

BUCKS COUNTY CONSORTIUM

Thursday, July 11, 2013

New Britain Township

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order:

A meeting of the Bucks County Consortium was held at the Forrest Park Water Treatment Plant in Chalfont Borough building on July 11, 2013 and called to order by Consortium Vice- President Eileen Bradley.

Roll Call and Introductions:

The following Bucks County communities were represented at the meeting:

Angela Benner, New Britain Township	Eileen Bradley, New Britain Township
Gail Weniger, Warwick Township	Susan Ledersel, New Britain Township
Vivian Bell, Warrington Township	Andrea Coaxum, Perkasio Borough
Terry Fedorchek, Lower Makefield Township	Stephen Sechriest, Richland Township
Bill Cmorey, Bensalem Township	Dana Cozza, Buckingham Township
Tim Hagey, Warminster Authority	Bill Wert, Dublin Borough

Sponsors:

Anna Linn, DVHIT

David Jones, Boucher & James

Approval of Minutes – June 6, 2013:

The meeting minutes from the June 6, 2013 meeting were approved on a motion by Gail Weniger, seconded by Bill Wert.

Treasurer’s Report and Payment of Bills:

The Treasurer's report for the month of June 2013 was approved.

Presentation:

Vice-President Eileen Bradley introduced Jonathan Calpas, Esq., with Ballard Spahr, to the group.

Mr. Calpas started by talking about some of the basic points of the Affordable Care Act. The employer mandate has been extended until January of 2015, so there is still time for employers to drill down on their employee count. He then discussed the minimum essential coverage and penalty for not providing it. He also reviewed penalties for large employers.

The marketplace/ exchanges offered by the state will all meet the state minimum requirements and have been approved by the state. He again stressed the importance of adding up hours of part-time employees to see if you are a small or large employer. If you have more than 50 for four or less months per year because of seasonal employees, then you most likely will not be a large employer. The measurement period can be between 3-12 months and it can vary between different groups of people (union employees and non-union employees can have different measurement periods, for example). Typically he advises municipalities to do a 12 month measurement period to spread out the average.

Responding to a question, Mr. Calpas stated that you cannot give Medicare-eligible employees an incentive to go on Medicare. They can make that choice on their own – you just have to offer them healthcare insurance but they don't have to take it.

He went on to talk about the upcoming "Cadillac Tax" that may impact a lot of municipalities. It goes into effect in 2018. The statute is in place but no guidance yet. At this time there is no employee minimum. Plans to be taxed are above the following limits: \$10,000 for individuals, \$27,000 for families (plus inflation until 2018). Those limits will be increased for some high risk occupations, like emergency services. The numbers are based on the COBRA value, not the premium.

Open enrollment for exchanges will begin in October. He reminded managers that they must send all employees a copy of the model notice before October no matter what size employer you are. On a related note, DVHIT can help provide municipalities with that notice.

The PCORI fee is \$1 per enrolled person, not per employee and is due by July 31, 2013. The Transitional Reinsurance Fee will be \$63/ per covered life in 2014, about \$40/ per covered life in 2015, and about \$20/ per covered life in 2016. (For those that carry healthcare coverage through DVHIT, this fee is paid by the municipality because they are self-insured).

Other Business:

None at this time.

Community Updates:

Eileen Bradley gave an update on the TCC. She stated that they filed with the Supreme Court on the Philly Super Credit and a decision should be out this month.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am on a motion by Tim Hagey, seconded by Gail Weniger.

Respectfully Submitted,
Andrea L. Coaxum
Consortium Coordinator