

SOUTHEASTERN MASSACHUSETTS HEALTH GROUP

Board Meeting Minutes

Virtual Meeting/Remote Participation/Meeting Recorded

November 18, 2021

Board Members Present:

Sheena Martin	SCEC
Mary Hathaway	Dighton
Janet Jannell	Plainville
Jim Hartnett	Westport
Shawn Cadime	Seekonk
Mike Yunits	Norton

Others Present:

Chris Defontes	Seekonk
Jackie Boudreau	Norton
Maureen Valente	Treasurer
Pam Smith	Gallagher
Chris Nunnally	Gallagher
Kristen McKenna	Abacus
Linda Loiselle	Abacus
Shawn Follick	Abacus

Mr. Cadime requested roll call to be taken. Ms. Smith did roll call, Towns present were Norton, Westport, SCEC, Seekonk, Dighton, and Plainville.

Minutes from September 23, 2021

Mike Yunits made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 23, 2021 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Hartnett. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes from October 21, 2021

Janet Jannell made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 21, 2021 Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Jim Hartnett. The motion passed unanimously.

Abacus Launch

Linda Loiselle gave a follow up presentation to the group on the Diabetes program that will be launching January 1st, 2022. The main components of the program are to engage, support and reward members who meet the standards of care while saving money for the group with lower claims for members who seek care and hopefully avoiding hospitalizations. Members earn Zero copays on diabetes medication and supplies if the member is adherent. Ms. Loiselle said communications will start going out in December. Ms. Smith will help coordinate a benefit members meeting to discuss communications which is a critical piece of the program's success.

Mike Yunits asked how this benefit will be tracked for the group. Mr. Nunnally said Abacus will give quarterly reviews on the program as well as provide quarterly reports, after a year or so we should see what the results look like.

Mr. Cadime asked if we know what the numbers look like as far as how many have diabetes. BCBS identified over 300 members with Diabetes accounting for over 4 million in claims spending. Mr. Follick said Abacus will make a significant change in claims but it will take time to get there.

Mr. Cadime thanked Abacus for their presentation.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Valente presented the Treasurer's report with data through October and said that the group is ahead \$1.1M this year and the investment value is at \$8.4M through October. Ms. Valente also said the Audit is moving along well and she has a zoom meeting with the Auditors later today and they will be able to present the audit at the next meeting.

Financial Report

Ms. Smith presented the financial report through October claims data. The overall loss ratio is at 80% with a \$2.1M surplus, Ms. Smith said over \$500K in stop loss reimbursements were also received and the group is off to a strong start.

BCBS Senior Offering

Mike Breen explained a new product that BCBS is rolling out for January 1, 2022 for seniors, it's called the Blue Freedom PPO plan. This plan is being offered at \$365.00 per member as a fully insured rate, this rate is good for two years and the rx copays can be matched to what the group already has in place. Mr. Breen said it is similar to the Medex plan the group has in place but there are some richer benefits as well, one of them being coverage for hearing aids. Mr. Breen and Mr. Nunnally both said that to move the senior population over at this time would not be recommended but this is a good option to consider for January 2023. Mr. Cadime asked what type of strategy could be used to get members to move to migrate to this plan. Mr. Nunnally said we could make this the only option for new hires for a softer approach.

Town of Seekonk

Chris Defontes explained that they have a disabled dependent over 26 that is currently on the dental plan but for them to stay on the vision plan there would have to be a decision made by the Board. Jim Hartnett made a motion for the vision plan to be concurrent with the dental plan. Mr. Yunits seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

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

The next meeting will be on January 27th, 2022 at 9:30 A.M.