

Scantic Valley Regional Health Trust

Board Meeting

Thursday, October 25, 2012
9:30 a.m.

Wilbraham Town Hall
Wilbraham, Massachusetts

Meeting Minutes

Members and Alternates Present

Arlene Miller, Chair	Town of Longmeadow
Thomas Sullivan	Town of Wilbraham
Beth Regulbuto	Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District
Cheryl Decoteau	Lower Pioneer Valley Education Cooperative
Thomas Caliento	Town of East Longmeadow

Guests Present

Paul Pasterczyk	SVRHT Treasurer
Amy Higgins	SVRHT Wellness Coordinator
Marie Angelides	Town of Longmeadow
Christina Gagnon	Hampden Wilbraham Regional School District
Kristin Chmielewski	Town of Longmeadow
Richard Foster	Town of Longmeadow
Herta Dane	Town of Wilbraham
Suzanne Donahue	Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS)
Fred Winer	Tufts Health Plan (THP)
Heidi Fountain	Health New England (HNE)
Wendy Bergeron	Health New England (HNE)
Rob Anderson	Fallon Community Health Plan (FCHP)
Carol Cormier	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)
Ginger Hastings	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)
Karen Carpenter	Group Benefits Strategies (GBS)

Chair, Arlene Miller called the meeting to order at 9:38 AM.

Approval of the minutes of the September 12, 2012 Board meeting:

Beth Regulbuto made a motion to approve the minutes of September 12, 2012.

Motion

Tom Sullivan seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Paul Pasterczyk reviewed the Treasurer's financial worksheets and statements for the periods ending August 31 and September 30, 2012 (unaudited figures). Mr. Pasterczyk said that the unrestricted fund balance was \$3.7M and said that there was an excess of \$1.1M over the policy target of \$2.7M. Mr. Pasterczyk reviewed the CD investments.

Carol Cormier said that two of the other joint purchase groups (JPGs) engage investment managers who perform under the investment policies approved by the JPG Boards. She said these groups have investments in fixed income funds and equities.

Ms. Miller asked that Ms. Cormier forward information about the investment policies to her and to Mr. Pasterczyk.

Wellness Program Report:

Amy Higgins distributed and reviewed the Wellness Budget and Agenda through October 2012. She said that 13.82% of the Coordinator's Salary and 20.74% of the Coordinator's Expenses have been utilized to date. Ms. Higgins said that 22.39% of the Program budget for expenses has been spent. She said this accounts for 15.5% of the overall budget.

Ms. Higgins reviewed the Wellness Program participation since July 1, 2012 including the Colonoscopy rewards, Spring Activity Challenge, Take 5 Challenge and the on-site Blood Pressure Screenings. She said that upcoming programs will include a Healthy Choices Bingo, group exercise classes, and continuation of the on-site Blood Pressure and BMI Screenings. Ms. Higgins said to contact her if any unit would like her to run a program at their location.

Ms. Higgins said that the Wellness Committee discussed the wording regarding the colonoscopy incentive program and asked the Board to consider paying the incentive for any scheduled routine colonoscopy procedure. She said currently the incentive is paid only to the first colonoscopy received.

Tom Sullivan made a motion to approve the \$100 colonoscopy incentive for all scheduled routine colonoscopies.

Motion

Tom Caliento seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

There was a discussion about offering a Weight Watchers® program similar to the program offered last year at Hampden-Wilbraham RSD. Arlene Miller said that a \$50 incentive was given, as well as the \$150 health plan reimbursement. She asked the Board to consider what they would like to do going forward and said it would be discussed at a future meeting.

GBS Reports:

Funding Rate Analysis by Plan - Ms. Cormier reviewed the FY12 Funding Rate Analysis by Plan with data through September. She said that the HNE claims have not been received by GBS yet, so the report is missing that data. Ms. Cormier noted that the Network Blue NE plan was underfunded. She said that the elevated number may be due to the run-out of the FY12 claims with higher plan design features than for FY13 put up against the FY13 plan rates.

Diabetes Reward Program Report - Carol Cormier reviewed the Diabetes Program report since its inception date of September 1, 2011 and said that there are a total of 252 SVRHT members eligible to utilize the program. She said that 109 are currently participating, which is 43% of those eligible. She said the target set by the Abacus Group for participation is 30%. Ms. Cormier said that 53% of those participating met all of the requirements in a 12-month period and are obtaining free medications and supplies.

Amy Higgins asked if the Abacus Group could provide a count of participants that are Type 1 and Type 2 diabetics.

Reinsurance Reports - Karen Carpenter reviewed the Stop Loss reports for FY12 and said that the Group has met the Aggregating Specific Deductible (ASD) of \$150K. She said there are 3 claimants on the report and the group has received reimbursements of \$44,314 through September 2012. Ms. Carpenter said that there are \$1,515 reimbursements due SVRHT. Ms. Carpenter said that there are 18 claimants on

the report of claimants that have reached between 50% and 100% of the specific deductible with claims totaling \$2.3M. Ms. Carpenter said that there is one claimant on the FY13 report of claimants that have reached between 50% and 100% of the specific deductible with claims totaling \$95K.

GBS Proposed Contract:

Carol Cormier said that the Board asked her to have GBS consider lowering the initial proposed fee increase and asked to see the history of the GBS fees. Ms. Cormier said that she emailed the fee history along with the news that GBS agreed to lower their increase to 2.5% for each year of the contract.

Tom Caliento made a motion to approve the July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015 GBS contract and increase of 2.5% as presented.

Motion

Cheryl Decoteau seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Senior Plan Renewals for January 1, 2013:

Carol Cormier said that Fred Winer presented the Tufts senior plan renewal information at the last meeting.

BCBS Medicare HMO Blue Plan – Suzanne Donahue said the Medicare HMO Blue rate will be decreasing from \$318.16 to \$295.02 and said there are a few plan design changes. Ms. Donahue said that the Skilled Nursing Facility annual out-of-pocket maximum will be eliminated and a \$100 per day charge for days 21-44 will be added. She said that the Urgent Care visit co-pay will now apply world-wide and a co-pay of \$100 per day has been added for high-tech imaging. Ms. Donahue said that the fitness benefit is now accepted at verifiable Council on Aging (COA) sites.

HNE Medicare Secure Freedom Plan – Heidi Fountain said that the Medicare Secure Freedom plan rate will be decreasing from \$272 to \$207.40. Ms. Fountain reviewed the changes to the plan design features which included a co-pay increase from \$50 to \$75 for Ambulance services, a co-pay increase from \$50 to \$65 for Emergency room visits. She said that most of the out-of-network co-pays for health care services will be increasing.

Tom Sullivan made a motion to accept the BCBS and HNE senior plan rates as presented.

Motion

Beth Regulbuto seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Medex and Shingles Vaccine discussion continued:

Carol Cormier said that Suzanne Donahue confirmed that a rider can be added to the SVRHT Medex plan to cover the cost of the shingles vaccine when provided in a physician's office.

Suzanne Donahue said that the rider can be effective on January 1, 2013 if approved by the Board.

Tom Caliento made a motion to approve the shingles vaccine rider on the Medex plan effective January 1, 2013.

Motion

Cheryl Decoteau seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Heidi Fountain confirmed the shingles vaccine is covered for HNE members age 50 or older.

Request for Special Open Enrollment for Senior Plans:

Carol Cormier said that the Town of Wilbraham has requested that the Board consider a special open enrollment for the senior plans due to the rate decreases. Ms. Cormier confirmed that the health plans will allow the special open enrollment.

Tom Caliento made a motion to approve a special open enrollment for seniors effective January 1, 2013 and will re-visit the discussion in 6 months to consider moving all senior plans to a January renewal.

Beth Regulbuto seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion

EGWP plans: KTP Proposal and information from BCBS and HNE in EGWP plans:

Arlene Miller said that the Board heard a presentation by KTP Advisors regarding EGWP plans and said that she would like the Board to consider whether or not to go with KTP, to look at the current carrier options or to make no changes to the current plans.

Carol Cormier said that SVRHT already offers retiree plans at low rates; some considerably lower than those that KTP is proposing, and said that the Tufts Medicare Supplement plan is an EGWP plan that is fully insured, and has low rates, no network, and few co-pays. Ms. Cormier said that the seniors have a lot of choices now and to make a change will require extensive communication to the seniors. Ms. Cormier said that BCBS has the ability to make changes to the Medex plan and offer similar benefits. She said that HNE also offers a similar plan.

Arlene Miller asked Carol Cormier to explain how more savings are generated by EGWP plans versus the Retiree Drug Subsidy money.

Carol Cormier reviewed the RDS and EGWP options for reducing the prescription costs of the Medicare supplement plans and the differences between the two options.

Suzanne Donahue distributed and reviewed the alternative Medex plan proposal. She said that SVRHT can choose to continue offering the Medex plan and change the prescription coverage to three tiers or offer the Medex 2 plan with a Medicare Part D PDP plan. She reviewed the details.

Carol Cormier said that she would send a chart that summarizes the options and differences to the Board.

Arlene Miller asked to keep this topic on the agenda and to review a comparison of the three options and the administrative implementation. She said that she would like the Board to make its decision by February 2013.

Other Business:

Arlene Miller asked to add the Hampshire County Group Insurance Trust communication to the next agenda for discussion.

The next SVRHT Board meeting was scheduled for December 6, 2012 at 9:30 a.m. to be held at the Wilbraham Town Hall.

There was no other business.

Chair Arlene Miller adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.