

Minutes of the Health Insurance Trustee Meeting
November 30, 2011
8:00 a.m.
JH/CO Conference Room

Members Present: John Murray, Bob Evans, John Petersen, Mike Gowing and Tess Summers

Also Present: Ed O'Donoghue, Chris Prehl, John Stackhouse, Ken Carroll, Peter Savage, Sandra Bean, Forrest Bean III, Ruth Cvitkovich, and Marie Altieri

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 by Chairman Evans.

Approval of Minutes: On Mr. Petersen's motion, seconded by Mr. Gowing, the amended minutes of the November 22 meeting were unanimously approved.

Discuss Status of Board of Selectmen and Regional School Committee on Chapter 69: The Board of Selectmen have started cooperative discussions with employees, union representatives and retirees. It is anticipated that a recommendation will be made at the February 7th Selectmen's meeting. At this time the regional school district does not have a position, and will either wait and see results of the collaborative effort, or do something different. Regional school district could participate in plan design. Acton Public Schools wants to participate in the cooperative discussions.

Health Insurance Trust role in Board of Selectmen and Regional School Committee informal process: Mr. Evans stated that the health insurance trust may not have a role in this process. Mr. Murray agreed with Mr. Evans, and stated the trustees should stay out of the political process. Mr. Petersen also agreed, and stated the trustees may want to be involved in future mitigation study. There was discussion on contacting insurance companies by individual entities, and it was agreed that the chair of the trustees would act unilaterally in these negotiations. It was also agreed that the cost for employees must be determined. Mr. Savage will contact Blue Cross and Harvard Pilgrim to prepare three year (2009, 2010 and 2011) utilization reports. These reports will include information on office visits, emergency care, and pharmaceuticals, and be available for the trustees' next meeting.

Merits of recommending joining the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group: Mr. Petersen reported that the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group is meeting on December 5 to determine the course to be taken for health insurance. Mr. Murray suggested that other MN-GIC equivalents should be sought, for example, CIGNA and John Hancock. Mrs. Summers suggested that MIIA also be considered as they provide Blue Cross coverage. Mr. Savage noted communities in Route 128 and toward Boston tend to join GIC, while communities in the 128 to 495 belt tend to have choices. He also noted that GIC will not let their costs go up, and will instead change plan design. Mr. Savage is to collect data on these plans for the next trustees meeting. Mr. Carroll and Mrs. Bean participated in the

discussion mentioning several options such as HRAs and partnering with Emerson Hospital.

Mrs. Altieri left the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Health Insurance trustees to make comments at the Regional School Committee meeting on December 1, 2011: Mr. Evans stated that he could not attend this meeting, and would have Mr. Petersen read the trustees comments to the regional school committee. Mr. Evans submitted a draft report for the annual report, and suggestions were received from the trustees. Mr. Murray suggested that the trustees vote on Chapter 69 be included in the report, and it was also suggested that if this is included, it would need to state that the Trustees voted not to go into GIC.

Review updated monthly reports from Cook & Co.: Mr. Savage forwarded updated reports prior to the meeting. This report shows a revised projection of -\$695,994 for this year.

Set Next Meeting date: The next meeting will be held on December 22, 2011 at 8 a.m. in the Junior High Conference Room. Mr. Petersen asked that OPEB be discussed at the next meeting, and that he would forward a copy of the recent OPEB report.

Mr. Murray left the meeting at 9:36 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Summers, Secretary