

**MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF COMMUNITY HEALTH MEETING  
February 10, 2011**

**Members Present**

Ross Mason  
Norman Boyd  
Dr. Inman C. "Buddy" English  
Hannah Heck  
William H. Wallace, Jr.  
Dr. Mary Eleanor Wickersham

**Members Absent**

Sidney Kirschner  
Jamie Pennington

The Board of Community Health held its regularly scheduled meeting at the Department of Community Health, Fifth Floor Board Room, 2 Peachtree Street, N.W., Atlanta, Georgia. Commissioner David A. Cook was present. (the Agenda and a List of Attendees are attached hereto and made official parts of these Minutes as Attachments # 1 and # 2). Chairman Mason called the meeting to order at 10:37 a.m.

The Minutes of the January 13 Meeting were UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED and ADOPTED.

**Chairman's Opening Comments**

Chairman Mason announced he was creating a Policy Committee and asked Jamie Pennington and Bill Wallace to serve on the committee. He said the Policy Committee will partner with cutting edge innovators in both the nonprofit and public sectors to look at innovative solutions to provide more quality care, greater access to quality care, and lower costs throughout Georgia.

**Commissioner's Report**

Commissioner Cook stated he had several items to bring to the Board's attention: two resolutions related to the State Health Benefit Plan, a brief report on the management follow up to the Financial Auditors' recommendations, and the Commissioner's report regarding the Division of Public Health.

Vince Harris, Chief Financial Officer presented for the Board's consideration a Resolution titled "State Health Benefit Plan Employer Contribution Rates for April 2011." The SHBP is comprised of three health plans: a plan for State employees, a plan for teachers, and a plan for non-certificated public school employees. On August 26, 2010, the Board established the Employer contribution rates for the State Employees Plan and the Teachers' Plan for the first, second and third quarters of FY 2011. The Resolution presented to the Board extends these contribution rates for the month of April 2011. The Resolution also instructs the Department to set the rates for the remaining months of FY 2011 at a rate that ensures that in the aggregate, the Employer contributions to the SHBP do not exceed the maximum amount of contributions permitted by the General Assembly. Mr. Boyd MADE a MOTION to adopt the Resolution presented, the "State Health Benefit Plan Employer Contribution Rates for April 2011." Mr. Rose SECONDED the MOTION. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. (A copy of a Resolution "State Health Benefit Plan Employer Contribution Rates for April 2011" is hereto attached and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 3).

Alison Earles, Legal Counsel for the SHBP, presented for the Board's consideration a Resolution titled "State Health Benefit Plan Calendar Year 2011 State Extended Coverage and Non-Annuitant Surviving Dependent Rates." The Code of Georgia permits former employees who are not entitled to SHBP coverage as annuitants to continue coverage in some circumstances (State Extended Coverage). The statute establishing the plan for State Employees permits the surviving covered dependents of a State employee killed in the scope of his or her employment, or who dies as a result of injuries sustained in the scope of his or her employment, or the surviving spouse of a retired employee may continue coverage in some circumstances. The SHBP regulations establish the required premium payments for continued coverage as a former employee or as a surviving beneficiary as being either the total cost of coverage

plus an administrative fee, the same premium that applies to active employees and annuitants plus an administrative fee, or the premium set by the Board. On August 26, 2010, the Board adopted rates for the 2011 Calendar Year by resolution that did not include the rates for State Extended Coverage and surviving dependent continuation coverage. The resolution presented today is to supplement the rates established on August 26 to add State Extended Coverage and non-annuitant surviving dependent continuation coverage rates. These rates are set forth in the attachment to the resolution titled "Supplement to Attachment A." The Supplement to Attachment A sets forth two types of rates: member rates for continuation of coverage that represent the total cost of coverage and member rates for continuation of coverage that represent a State-subsidized cost of coverage. The rates for continuation coverage of non-annuitant surviving dependents are set at the lower subsidized rate only for surviving dependents of deceased active state employees in the following situations: if the death or injury resulting in death occurred while the active state employee was acting in the scope of employment as a peace officer as defined in the Peace Officers Standards and Training Act or as a firefighter as defined in the Firefighter Standards and Training Act. The rates are not subsidized for other non-annuitant surviving dependents of other state employees killed in the scope of employment or who die as a result of bodily injuries sustained in the scope of employment. The board currently has the authority to change the rates going forward at any time in order to set a broader policy for State Extended Coverage for non-annuitant surviving dependents of state employees killed in the scope of employment. Ms. Heck MADE a MOTION to adopt the presented Resolution "State Health Benefit Plan Calendar Year 2011 State Extended Coverage and Non-Annuitant Surviving Dependent Rates." Mr. Rose SECONDED the MOTION. The MOTION was APPROVED with one dissenting vote from Dr. Mary Eleanor Wickersham. (A copy of the Resolution "State Health Benefit Plan Calendar Year 2011 State Extended Coverage and Non-Annuitant Surviving Dependent Rates, and its attachment titled "Supplement to Attachment A" are hereto attached and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 4).

Commissioner Cook announced the appointment of Brenda Fitzgerald, M.D. as the new Director of the Division of Public Health. Dr. Fitzgerald is a board certified obstetrician/gynecologist and a Fellow in Anti-Aging Medicine. She has practiced medicine for over three decades. Commissioner Cook said Dr. Fitzgerald will bring a high degree of expertise, energy and commitment to the public health arena. He said he was excited to have Dr. Fitzgerald join DCH on February 23 and looks forward to working with her. The Commissioner also noted that the Division of Public Health, including the 18 District Health Directors, has been engaged in a strategic planning process. They have narrowed their focus to five areas: increasing immunizations, decreasing infant mortality, decreasing tobacco use, reducing obesity, and improving Public Health information technology systems.

Mr. Rose, Chair of the Audit Committee, reported that the Committee met today and discussed the Department's response to the FY 2010 Independent Financial Auditors management letter. The Committee was very pleased with the Department's timely response to management points. The Department has implemented four key tactical actions which include an executive summary that the Commissioner and leadership will review periodically on the status of each management point. The Committee endorsed a recommendation from the Department to engage the services of Metcalf Davis/Mauldin & Jenkins for another year to perform the FY 2011 audit of Financial Statements. Mr. Rose MADE a MOTION to ratify the Committee's endorsement of engaging the services of Metcalf Davis/Mauldin & Jenkins to perform the FY 2011 audit of Financial Statements. Mr. Wallace SECONDED the MOTION. The MOTION was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED. Mr. Rose also reported on the Audit Committee review of a report on the federal Payment Error Rate Measurement (PERM) program that measures improper payments in the Medicaid program.

Ms. Hannah Heck, Chair of the Care Management Committee, reported that the Committee agreed to meet quarterly and will review enrollment, provider access, and financial measures, and focus on Care Management activity and performance data. The Committee discussed the FY 2011 hospital provider fees and SHBP care management data. The next Committee meeting will focus on performance data for asthma and diabetes and an update on the CMO Procurement.

Mr. Scott Frederking, Budget Director, presented the Governor's recommendations for the Amended FY 2011 and FY 2012 Program Budgets. He reviewed each program budget except SHBP which will be

presented at a future board meeting. The highlights reviewed are provider rate cuts – 1% rate cut to all providers except hospitals and home and community based services (FY 2012); optional services – eliminate optional benefit coverage for adult vision, dental and podiatry in Medicaid (FY 2012); co-pays – increase existing member co-pays and implement new co-pays for members enrolled in TEFRA; stimulus funds – the reduction and expiration of enhanced matching rate federal stimulus dollars will be restored with state general funds (AFY 2011 and FY 2012); Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) – state funds are recommended to fully fund the new MMIS conversion at a 50:50 match rate until the system is certified (anticipated in late) FY 2012 when the match returns to 75:25 (AFY 2011); SHBP – the Governor's recommendations conform to the Department's request and reflects an increase in receipts from the federal Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (AFY 2011 and FY 2012); General Obligation Funds - \$10 million in bonds are recommended to act as 10 % matching funds for federal funds to develop and implement a new Medicaid eligibility system (FY 2012). (A copy of the Amended FY 2011 and FY 2012 Program Budgets – Governor's Recommendations is attached hereto and made an official part of these Minutes as Attachment # 5).

Chairman Mason asked the Department to include in its SHBP budget presentation at the next meeting future plans for the reserves and members enrolled in HRAs.

### **Chairman's Closing Comments**

Chairman Mason said board members are here to serve the public, and he hopes the public will communicate to the Board, Commissioner and Department how we can serve more effectively.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Mason adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

THESE MINUTES ARE HEREBY APPROVED ADOPTED BY VOTE OF THE BOARD THIS THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

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ROSS MASON  
Chairman

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ARCHER R. ROSE  
Secretary

### Official Attachments:

- #1 List of Attendees
- #2 Agenda
- #3 Resolution – SHBP Employer Contribution Rates for April 2011
- #4 Resolution – SHBP Calendar Year 2011 State Extended Coverage and Non-Annuitant Surviving Dependent Rates
- #5 Amended FY 2011 and FY 2012 Program Budgets – Governor's Recommendations