

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH GROUP

Board Meeting
Mansfield Town Hall
Mansfield, MA

April 11, 2017

Board Members Present:

Michael Yunits	Town of Norton
Mary Hathaway	Town of Dighton
Randy Buckner	Town of Raynham
Cheryl Gouveia	Town of Rehoboth
Chris Defontes	Town of Seekonk
Michael Gallagher	Town of N. Attleboro
John Stanbrook	Town of Mansfield

Others Present:

Jackie Boudreau	Town of Mansfield
Pam Smith	GBS
Kate Sharry	GBS
Mike Breen	Blue Cross Blue Shield
Paul Mulkern	Group Counsel
Cathy Calicchia	Town of N. Attleboro / alternate
Debbie Scott	Town of Mansfield
Patti Firing	Town of Mansfield
Sue Medeiros	Town of Dighton
Bonnie Benvissuto	Town of Mansfield

Mike Yunits began the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

General Business

Mike Gallagher made a motion to accept the Board minutes from the meeting on January 25, 2017. Cheryl Gouveia seconded the motion and the motion passed with all members voting in the affirmative except for John Stanbrook. John Stanbrook abstained. Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to accept the Board minutes from the meeting on February 2, 2017. Mike Gallagher seconded the motion and the motion passed with all members voting in the affirmative except for John Stanbrook who abstained.

There was discussion of who will serve on the committee to study amendments to the joint purchase agreement. Mike Gallagher, Mike Yunits and Patti Firing agreed to serve on the committee.

There was discussion regarding the reviving of the Wellness committee. Jackie Boudreau, Chris Defontes and Catherine Van Dyne will serve on the committee.

Mr. Yunits told the Board that George Foster, the Group's Treasurer, is retiring in May and Maureen Valente will be taking the position, if approved by vote of the Board. Ms. Valente previously served as Town Manager for the Town of Sudbury and Treasurer for the Town of Lexington.

Randy Buckner made a motion to appoint Maureen Valente as the new Southeastern Massachusetts Health Group Treasurer. Cheryl Gouveia seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

A question was raised at this point regarding Mr. Stanbrook's authority to vote. After discussion, it was determined that he had not yet been designated by Mansfield's Board of Selectmen as the Town's Board representative. As Patti Firing had been designated as the Town's alternate, it was decided that she should be the Town's voting representative at this meeting. The prior vote was rescinded and a new vote was taken (with Ms. Firing voting for Mansfield). The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Paul Mulkern suggested that, if Mansfield's Board of Selectmen intends that Mr. Stanbrook serve as the Town's Board representative, the Board of Selectmen should provide the Group with written notification.

Kate Sharry asked that the Board members indicate the plan changes that their towns would be making for July 1, 2017. Ms. Gouveia said that Rehoboth would be eliminating the "grandfathered" plans and offering the deductible and value plans. Ms. Hathaway said that Dighton would be doing the same. Mr. Gallagher said that North Attleborough would be offering the new high deductible plan on a voluntary basis. Mr. Yunits said that Norton would continue to offer the deductible plans as the town's sole active plan. Ms. Sharry said that it appears that Berkley will be offering only the deductible and value plans. She said that Westport had not yet reached a resolution on the issue.

Pam Smith reviewed the Financial Report. She noted that through the end of February the Group's overall loss ratio was 92.6%

Ms. Sharry noted that GBS would soon be sending out an RFQ for reinsurance for the 2017 - 2018 plan year. She said that GBS currently intends to ask for quotes both with and without the \$500,000 aggregating specific.

Mr. Breen introduced a Blue Cross representative who discussed the implementation of the high deductible plans with the HSA.

Mr. Breen then provided benefit updates. He said that methadone benefits will not have a co-pay and will not be subject to the deductible. No prior authorization will be required for these services. (The only exception would be for the new high deductible plan with the HSA. Under that plan the methodone benefit could be subject to the deductible.)

Other Business

Mike Yunits asked Mr. Breen if Blue Cross representatives are attending the towns' health fairs. Mr. Breen responded that Erin is attending multiple health fairs and is scheduling meetings for all towns that request Blue Cross and Blue Shield attendance.

Mr. Gallagher asked if GBS has attendance records for Board meetings. He explained that, in reviewing the Joint Purchase Agreement, he had noted that a governmental unit could be terminated if its representative(s) failed to attend a certain number of meetings. Ms Smith indicated that she would prepare the requested documentation. Mr. Gallagher suggested that the Board also consider scheduling meetings for an entire year in advance.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 22nd at 9:00 a.m. in Mansfield.

At 10.23 a.m. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Gouveia seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

*Prepared by Pam Smith
Group Benefits Strategies*