

**Town of West Boylston IAC
Minutes of October 26, 2011**

Members

Marcia Cairns
Jack McCormick (absent)
Judy Van Hoven
Barbara Deschenes
Paula Menendez
Cande Kristoff (absent)
Mike Coveney (absent)
Pat Fanning (absent)
Jim Bartlett (absent)

EBS Foran: Ken Lombardi & Sarah Gruhin
Town: Leon Gaumont

Meeting minutes from September 29, 2011 distributed and approved for recording.

HPHC claims through July 2011 distributed to the group for review. July claims show an improvement compared to the June 2011 claims but it was still noted that the Town's trend was still over 34%, due in large part to the existence of several large claims. Some of these are terminated so it was noted that the HPHC renewal process, which pools large claims over a certain threshold will be removed from the analysis and actually might improve results.

It was discussed that since there does not appear to be a continuous favorable trend that another claims month will be studied at the November 30th meeting to decide if an RFP process will occur now or be delayed. The group discussed that current financials suggest other carriers may not get aggressive enough to provide a competitive bid.

HPHC utilization information was also distributed and it was noted that many of the measurable utilization statistics reveal the plan is operating appropriately. Specifically, in-patient admissions, preventive care, emergency room use, and outpatient surgery were all in line with favorable trends. Also, use of the MOD prescription program was much higher than other groups that HPHC includes in their benchmarking so this was viewed as a positive. Generally the group agreed the plan was performing well although the fundamental challenge continues to be the aging population and the higher health care costs demand.

Only one meeting was set for November 30th.