

# SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH GROUP

## Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting/Remote Participation/Meeting Recorded

August 20, 2020

### Board Members Present:

Michael Yunits  
Sheena Martin  
Michael King  
Tim King  
Cheryl Gouveia  
Janet Jannell

Norton  
SCEC  
Raynham  
Westport  
Rehoboth  
Plainville

### Others Present:

Chris Defontes  
Bruce Alexander  
Maureen Valente  
Catherine Van Dyne  
Pam Smith  
Mike Breen  
Taylor Whitcomb  
Chris Nunnally

Seekonk (alternate)  
Seekonk  
Treasurer  
Norton  
Gallagher  
Blue Cross  
Gallagher  
Gallagher

Tim King called the meeting to order at 9:32 A.M.

Mr. King requested roll call to be taken. Towns present were Norton, Raynham, Seekonk, SCEC, Plainville, Rehoboth and Westport. Dighton was not present.

### **Minutes from June 25, 2020**

Janet Jannell made a motion to accept the minutes from the June 25, 2020 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Gouveia. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Westport Board Member/Alternate**

Tim King told the group the Town appointed him as the Member to represent Westport and Susan Brayton as the Board alternate for SMHG. Sue is the Treasurer Collector for the Town. Mr. King will provide letter from the BOS with the appointments.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Valente said that the financial assets at the end of the year are \$14.2M. Since July 1, 2019 assets have increased by \$3.5M. Overall the group had a very good year. Ms. Valente has been working on setting the group up on Quickbooks and will have a new format for the Treasurer's report. The spreadsheet was presented to the group. Ms. Valente told the group that the annual audit will be starting up in the next 30 days and she will forward the list of requirements to GBS so they can provide their data to the Auditors also.

### **Investment Update**

Ms. Valente said there were a few small revisions were made on the Investment Policy that the Board had requested at the last meeting. The results of the SOI were presented to the Board and Ms. Valente said at this time she would like to narrow the choices down to two firms if possible. The SOI was sent to Plimouth Invesment Advisors, Bartholomew & Co., Bristol Wealth, Berkshire Bank Wealth and Rockland Trust. Ms. Valente said the Rockland didn't respond and Berkshire sent revised fees after the deadline. There was a discussion on accepting bids after the deadline and the Board decided it did not want to accept anything after the deadline even if it was advantageous to the Board.

The Board asked Ms. Valente her opinion on any finalists and she said they all had high levels of experience. Mike King said he likes Bristol Wealth and is familiar with them. Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to narrow down the candidates to Bartholomew & Company and Bristol Wealth. The motion was seconded by Mike Yunits. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Valente said she will reach out to finalists for presentations to be made at the next meeting and she will further check references for size etc...

### **Financial Report**

Ms. Smith said there are 12 months of claims data in and the surplus for the year end is \$5.6M with a loss ratio of 83%. Ms. Smith said the group ended the prior year with an 89.7% loss ratio and a \$3.5M surplus. There is \$80K pending in stop loss reimbursement for the current policy year and there is nothing owed on the prior policy year.

### **Voluntary Benefits update**

Taylor Whitcomb provided a recap of where the group left off with the voluntary benefits before the pandemic. The group wanted to put some options in place for dental and vision plans which would be offered across the entire JPG as a whole instead of each Town individually on their own. The intention was to offer employees these benefits effective 7/1/2020 but with all the delays that has been pushed back to 1/1/21. Taylor said all the Towns offer some type of dental plan at this time and three offer vision as well. Some Towns also offer these benefits to their retirees. There was discussion about retirees and who to make these benefits available to. The group said they would allow retirees to participate if they are enrolled at the time of retirement. Taylor reviewed the timeline presented to roll out these benefits and said he does not foresee any issues with a January 1, 2021 effective date.

Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to offer these voluntary benefits with a January 1, 2021 effective date and to also hold open enrollment again for a July 1, 2021 effective date. Chris Defontes seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Whitcomb said he will look into also holding another open enrollment and rolling this out again for a July 1, 2021 effective date and then staying with a 7/1 renewal going forward. Mr. Whitcomb said he will need letters of authorization to gather more information, he will send the letters to the Board Members for approval then he will reach out to the carriers to get the necessary information. Taylor will attend the next meeting and provide quotes at that time for the Board.

### **BCBS Settlements**

Mike Breen explained the level monthly payments and how these amounts were determined. The group is charged a level monthly deposit. A quarterly settle up is performed. If there are overpayments or underpayments they are settled up at that time. He realizes the group has overpaid for the past few quarters. He said they can certainly have the underwriters take another look at this. Ms. Valente said she would like them to go back to the FY20 amounts. Mr.

Breen said claims projections increased over 6% and this accounted for the higher monthly payment. He will see what they can do and let Pam and Maureen know the outcome.

**Website Maintenance Agreement**

Ms. Smith said the website maintenance agreement expired on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The fee is staying the same for renewal and will be in effect from July 1, 2020 until June 30, 2021. Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to approve the website maintenance agreement as presented. Mike Yunits seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**New business**

Mike King said he would like to continue discussions on a rate holiday and would like this on the agenda for the next meeting. Ms. Smith said she will have numbers for the group at that meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2020 at 9:30 A.M.

Cheryl Gouveia made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 A.M. Mike Yunits seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.