. Finnell said that *all votes would be considered unanimous unless he hears an objection and gave instructions for objecting to or abstaining from a motion.*

Approval of July 28, 2020 meeting minutes:

Noreen Mavro-Flanders made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2020 meeting with corrections. Kathy Logue needed to be correctly listed as a Martha’s Vineyard Wellness Committee member. An extra Motion Box also needed to be deleted from page 5.

Deb Blanchette seconded the motion. The motion passed by majority vote. Erin Orcutt abstained.

Motion

Treasurer's Report:

Rich Bienvenue, CPA presented the financial reports through June 30, 2020 (unaudited figures). The Trust Fund Balance at the end of June was \$48.4 M. This was an increase of \$11.8 M from the prior year and the second best year of surplus for the group. There is \$7.6M due to the group from Blue Cross and Harvard Pilgrim due to low claims volume and cost. The report includes accruals due at the end of the year that are subject to audit. A report from the Mass. Municipal Reinsurance Arrangement (MMRA) due in the coming month will allow reconciliation of the investment in the reinsurance pool. Runout reports for IBNR for July, August, and September will be the basis for final adjustments.

Noreen Mavro Flanders had a question on PBIRX rebate from the health plans. She asked if that was net out of claims expense.

Rich Bienvenue confirmed that it was a reduction of claims expense, and if it was something that he could identify it as a receivable he would do so.

Deb Blanchette had a question on Investment Income as of June 30. The Treasurer's report had \$17,187,914 but the Portfolio Management Report from Rockland Trust as of 06/30 had \$17,192,780. Mr. Bienvenue said that he would review his report and get back to her after the meeting.

Skip Finnell asked if there were any members of the Steering Committee willing to participate on the subcommittee for accounting and audit review. He said the prior initiative stalled during the pandemic. It may involve several meetings or more to go over accounting review and audit procedures and to make a recommendation to the Steering Committee. Mr. Finnell asked anyone interested to contact him. Currently those on the subcommittee are Noreen Mavro-Flanders, Skip Finnell, and Erin Orcutt. Ms. Mavro-Flanders said she would write up her current accounting review procedures and distribute to the subcommittee.

Noreen Mavro Flanders made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report as presented.

Motion

Bob Whritenour seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Gallagher Benefit Services (GBS) reports:

FY21 Funding Rate Analysis through July 30, 2020 – Carol Cormier said that the expense-to-funding ratio on a paid claims basis for the health plans was 91%. She said that the Steering Committee has the reports and she would review in further detail for the Board meeting to follow.

Ms. Cormier apologized for an oversight regarding the GBS proposed Consulting and Central Benefits Administration Contract. She said at the last CCMHG Board Meeting, Skip Finnell thought the Board needed to vote on the contract but Ms. Cormier thought it had already been approved. The Steering Committee had made a prior recommendation to approve. She said that will be on the Board agenda for approval. The 2% increase in fees has been billed already and approved by Skip Finnell and Noreen Mavro-Flanders anticipating approval at the Board meeting coming up next.

Ms. Cormier said that GBS had hired a new employee, Mr. Joseph Anderson, Area Vice President. She said he formerly was the Director of Municipal Business at Fallon Health and would be working with some of the other joint purchase groups. He may attend CCMHG meetings from time to time.

Mass Municipal Reinsurance Arrangement (MMRA) update:

Carol Cormier said that at the last MMRA meeting, CCMHG had approved reinsurance rates and an approach that utilizes the OptiMed Health Partners Proactive Model to help reduce the expenses of high cost specialty medications. She said that amounted to carving out much of the specialty medication spend to a vendor

outside of the health plan. As it turned out, the joint purchase groups (JPGs) in the MMRA have Administrative Services Only (ASO) contracts with the carriers, and the carriers apply the contracts they have with vendors, such as Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs), to the ASO business as well as to their fully insured business, and thus the ASO agreements did not allow for carving out specialty meds. After this became known, the MMRA Board met again and agreed to go with the OptiMed Reactive Model, which is not a carve-out but a voluntary program that will provide lower cost options to eligible members who choose to use the program. She said that the health plans have been cooperative with providing reporting to make the reactive model an effective tool at reducing costs. Once data reports are supplied, OptiMed can begin outreach to members to see if they want to participate on a voluntary basis. Communication is being worked on that will be provided to employer groups to send out to members prior to outreach explaining both the program and OptiMed so they realize it as a legitimate program sponsored by CCMHG and the other MMRA-affiliated JPGs.

Skip Finnell said that communication should be talked about at the Board meeting and promoted.

Carol Cormier also said that preliminary reports have already identified 411 members for outreach across all MMRA groups with only Fallon and Blue Cross reporting so there may be quite a few more potential eligible members.

Covid 19 Issues:

Carol Cormier said there have been questions from employer groups regarding whether Covid-19 testing is covered for return to work. Testing is only covered when ordered by a physician, not for return to work. As it stands now, the employee would be billed for the cost associated with this testing. Average costs run from \$75 to \$150. This testing is considered a third party request and not covered. The code needs to say that it is a medical necessity.

Other Business:

The September Steering Committee meeting originally scheduled for Wednesday September 16, 2020 at 9:00 was changed to Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 9:00 AM.

The next Board Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 10 AM with the potential for a Steering Committee meeting before.

A November Steering Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 9 AM.

There was no other business.

Erin Orcutt moved to adjourn the meeting.

Motion

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

Chair Skip Finnell adjourned the meeting at 9:48 AM

*Prepared by Karen Quinlivan
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.*