

- The net increase is a little under what it was last year and the fund balance is good. Compared to last year, we had a \$1.2 million fund balance and now we have a \$4 million fund balance. This reflects a \$2 million increase that the city has put in. The fund is increasing but not increasing at the rate of the additional rate of contribution that we are putting in.
- Kurt Hoverter explained part of the reason is the claims and judgments on the OPEB side, claims are up 19.8% and the active employee group medical claims are down 18%.
- Linda McKinney stated that all the wellness initiatives, eating healthy and the stop smoking may not reflect a direct correlation to the fund becoming healthy; but somehow you start seeing the strides. Many of the programs approved by the Benefits Focus Group are starting to have some positive feedback and the only way that we see it is in our dollars and cents.

Non-emergent Emergency Utilization for Last Year – Andrew Grindstaff (HCSRO)

- Emergency room evaluation and recommendations presented.
 - Last year the plan paid for emergency room visits: \$ 362,582
 - Valid emergency room visits: 214,952
 - Non-valid emergency room visits: 147,670
- Savings would be about 65% if these non-emergent visits were treated at walk-in clinics or their doctors' office.
- The Summary Plan Description designates what factors require a medical emergency.
- Solutions offered to discourage using emergency room when not medical emergency:
 - Amend current plan to exclude non-emergent coverage
 - Add separate deductible
 - Use nurse 24/7 phone line
 - Letters notifying users of emergency room of other options
 - Refrigerator magnets of walk-in clinics & nurse hot-line phone number.

Other Business

- John Glenden inquired on the status of the Challenge Teams.
 - Kurt Hoverter stated Sarasota County's RFP was not what we needed. Therefore, we will not be piggybacking on it because \$120,000 in the RFP is focused outside of what the City does.
 - Recommended to City Manager to do our own RFP bid process.
 - Both unions declined to open their contracts and it will likely be 2010 before any major plan design changes occur.
- Susie Daniels stated the health assessment was started by 32 participants with 17 completing the lab work required to obtain credit for the \$100 increase in wellness on next year's plan.

Adjournment and Next Meeting

Al Woodle adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m. The next regular BFG meeting is scheduled to be **Wednesday, June 4, 2008, 1:00-3:00 p.m.** in Room #100 of the Federal Building.

/pjh