

# SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH GROUP

**Board Meeting**  
Seekonk Senior Center  
Seekonk, MA

July 26, 2018

## **Board Members Present:**

|                    |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Michael Yunits     | Town of Norton              |
| Cheryl Gouveia     | Town of Rehoboth            |
| Bruce Alexander    | Town of Seekonk (alternate) |
| Christine Defontes | Town of Seekonk             |
| Brad Brightman     | Town of Westport            |
| Mary Hathaway      | Town of Dighton             |

## **Others Present:**

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Pam Smith        | GBS       |
| Maureen Valente  | Treasurer |
| Mike Breen       | BCBS      |
| Caroline Burnham | BCBS      |

Mike Yunits began the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

## **Minutes from May 30, 2018**

Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 30, 2018 Board meeting. Mary Hathaway seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

## **Minutes from June 20, 2018**

Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2018 Board meeting. Mary Hathaway seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

## **Joint Purchase update – Mike Yunits**

Mr. Yunits reminded everyone how important attendance is at these meetings. The Board must have five Towns in attendance to have a quorum for meetings.

Ms. Smith the revised Joint Purchase agreement was sent to everyone one on June 20<sup>th</sup> for review. Mr. Yunits said there were changes made to certain parts of the agreement including Article 3 and Article 13. There were also changes made to remove any wording regarding the Steering Committee. Ms. Valente had a few questions regarding the verbage for payouts for any groups that leave. GBS will have answers at the next meeting.

## **MyTelemedicine – Pam Smith**

Ms. Smith handed out a one page document showing the benefits to the group if they do decide to offer MyTelemedicine. Ms. Smith said the program charges a per subscriber fee of \$2.05 and there would be no claims charged to SMHG and no copays for members. She said other joint purchase groups have

recently adopted this program also. There is also a 5% utilization guarantee being offered with this benefit. Ms. Smith said this program will have low risk to the group and could yield substantial savings over time. The group would not be locked into any type of long term agreement, they could try it for a year and decide at that time if they would like to continue for another year. Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to approve Mytelemedicine for one year with a start date of September 1<sup>st</sup>. Bruce Alexander seconded the motion and it was passed by unanimous vote.

### **Financial Report – Pam Smith**

Ms. Smith reviewed the report for the group. Ms. Smith said there is 12 months of claims data received and this is the year-end report. The group ended the year with a 93.3% loss ratio and a surplus of a little over \$4 million dollars. Ms. Smith said last year at this time the group had a 98.5% loss ratio with and \$861K surplus. Ms. Smith said the group had a strong year and attributed it to all the hard work the group has done over the past year. Ms. Smith said the stop loss policy for the 16-17 year will be closing out soon and that there is a pending reimbursement of about \$21K due. The 17-81 policy year will be in the runout phase and we will start tracking high cost claims for the new year. Ms. Smith also said that the group did not hit the \$500K corridor this year.

### **Westport Medicare Issue – Brad Brightman**

Update – At the last meeting there was a request for GBS to run claims history on the person the Town of Westport is looking for an exception on. Mr. Brightman said the claims for this particular person are at \$87K for the current fiscal year. This member is not eligible to sign up for Part B until open enrollment and this will take effect on 7/1/19. The Board members had further questions on this issue and recommended the member go to a social security office to see if the member is now eligible for social security. Blue Cross Blue Shield will also look into the matter to see what they can find out. A suggestion was also made that the member may want to look into getting health insurance through the connector.

### **Treasurer's report – Maureen Valente**

Ms. Valente reviewed the Treasurer's report and said she has 12 months of data in. Ms. Valente said she did slightly revise her numbers to tie out with last years audit. Assets are up substantially this year as the group had a strong year. The trust fund balance at the end of June is \$12,670,200.

### **Roster and Invoice agreement– Pam Smith**

Ms. Smith said the annual roster and invoice agreement will need to be renewed. There was a motion made by Cheryl Gouveia to approve the agreement for another year. The motion was seconded by Bruce Alexander and it was passed by unanimous vote.

### **Website Agreement – Pam Smith**

Ms. Smith said the website agreement will need to be renewed as this had expired on June 30, 2018. There was a motion made by Cheryl Gouveia to renew the website agreement for another year. The motion was seconded by Bruce Alexander and it was passed by unanimous vote.

### **New Business**

Mike Breen from Blue Cross Blue Shield introduced Caroline Burnham to the Board. Ms. Burnham is the new Blue Cross Blue Shield service representative for the group, she is replacing Erin Castagnozzi.

At 10:02 a.m. Ms. Gouveia made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Alexander seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote.

The next Board meeting will take place on September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in Seekonk.

*Prepared by Pam Smith  
Group Benefits Strategies*