

**Special Meeting
Benefits Focus Group Minutes
(2/07/07)**

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>
Susie Daniels	William Tatum	Robert Blinch-Edwards - HCS	Diane Vanderwest
Dolly Gamble		Kurt Hoverter	
John Glanden		Linda McKinney	
Jim Godshall			
Pat Horan		<u>Guest</u>	
Carol Karr		Tom Dolsak - WEBTPA	
Sue Martin			
Dick Minster			
Nancy Tolsma			
Ed Whitehead			
Al Woodle - Chairperson			Total Present= 17

Call to Order - Chairperson

Al Woodle called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm. Wednesday, February 7, 2007.

Roll Call

Diane Vanderwest called the roll and recorded the meeting. Al Woodle asked to check member status of those members who have not been attending meetings to see if they want their name to be left on the roster or removed.

Approval of Minutes from 12/06/06

Al Woodle called for approval of the minutes from the previous meeting. The final minutes were approved.

Wellness/Benefits PowerPoint Presentation - Nancy Tolsma and Susie Daniels

A PowerPoint Wellness/Benefits presentation was shown and a copy was handed out. There was a discussion on once a month wellness topics with further information available at a later meeting.

Nancy spoke about the Hearing Clinic and new vaccines, for Shingles and the HPV virus were discussed. Susie provided information on the benefits tie in on the wellness topics in the presentation. The EAP (Employee Assistance Program) was discussed as well as phone number 917-1240 provided. This is a confidential program to assist the employee on various issues. The initial visits are free for the employee.

Monthly Costs Update – Linda McKinney

A couple of very large claims have been incurred.

Linda mentioned that the OPEBS Trust Fund was established and claims for retirees are applied to that fund.

Onsite Medical Mgmt Info/Discussion – Robert Blinch-Edwards, Tom Dolsak and Kurt Hoverter

Handouts were provided on Medical Management as a team approach for confidentially managing the member at high risk (top 3% of members). This initiative combines *Disease Management*, *Rx Management* and *Pre-certification* for high risk members. Local Medical Management and WEBTPA would utilize the same system and access would be available for Nurse Care Line 24/7. Case managers that are assigned cases help members get the most appropriate medication at the best cost. The Rx Management team provides information to the member for alternative drugs to lower your costs through the *iBenefit* report analysis.

If you are on a maintenance drug, and it is available on the generic list for the \$4 cost at pharmacies (Walmart, Target, K-Mart, etc.), you may purchase this at the store instead of going through the mail order process. Use your Caremark card so that confidential monitoring of potential drug interaction can be determined. If the drug is not available as a generic, the mandatory 3-month supply mail order is still in effect.

The City's cost for this program is \$8.00 per active employee or retiree in the plan, per month, with no additional cost to the member. All dependents and/or spouses are covered with this medical management process. The cost will be less for the City if the member is out of the area (depending on zip code) and cannot benefit from local medical management. The group voted to approve the program presented today.

Other Business

In January, the *Sarasota Spirit* had the informational article on pill splitting. Also, each month, the newsletter has a center insert courtesy of the BFG. Upcoming issues will feature health related topics. This newsletter is available on the City's intranet. Copies of the *Sarasota Spirit* will be sent out through an email for the retiree group and we are looking at providing it on the intranet.

Sue Martin reported the continued success with the Weight Watchers at Work program. The 4th session is now in its 10th week and 25 people have lost a total of 283.2 lbs. One employee has lost 76 lbs in 3 sessions and has avoided going on cholesterol or high blood pressure medicine because of that. The next session will begin in a couple of weeks.

Kurt spoke about the stop-loss insurance. The City usually gets reimbursed for claims over \$150,000 with a cost of \$384,000 for this stop-loss insurance coverage. This cost would have been 42% higher. The City increased the coverage from \$150,000 to \$175,000 for huge claims reimbursement with an increase in the City's cost from \$384,000 to \$461,000, a 20% increase, instead of the 42%.

Linda thanked the BFG for helping with some decisions brought up to the group.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

Al Woodle adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:40 p.m. The next regular BFG meeting is scheduled to be **Wednesday, April 4, 2007**, 1:00-3:00 p.m. in Room #100 of the Federal Building.

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