

**HOLLISTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES  
March 14, 2012**

The Board met at 3:00 p.m. in Room 105 at Town Hall. Present were Chairman Jay Marsden, Vice-Chairman Jay Leary, Clerk Kevin Conley, Town Administrator Paul Le Beau, Administrative Assistant Andrea Minihan and Treasurer/Collector Mary Bousquet.

The Board reviewed the Benchmark and Rate Saver plans and the cost differentials between the two. The Board also discussed an HRA plan for mitigation, the amount of mitigation and the terms of any agreement with the PEC.

**MR. LEARY MOVED, MR. CONLEY SECONDED AND IT WAS VOTED BY ROLL CALL TO PROPOSE AN HRA FOR 18 MONTHS; A TWO YEAR AGREEMENT TO FOREGO ANY ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO HEALTH INSURANCE EXCEPT THOSE REQUIRED BY STATE OR FEDERAL LAW; MITIGATION OF 25% OF THE SAVINGS AS OF JULY 1; BENCHMARK PLANS; AND NO REFERENCE TO SECTION 19.**

	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MR. MARSDEN</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>MR. LEARY</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>MR. CONLEY</b>	<b>X</b>		

**MR. LEARY MOVED, MR. CONLEY SECONDED AND IT WAS VOTED BY ROLL CALL TO DESIGNATE MR. MARSDEN AS THE TOWN'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE MUNICIPAL INSURANCE REVIEW PANEL (MIRP).**

	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MR. MARSDEN</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>MR. LEARY</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>MR. CONLEY</b>	<b>X</b>		

At 4:00 p.m., the following representatives of the PEC joined the meeting: Catherine Simpson, Katrina Weiher, Therese Stewart, Lynne Bowler, John Robshaw, Patti D'Innocenzo, Deborah Holleran, Lorraine Boles, Matt Waugh and Andrew Powell.

The Board explained its position that Benchmark plans would be offered with 25% mitigation as of July 1, 2012 enrollments in the form of an HRA that would expire no later than 18 months from inception with a two year hiatus on health insurance plan changes, excepting those that may be required by state or federal law, in the form of an agreement with the PEC under section 22 of Chapter 32B. The Board noted the higher premium savings compared to the Rate Savers and the out-of-pocket maximums in the Benchmark plans that don't exist in all the Rate Saver plans.

Mr. Powell said the PEC would like to see a multi-year agreement under section 19 to make the PEC permanent and create a partnership on health issues. He said the impact of health plan

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changes will be long term so the mitigation should be long term and all the mitigation money should go to employees. The advantage of the Rate Saver plans is the lack of deductibles. He said the PEC agreed that the HPHC PPO should still be offered and that there would not be any changes to Medicare extension plans. He said the PEC would also like to have the Town contribute toward the cost of the premiums for survivors.

Mr. Leary said the administrative burden of an HRA program should only be for a finite period of time, perhaps as little as one year. Mr. Powell said the HRA program could be “tiered” so that family subscribers receive more than individual subscribers. The Board stressed its willingness to entertain a two year moratorium on health changes in the form of an agreement but not under section 19.

The PEC asked for a caucus at 4:45 p.m. The Board left Room 105 and waited in the Selectmen’s Office until 5:10 p.m., at which time the PEC indicated they were ready to continue discussions.

Mr. Powell said the PEC would like to have additional time to consider a proposal for next week. He also stated that Catherine Simpson had been designated as the PEC representative to the MIRP.

**AT 5:15 P.M., MR. LEARY MOVED, MR. CONLEY SECONDED AND IT WAS VOTED BY ROLL CALL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

	<b>AYE</b>	<b>NAY</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>
<b>MR. MARSDEN</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>MR. LEARY</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>MR. CONLEY</b>	<b>X</b>		

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Paul D. Le Beau  
Town Administrator