Scantic Valley Regional Health Trust (SVRHT)

Board Meeting

Tuesday June 17, 2025, 9:30 AM
By Remote Participation

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
Megan Emrick-Laskow	Town of East 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
Heidi Fountain	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBS)
Judy Moniz	Blue Cross Blue Shield of MA (BCBS)
Alysha Beaudry	Abacus Health Solutions
Sandra Ruiz	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 9:32 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 May 6th, 2025, meeting:

Christina Gagnon moved approval of the minutes of May 6th, 2025 meeting with a minor spelling change. 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 providing valuable information for employees. There was only one new member added for the colonoscopy program this month. There has been a total of 89 since Ms. Morrison started recording. The recommendation is to start younger for screening, so it is important. There may be an opportunity to add things like mammography or PSA to incentives and may be something to investigate. The annual incentive program will end on June 30th. A report on annual participation will be available as soon as possible. A local fitness center, Health Tracks, has offered discounted membership for $35 a month. They have also offered a six-week program that includes use of the facility for personal training and a meeting with a dietician. The program costs $59. They focus on higher risk people who otherwise might not feel comfortable going to a big gym. The question was raised whether the group could reimburse the $59. The decision was to gain more information to structure a vote on who is eligible and how many people might actually take advantage of it. The weight loss app is working well with meal plans shared and a recent exercise challenge. Health fairs were well attended. The Well Worth It Award will be applied for again from Health New England and the group hopefully can achieve silver status.

Treasurer Report:

Treasurer Paul Pasterczyk presented the April 2025 financial reports (unaudited figures). The balance at the beginning of the month was $14.2 million. There was lower than normal receipts because of timing. There has been a steady decline in trust which was somewhat anticipated. There was a prescription drug rebate which came in from Health New England and was deposited into the new account that was opened at Berkshire Bank. It is a Money Market Account earning roughly 3.5% The month ended at $ 13.8 million. That is a loss of $500,000 for the month of cash but certificates of deposit are doing well. The excess of Target balance was $ 4.46 million.

May began at $13.8 million but that has been declining steadily. The month ended at $13.6 million. It was a five-week month and claims were up slightly. Some accounts report interest monthly and some quarterly so there should be more in June. There was some money due back for overpayment of reinsurance for the prior year but hopefully some reinsurance for the current year will come in soon to offset losses. The unreserved fund balance stood at $7.5 million with $3.7 million above the target balance. It is tight time for cash flow with the fiscal year ending. The premium goes up by 4% beginning in July so that should help.

Anna Bishop joined the meeting at this time

GBS reports:

Joe Anderson reviewed the FY25 Funding Rate Analysis (FRA) report as of April 2025. Mr. Anderson said the expense to funding ratio through April was 104.3% resulting in a funding deficit of $1,226,161. There have been some spikes in claims so it makes sense that there may be some claims hitting the stop loss deductible soon. The Medicare plans are not over 100% so it appears that those plans are being funded appropriately.

Karen Quinlivan reviewed the FY24 reinsurance reports. She said with data through April, there were 10 claimants with $ 2,367,495.56 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 $ 4,009,439.20. The same reports for FY25 through April have five members in excess with $ 218,066.69 in excess claims. Aggregating specific has been met and there are outstanding reimbursements of 68,066.69. Ten members are at the 50% level with total updated paid claims of $1,634,653.45.

Reinsurance Renewal:

Mr. Anderson said that it is a fairly straightforward year. An RFP was sent. There had been some 50% increases in the past. Last year Blue Cross came in at 25.2 % and they are the incumbent. The total spend coming into this year is roughly $2.25 million. Trend is coming in at over 20% which is reflective of some of the new and improved drugs and solutions that are out there that cost well over a million. That drives up the trend on the lower utilization piece. It is characterized as a hard market. It was put out to nine different carriers and 7 declined right out of hand. That is what is being seen across the market.

Blue Cross came in with a net increase of 12.2%, which is an excellent outcome. The second bid from HM came in technically incomplete because they had medical questions. If everything had fallen the way they wanted, it would have come in at 20.7%, which is a full 8.5% above Blue Cross with questions. They were included just to have something to look at and compare. Something else to look at is the specific deductible. If you go up to $275,000, it adds retained risk as soon as you climb the stair and you never go back down. It makes sense to retain the status quo with Blue Cross.

Christina Gagnon motioned to stay at the current $250,000 specific deductible with a $150,000 aggregating specific with Blue Cross.

Richard Patullo seconded the motion. There was a roll call vote.

Motion

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

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Good Health Gateway update:
Alysha Beaudry presented a dashboard report for the period from September 1, 2024, through May 31st, 2025. There were 246 eligible plan participants and of those, 92 members or 37% are active in the program. The overall adherence to the program is good at 63% with 58 members. There were 39 members identified as high risk and of those, 24 are enrolled and 12 have met adherence requirements. Engagement is above the national average and the municipal book of business which is good. There were 597 prescriptions with $11,615 in waived member copays and rebates back to the client of $69,257. Recent promotions were to unregistered members featuring an Amazon E gift card and another geared towards dependents who are eligible for the program. Adherence is also a focus of communication.

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Health plan and vendor reports:

CanaRx – Jim Riley said that savings through June were March were $ 250,007.80. Annual projections are $272,727. Average across the board discount was 82.42% with 222 prescriptions filled. Individual unit potential savings reports were sent out and work was done on incentive ideas. A summer postcard will be hitting mailboxes soon. Another focus of communication will be to highlight what the program does to contribute to savings for the group as a whole.

Blue Cross- Heidi Fountain thanked the group for the reinsurance renewal and said Blue Cross has formulary changes that will go into effect 07/01. Humira is no longer on the formulary and has biosimilars available. Scantic Valley Trust has been granted $15,000 wellness credit. Their wellness program guide can be accessed to utilize virtual or in-person classes and other opportunities.

Health New England – Sandra Ruiz said that Health New England also removed Humira from the formulary. She had nothing else to add.

Harvard Pilgrim – Elaine Wilson announced that Point 32 Health named a new CEO who formerly worked for Blue Cross with much industry experience. She had nothing, had nothing else to add.

Other business:

There was no other business.

The Chair, Arlene Miller, set the next Board meeting for Wednesday September 10th, 2025, at 9:30 AM.

Ms. Miller adjourned the meeting at 10.34 AM.

Minutes prepared by Karen Quinlivan
Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc.