Scantic Valley Regional Health Trust (SVRHT)

Board Meeting

Tuesday May 6, 2025, 9:30 AM
By Remote Participation
DRAFT

Meeting Minutes

Members and Alternates present:

Arlene Miller, Chair	Town of Longmeadow
Dick Patullo	Town of Hampden
Barbara Hancock	Town of Wilbraham
Christina Gagnon	Hampden Wilbraham RSD
Anna Bishop	Lower Pioneer Valley Educ. Collab.

Guests present:

Paul Pasterczyk	SVRHT Treasurer
Marcy Morrison	SVRHT Wellness Consultant
Mark Gold	Town of Longmeadow
Claire Kawalec	Town of Longmeadow
Ian Coddington	Town of Longmeadow
Jocelyn Sanchez	Town of Longmeadow
Douglas Slaughter	Hampden Wilbraham RSD
Herta Dane	Town of Wilbraham
Karen Fink	Lower Pioneer Valley Educ. Collab.
Heidi Fountain	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBS)
Judy Moniz	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBS)
Dan Shanahan	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBS)
Alysha Beaudry	Abacus Health Solutions
Glenda DeBarge	Health New England
Elaine Wilson	Point 32 Health
Melissa Gabriel	Point 32 Health
Chris Collins	CanaRx
Jim Riley	CanaRx
Joseph Anderson	Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS
Karen Quinlivan	Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)
Patrick Flattery	Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. (GBS)

Arlene Miller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM. The Roll was taken with voting attendees listed as:

Arlene Miller, Chair	Town of Longmeadow
Dick Patullo	Town of Hampden

Barbara Hancock	Town of Wilbraham
Christina Gagnon	Hampden Wilbraham RSD

Approval of the minutes of the March 26, 2025, meeting:

Dick Patullo moved approval of the minutes of the March 26th, 2025 meeting.

Motion

Barbara Hancock seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote on the motion:

Arlene Miller	Yes
Dick Patullo	Yes
Barbara Hancock	Yes
Christina Gagnon	Yes

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Wellness Report:

Marcy Morrison presented her report. She said that the newsletter was released and information regarding tobacco cessation and what is available to employees has been added. The last big challenge of the incentive program will allow members to get all their points. People have been added to the Weight Loss App. Now they can open the App every day and know what types of menu items they can eat within a certain calorie and macronutrient balance which is protein, fats, and carbohydrates. They also know what workout to do. The people that participate in the GLP1 Get Lean Permanently program are being added. Free Health New England webinars have been added for free monthly. The 30/30 Challenge is 30 days of 30 grams of protein, 30 grams of fiber and 30 minutes of workout. Members get emails two or three times per week showing them what to do and how to stay on track. Successful health fairs have been conducted in East Longmeadow, Longmeadow, and Wilbraham. LPVEC will be on May 23rd.

Arlene Miller asked if it would be appropriate to add a points incentive to the tobacco cessation program.

Ms. Morrison said she was going to look up the law on that and investigate options.

Anna Bishop joined the meeting at this time.

Treasurer Report:

Treasurer Paul Pasterczyk presented the March 2025 financial reports (unaudited figures). The balance at the beginning of the month was $13.5 million. There were larger than normal receipts

because there were prepayments for April. A new account was opened at Berkshire Bank. It is a Money Market Account earning 4.19% Another account was closed that will offset it. The total amount of interest on the CD's was $75,000. Abacus' quarterly settle up cost roughly $112,000. The monthly reconciliation for Blue Cross was high. Cash for the month gained $763,000 and the group is up about $850,000 for the year. There was a Diabetes reward check in the amount of $26,000. The unreserved fund balance was $8.6 million at the end of the month. Target balance is $3.77 million leaving an excess of $4.8 million. This is to be expected with the 0% rate increase for FY25. There should be an increase in the month of April with the prescription drug amount from Health New England of $228,000. May had high claims for Blue Cross so the position might be unchanged. If the trend remains the same for where it is right now, the group will probably lose $800,000 for the year which were in line with predictions.

The FY24 Audit report was previously presented in draft form but the definitive version was presented for approval and vote.

Dick Patullo moved approval of the FY24 Audit report.

Motion

Christina Gagnon seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote on the motion.

Arlene Miller	Yes
Dick Patullo	Yes
Barbara Hancock	Yes
Christina Gagnon	Yes

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Karen Fink joined the meeting at this time.

GBS reports:

Joe Anderson reviewed the FY25 Funding Rate Analysis (FRA) report as of March 2025. Mr. Anderson said the expense to funding ratio through March was 103.0% resulting in a funding deficit of $806,839. There have been some spikes in claims so it makes sense that there may be some claims hitting the stop loss deductible soon. He said he did not have a feel for where the reinsurance renewal was going to end up. The rate renewal accommodated a 25% increase for the calculated rate. The Medicare plans are not over 100% so it appears that those plans are being funded appropriately. He introduced Patrick Flattery to the group and asked if he wanted to give a high-level report on the Medicare market.

Mr. Flattery said that the Inflation Reduction Act influenced the Medicare renewals skewing them higher than normal. We are now moving into a world where the Trump administration is undoing some of the parameters, notably the ability of CMS to start negotiating on prescription drugs. The 10 drugs that they were to begin negotiating on has been walked back for four years. Costs are uncertain. Groups are routinely running over 100% loss ratio, so it is a waiting game to see where things go. It could be another bumpy year.

Karen Quinlivan reviewed the FY24 reinsurance reports. She said with data through March, there were 10 claimants with $ 2,366,795.25 in claims above the $250K deductible. The $150K Aggregating Specific Deductible has been met. Total reimbursements to date were $2,350,688.79 and there is an overpayment credit of $133,893.54. There were 24 claimants with claims between $125K and $250K totaling $ 4,013,994.87. The same reports for FY25 through March have four members in excess with $ 134,543.52 in excess claims. Ten members are at the 50% level with total updated paid claims of $1,701,474.15.

Health plan and vendor reports:

CanaRx – Jim Riley said that savings through March were close to $207,000. Annual projections are $275,000. Average across the board discount has been 82% with 208 prescriptions filled. Individual unit potential savings reports were sent out and work will be done on incentive ideas to see what can be done next.
Chris Collins said that health fairs were very well attended. There are no anticipated problems with the program due to CanaRx being a point-of-sale purchase and not subject to tariffs.

Blue Cross- Heidi Fountain said Blue Cross is making changes to GLP1 medications. Effective January 1st, 2026, upon renewal, they are not covering weight loss drugs. Self-insured accounts will have the option to rider them in on renewal on 07/01/2026. Bear in mind, these are only the drugs strictly for weight loss. The drugs that treat Diabetes will still be on the formulary.

Arlene Miller asked how that relates to the weight loss management program that was voted at the last meeting.

Ms. Fountain said that it works well in that the goal of the program is to shorten the length of time that members are on those drugs, therefore, the program can collaborate with members throughout the balance of the FY26 plan year to help them transition off the drugs. In FY26, if the group does not want to request a rider, the program can end.

Health New England – Glenda DeBarge said that the semiannual notice is set to go out soon.

Harvard Pilgrim – Elaine Wilson discussed the Optum Copayment card solution. Manufacturers often provide copay assistance cards. The coupon covers the members copayment. Sometimes the coupon dollars are applied to the members out of pocket maximum and when the coupon is exhausted only the copayment dollars are left on the table because once the copayment is satisfied, coupon dollars are left. Optum has worked to find solutions to this and one of these go into effect on July 1. The accumulators are adjusted so that the member is not reaching their out-of-pocket maximum by means of the copayment and they still need to meet their out-of-pocket max. HPHC would like to pursue a variable copayment program. When the member fills a prescription, their copayment is adjusted behind the scenes so that the full value of the coupon is achieved and those savings are accruing to Scantic Valley. It is behind the scenes, so it is invisible to the member. There is no cost for the program and requires no paperwork. It is an option for ASO clients.

Dick Patullo moved approval of the HPHC Coupon Program.

Motion

Brabara Hancock seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote on the

motion.

Arlene Miller	Yes
Dick Patullo	Yes
Barbara Hancock	Yes
Christina Gagnon	Yes
Karen Fink	Yes

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Ms. Wilson also said that as of July 1st, the approved drug for weight loss in the formulary is going to be Zepbound.

Other business:

There was no other business.

The Chair, Arlene Miller, set the next Board meeting for Tuesday June 17th, 2025, at 9:30 AM.

Ms. Miller adjourned the meeting at 10.24 AM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Quinlivan
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.