

CONFERENCE BOARD OF PENSION & HEALTH BENEFITS
March 10, 2008 – 10 am – Conference Office
MINUTES

Present: Robyn Hays, John Fulton, Vicki Putney, Judy Selover, Pat Curtin, Ron Salyer, Jim Darling, Gordon Knapp. Excused: Joe Southern, Beth Benham, Steve Deckard, Al Meyer.

Robyn opened the meeting with thoughts on the connection. She reported that she spoke to both the Dean of the Cabinet and BOOM Chair regarding representation.

Minutes: Motion to accept minutes of the February meeting by John Fulton, second by Pat Curtin. Approved.

Recommendations to Annual Conference: Presented list of individuals being recommended for Incapacity Leave, as included in the previous meeting minutes. No further discussion. Approved. Special Grants were considered, again per the list in the previous meeting minutes. Approved. Treasurer authorization was then presented for vote. Approved.

Incentive Rebate: Confirmed that we will receive a \$31,000 rebate from the General Board for completion of wellness exams. John Fulton proposed that we re-evaluate the incentive payment to more fully distribute the rebate to those who did participate in the Incentive Program. Gordon shared the difficulty of retirees to get proper billing from a wellness exam. Judy Selover explained that the primary diagnosis code needs to be well, not any other code; there can be other diagnostic codes but the first one must be “well”. Vicki will re-evaluate the numbers and come back with another recommendation. In 2007 we distributed approximately \$2,000 more in rebates than we received, so will deduct the over spending from last year and also take retirees into consideration.

Past Service Annuity Rate: Valuations were presented showing three different PSARs for 2009, per the materials previously distributed. Robyn spoke in favor of the 10% increase to \$458. That will keep us at 110% funded ratio and provide a larger than expected increase for the pre-82 retirement benefit. Gordon Knapp moved, Ron Salyer seconded to approve the increase at 10% or \$458 per service year in 2009. Approved.

Pension Funding Plan: To be revised per the action on the PSAR. Pat suggested moving the CRSP DB income and expense to below the reserve fund. Ron Salyer moved, Jim Darling seconded to approve the plan with revisions. Approved.

Retiree Benefit Funds: Pat presented the background research information on this project; correction was made to the authorization to draw on reserve funds. Resolution for annual conference was presented. Revised to clarify the resolution clauses to indicate that the use of the funds is within the authority of the Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits. Discussion resolved that this is the right time to act on this issue. We

can use some of the background information in the preconference materials. Motion presented; Approved.

Pat to ask BS&K about whether a clause is needed to address what happens when there is no longer a pre-82 class. If there is another resolution, bring to executive committee.

Incentive Program: Vicki reported back on the number of wellness and HQs; 132 wellness and 106 HQs, including retirees. It was determined to change the rebate to \$150 for wellness completions and \$90 for HQ completions. Ron Salyer moved, John Fulton seconded, to accept the revised rebate amounts. Approved. Vicki Putney will find out if a report from HealthFlex is available for retirees having a wellness exam in 2007. It was also noted that John Fulton would like to speak to the conference about this topic.

Health Policies: Vicki Putney suggested a clarification of policy #5 to read: All participants who desire coverage in retirement must be enrolled in the Conference plan a minimum of five (5) years prior to retirement (1/1/06) *or as of 1/1/2006 for persons retiring before 1/1/2011. (3/11/08)* New health policy clarification accepted by the Board.

Health Insurance Funding: Vicki Putney revisited the issue of health insurance funding for persons on a leave (sabbatical, family, absence) status. Our Board does not address this in their policies. The Board has received a request from BOOM for health insurance funding for two persons on sabbatical. Board members are very concerned about the implications

The Conference Board of Pension & Health Benefits has concern for persons considering a change in status. In light of that, we have requested that a member of BOOM be on the Board so that we can come to a comprehensive plan for our conference. A decision on this particular request would set policy based on a single situation and would be reactionary. We have incomplete information to make decisions. Gordon moved, John Fulton seconded to authorize Robin to respond to BOOM as indicated. Approved.

Vicki Putney read the request from DS Beth Benham related to churches affected by the mandatory participation in HealthFlex. Request was for \$2500 for each of two charges. There were other churches in this situation but these two were particularly hard hit. In 2006, we had authorized the Cabinet to use up to \$50,000 to assist church that were new to the health care program, and they used \$37,000. After two years of transition, these two charges are continuing to struggle. It feels as though the other churches have come through the transition. Gordon Knapp moved, Ron Salyer seconded, to approve the request. Question about long term outlook for these churches and such a request. Unable to answer that, but would like to anticipate that this is a one-time grant. Motion was revised to read: The Board recommends that the Alexandria Bay-Redwood Charge and the Philadelphia-Evans Mills Charge receive a one time grant of \$2,500 apiece in 2008 through the medical reserve fund as requested by the District Superintendent. Approved.

2009 Shared Ministry Request: The Council has asked the ministry teams to reduce their asking, as they are trying to keep the overall increase in budget to 3%. Board determined to remove the \$3,500 software purchase from the asking and adjust the salary increase to 3% as approved by the Personnel Committee. Questioned the mileage line; will clarify if it is the team mileage or not. Reviewed changes in the request. Ron Salyer moved, John Fulton seconded. Approved. Robyn will forward the revisions to Lee Mount.

General Conference Petitions: Vicki Putney shared that she inquired about concerns that other conferences may have around the motion to discontinue CRSP. Only two conferences indicated a real concern. The first petition from the GBOPHB does require that Conferences provide access to health insurance for ALL retirees, including those on extension ministries, etc. She will share with the General Conference delegation her concern around that petition and its implications.

Closing: Ron Salyer moved, John Fulton seconded, to adjourn the meeting. Approved.

Next Meeting: June 16 at 10 am.