

WYOMING MINERS' HOSPITAL BOARD
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2012
HOLIDAY INN, CHEYENNE, WYOMING

CALL TO ORDER:

The President being absent, Mary Ellen Young, Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board Executive Director, called this meeting of the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board to order at 8:10 am after having breakfast with one Wyoming Legislator. Our one legislator was Representative John Freeman from Sweetwater County. Some Legislators were confused about which room the meeting was in, while others went to the wrong location all together.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were:

Albert Battisti – Rock Springs

David Hornbeck – Casper

Bill Korhonen – Rock Springs

Jamie LaValley – Gillette

Don Stauffenberg – Riverton

Others Present were:

Mary Ellen Young, Executive Director

Ken Nelson, Senior Assistant Attorney General

Not Present were:

Brook Bahnsen-Campbell County Memorial Hospital Representative

Cliff Knesel – Gillette

Rose Mosby – Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County Representative

Gary Wolfe – Green River

Mary Ellen made a determination that there was a quorum and the meeting could proceed

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Bill Korhonen made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 2th, 2012 Board Meeting. Don Stauffenberg seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Executive Director's Report:

Mary Ellen went over the January Executive Director's report and gave a synopsis of each program.

Mary Ellen informed the board that she had requested a report from EBMS to show the cost savings if we were to apply a deductible of \$500.00 to each miner or if we were to apply that deductible to those under age 50. The savings for everyone paying a \$500.00 deductible would be \$844,142 annually and for only those under age 50 the savings would be \$279,693 annually based on 2011 information.

Mary Ellen let the board know that EBMS has had management changes in the past couple of months. We have a new Account Manager, Janean Honadel. We also have a new person doing the registrations, Candy Maldonado and she is extremely confused about eligibility. Stephanie and I have worked on building a list of all the major mines in the state that we have supplied to Candy. If she has any registrations that are questionable, Candy faxes the registration form to Stephanie or Mary Ellen for a ruling on eligibility. Mary

Ellen strongly suggested that the Miners' Hospital Board do the registrations in-house. Mary Ellen will talk to EBMS and the State IT Department about the best way to do this.

Mary Ellen is still planning on auditing each company this year to ensure that all their employee meet the criteria for eligibility. EBMS has said they are working on populating an Employer field.

Mary Ellen informed the board there were twelve (12) Hardship cases for prescriptions. Prescription costs have gone up a bit, but we are still much lower with the new process, averaging 15-18% of Miners' Medical Assistance.

Financials:

Financials for January 2012 were emailed to all board members. There were no questions. Albert Battisti made a motion to approve the January 2012 Financials as presented. David Hornbeck seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed. Bill Korhonen has requested that the Financials be sent as an excel worksheet instead of a PDF file. The PDF file does not print well; it cuts lines off and it's hard to read.

NEW BUSINESS:

B-11s:

The past three B-11's were discussed and Mary Ellen asked the board what procedure they would like her to use in the future to inform the board of the need for a B-11. She was directed to e-mail all board members of the need for a B-11, attach the request to the e-mail and set up a phone conference call so the board could vote on the B-11 prior to submitting to the Governor. The need and information about the B-11 will be posted on the website to provide the public with knowledge of the board's operations.

Don Stauffenberg moved and Bill Korhonen seconded to ratify the three B-11's written on September 9th, 2011, January 13th 2012 and February 7th, 2012. No further discussion, motion passed.

Amending Admin Assistant contracts to run with fiscal year:

David Hornbeck made a motion to amend the Admin Assistant contracts to run with the fiscal year, July 1 thru June 30th. Albert seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed.

The February 7th B-11 was not for funding, it was only to amend the current Admin Assistant contracts to run thru June 30th instead of ending March 31st, 2012.

Define and Review of Eligibility of Miners:

The definitions have been submitted by the sub-committee pertaining to defining miner eligibility for receiving MHB Benefits. Ken Nelson will work on drafting rules defining miner, clarifying eligibility and cleaning up some minor word changes in Rules to assist in understanding who is eligible for MHB benefits. The length of service and residency criteria will remain the same.

Wellness Testing:

After much discussion concerning the cost of Van Wellness Testing, it was determined that for employed, insured miners, in many case this benefit is a duplication of benefits offered by a miners' employer. Albert Battisti moved that the Miners' Hospital Board stop funding Wellness Van testing at the end of December 2012 for Campbell County Hospital and the end of August 2012 for Most Healthcare. The motion was seconded by Jamie LaValley. No further discussion. Motion passed.

Mary Ellen was requested to look into working with Wyoming Health Fairs and how the MHB could work with them to offer some type of health checks for those individuals that are retired with no wellness benefits.

Other:

It was decided to not apply a deductible at this time to miners receiving our benefits. It was also decided at this time that the board would not change length of service requirement or to put age restrictions on miners receiving our benefits. The board would like to see how the changes they have made in the past 9 months settle out. The office will also be auditing all registrations for eligibility and with these changes; we may see some substantial cost savings. The Miners' Hospital Board has seen a 700% increase in claims in the past 4 years, a pace that cannot continue without running out of funding.

It was suggested that the board needs to address Statute changes at the next meeting.

The contract for EBMS as our Hearing Aid TPA is expiring on April 30, 2012. Currently we have 2 TPA for Hearing Aids. Covenant is the TPA for the Preferred Providers; EBMS is the TPA for claims payment. Mary Ellen was instructed to revise the contract so that we have one entity cover both services. This should help our Hearing Aid bottle necks and cut costs in TPA fees.

Election of new Board Chairperson:

Bill Korhonen nominated Albert Battisti for the position of chairperson. Bill Korhonen made a motion to close nominations, seconded by Jamie LaValley. No further discussion. Albert Battisti is the new board chairperson.

Next Meeting:

May 18th in Jackson Hole was selected as the next meeting location and date.

Bill Korhonen made a motion to adjourn at 10:36. David Hornbeck seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.