

Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board Meeting
Best Western Ramkota Hotel
Casper, WY
November 2, 2012 8:30 am

CALL TO ORDER:

The President, Albert Battisti, Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board President, called this meeting of the Wyoming Miners' Hospital Board to order at 8:30 am.

ROLL CALL:

Those present were:

Albert Battisti – Rock Springs

David Hornbeck – Casper

Bill Korhonen – Rock Springs

Jamie LaValley – Gillette

Rose Moseby – Memorial Hospital of Sweetwater County Representative

Don Stauffenberg – Riverton

Gary Wolfe – Green River

Cliff Knesel - Gillette

Others Present were:

Mary Ellen Young – Executive Director

Helen Jerome – Gillette Administrative Assistant

Ken Nelson – Senior Assistant Attorney General

Albert Battisti made a determination that there was a quorum and that the meeting could proceed.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Cliff made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2012 meeting. Rose seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed. Cliff made the motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2012 conference call. Jamie seconded the motion. No further discussion. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Adoption of the Rules amendments to Chapter 1 & 2. Cliff made the motion and Don seconded the motion. Bill Korhonen brought up his concern that the letter sent out in August requiring proof of residency from miners was sent prior to the adoption of the amended Rules. Bill was assured by Mary Ellen and several board members that the board was within their jurisdiction to require proof of residency prior to the rule changes and by the means requested. Motion passed.

- B. Executive Director's Report – Mary Ellen reported that she traveled to Cheyenne to meet with the Governor on Oct 24th concerning the requested supplemental budget. The Legislative Services Office determined that the wording in the statute does not permit the board to request additional funds by means of a B-11. The meeting went very well and Governor Mead was complimentary on the changes that we are making.
The October reports on the various programs will be written and distributed to the board members within the next week.
- C. Financial Reports – October financials were handed out to all present. Gary moved that financials be accepted as presented; Rose seconded. No questions, motion passed.
- D. Programs:
- Hearing Aid Assistance – We have started tracking the requests for second hearing aids.
- Wellness - The Wellness contracts for MOST and CCMH expired at the end of October. It was reviewed as to how many miners got Wellness Testing. The cost per person was an average of \$300. There were some complaints that the miners testing with MOST were not getting their results in a timely manner. There was discussion concerning ways to cut Wellness Testing costs, such as cut down the amount of times MOST came to do wellness testing in the state, having the provider bill the primary insurance first, only offer blood draws and not do wellness testing every year. Do we want to take 2013 off and possibly reactive the program later? We can suspend the program to look at our finances, determine the need and take some time to propose the best possible program if we are to continue Wellness Testing. The whole idea of the Miners' Hospital fund was for incapacitated or disabled miners but the definition of who is incapacitated or disabled has never been decided. The board has concentrated on addressing the "health care needs" of the miners. Cliff made the motion that we let the public know that the WMHB will not be offering any wellness testing in the calendar year of 2013. Rose seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Durable Medical Equipment thru Chiropractors - Orthotics, back braces, tens units etc. Most Chiropractic services had not met deductible, so we would be paying 100% on DME; or, do we stay at \$50.00 per visit, no matter what. It was the consensus that we stay with the \$50 cap and not pay for DME.
- B. Portable Oxygen Concentrator – Do we pay for the purchase of them or just for the rental? It was the consensus that we not pay for the purchase of these units, but we will pay for rental as needed.
- C. Questionable Employers – Church & Dwight, Degerstom Converters, Monstanto? These entities have never been eligible as they are manufacturing and processing facilities and not mining entities. They are not dependent upon the mine for product. Power Plants are still not eligible. Cliff made the motion to deny eligibility for benefits due to fact that they are not a proper mining entity. Rose seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- D. Consensus on Statute Changes – It was agreed not to offer any Statute changes at the time. Most all concerns with the Statute are addressed via the Rules.

Renewal of Executive Director's Contract:

Mary Ellen would like to explore the option of becoming a State Employee. Her contract will be addressed at the next board meeting when she presents the board with her options.

Other:

- A. Don Stauffenberg requested that Mary Ellen provide to the Joint Labor, Health and Social Services Committee a brief history of the board, an outline of the programs of the WMHB and the changes that have occurred in the past two years. The WMHB falls under the jurisdiction of JLHSS and we should show them that we are living within our means and that we have passed rules and regulations to stay within our budget.

- B. Green River Office – It was suggested that Stephanie place information at the state offices location in the White Mountain Mall and outside her office door so that information is available when she cannot be there.

- C. Company benefits – Many companies offer a high deductible to their employees that allow them to pay a lower monthly premium. If a miner opts for the high deductible, they are instructed that it is illegal to use other medical benefits, including the Miners' Hospital Board benefits. Mary Ellen will work with EBMS on co-ordination of benefits and whether or not we can get to the point that, if board directed, that EBMS could ensure the miners have paid their deductible prior to receiving any benefits from WMHB.

Mark Carter – Wyodak Power Plant Employee – Discussion was held on whether PacifiCorp at Wyodak is considered a processing plant since they own and operate a coal crushing plant. Gary made a motion to allow Mary Ellen to make the final decision based on reviewing the definition of converting, conversion and processing with the assistance of Don Stauffenberg. Motion seconded by Rose. Motion passed.

Contractors – We have a list of contractors that need to be reviewed. Don will review the list of contractors and Helen and Mary Ellen will review the registrations submitted with those contractors to see if those individuals are eligible for benefits.

Registration terminations - Mary Ellen reviewed with the board that anyone who has not provided a proof of residency by the end of November will be terminated in the EBMS system. To reinstate their benefits, they will need to provide proof of residence and be employed with a qualifying employer.

PUBLIC SOUNDING:

None

ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING:

Next Meeting: January 18, 2013 at Cheyenne, WY at Little America

Adjourned: Motion made by Cliff, Seconded by Jamie to adjourn at 11:10.