

**Special Meeting
Benefits Focus Group Minutes
(07/14/06)**

Note: BFG member names are listed; non-members may attend but are not always listed.

<u>Regular Members</u>	<u>Alternate Members</u>	<u>Staff Advisors</u>	<u>Recorder</u>
John Agen	Joyce Dolan	Kurt Hoverter	Diane Vanderwest
Cindy Cumbie	Jesse Hubbard	Linda McKinney	
Bill Gaines	William Tatum		
Dolly Gamble		<u>HCS</u>	
John Glanden		Robert Blinch-Edwards	
Jim Godshall			
Pat Horan			
Carol Karr (for Casey Humpert)			
Sue Martin			
Dick Minster			
Benita Saldutti – Vice chair			
KayKae Thomas			Total voting pres= 17
Al Woodle - Chairperson			Total pres= 20

Agenda info

There will be a roll call; an announcement on KayKae’s replacement; information on pill-splitting and the Kurt will present the main topic: Other Post Employment Benefits (known as OPEBS). Approval of the minutes from 6/7/06 will be at the 8/02/06 regular meeting.

Call to Order for Special Meeting of BFG

Acting-Chair person, Benita Saldutti called the special meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, July 14, 2006 and asked for a roll call. Al Woodle arrived later.

Roll Call

Diane Vanderwest called the roll and recorded the meeting. Jesse Hubbard attended for Public Works and Carol Karr attended for Van Wezel.

Announcement of replacement – Linda McKinney

Linda announced that HR has hired Susanne Daniels as the new Benefits Coordinator, replacing the irreplaceable KayKae Thomas. Ms. Daniels will begin the week of July 24 with KayKae’s last day being July 28th when we bid KayKae a fond farewell.

Pill-Splitting – Robert Blinch-Edwards

Robert distributed and discussed information on pill-splitting cost savings and patient safety concerns. The City or hospital PHO cannot recommend this voluntary process, but it can be done by having the participant ask the physician for an allowable pill-splitting prescription.

OPEBS – Kurt Hoverter

Kurt began this presentation by showing a US News and World Report article listing SMH in the top 14 of good quality care hospitals in 6 major issues of 5,000+ hospitals nation-wide.

Kurt updated the group on what he presented to each of the commissioners on the OPEBS requirement to recognize the City’s liability for current and future retiree medical plan offerings. This liability is recognized through actuarial studies to be \$180 million over a 30-year period.

“Drafts” were handed out and presentations were shown from overhead “draft” data to the group on the following items. Each bullet presented (shown listed below) was a part of the notebook provided to each commissioner as background material for the OPEBS Workshop on July 21, 2006:

- Problem Statement (handout);
- Other Post-Employment Benefits (handout and overhead shown – this was Gib’s recommendation);
- Funding chart (overhead only);
- Cost projection – color chart (overhead only);
- Retiree contribution for retiree chart (overhead only);
- Median retiree age/service/salary (handout);
- Chart #1 – increase in health insurance premiums compared to other indicators 1988-2005 (overhead only) - copy from Employer Health Benefits Section (known as Exhibit 2)
- Chart #13 – percentage of large firms offering retiree health benefits (overhead only) - copy from Employer Health Benefits Section (known as Exhibit 2)
- Future plan considerations (handout, draft form)

Kurt reviewed each presentation shown above. If you would like a copy, please contact the HR Department.

After the Kurt’s presentation, Benita Saldutti made a statement for a motion. The 17 voting members present unanimously agreed on it. Statement of motion: “I will make a motion that this group support funding a Trust Fund for the OPEBS and that the City Commission not consider any plan design changes at this time and that any plan design changes that will be discussed in the future, this board will have the opportunity to provide input”.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

Benita Saldutti adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The next regular BFG meeting is scheduled to be **Wednesday, October 4, 2006**, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Room #100 of the Federal Building.

/dv

Minutes Approved: _____

Al Woodle, Chairperson
Benita Saldutti, Vice-Chairperson