

Insurance Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 by Vice Committee Chairman Jeremy Ly.

Committee Members Present: Eric Rasmusson, Dick Steele, David Welter
Absent: Tom Poole

Also Present: Board Chairman Ron Severson, Board Secretary Sandy Pommier
Board Members Ken Iverson and Dave Boggs, HR Director Denise Kasper

Public Comment:

Iverson stated that he attended the meeting to voice his opinion on the matter of no longer providing health insurance benefits to the County Board members. He made his appeal by reading his reasons as to why he was opposed to changing the board members compensation. Iverson told the committee that he thought a fair compromise would be to raise the premiums for board members higher than the full time employees. The committee members talked about complaints they've heard about the board members receiving the benefit and that they would like to see this change in an effort to save tax payers dollars as well as an effort be more in line with the private sector.

HR Director Kasper presented the Cash Flow Chart for the Health Insurance Trust account and the claims for approval:

BAS Stop Loss-\$49,704.61

Employee Premiums-\$187,173.25

Dental (Retirees)-\$210.90

Vision-\$486.96

Life-\$719.66

Payroll Clearing-\$460.00 (employees that waive insurance benefits)

A motion was made by Rasmusson, seconded by Steele to approve the claims as presented.

Board Member Health Insurance Benefits:

Kasper reviewed last month's meeting's discussion in regards to the committee's recommendation to the County Board to omit the health insurance benefit from the board members compensation and presented options for increasing the premiums paid by board members and their families.

Personnel Committee member Boggs asked to review the motion that was recommended from the Personnel Committee to the Insurance Committee. Kasper read the motion, "A motion was made by Boggs, seconded by Gill to make a recommendation to the Insurance Committee the approval of HR's proposal with a future goal being the elimination of health insurance benefits for board members. Motion carried".

Steele stated that he felt that he shouldn't make a decision that will affect the next board. Rasmusson felt that it should go to the County Board for a vote, since it's already on the agenda and Welter stated that he has not changed his view; just allowing more time to review the matter. A motion was made by Welter, seconded by Steele to withdraw the recommendation to the County Board to omit the board member health insurance benefits. Upon roll call, three ayes (Steele, Welter, Ly) one nay (Rasmusson). Motion carried. The committee instructed Kasper to submit a letter to each board member stating the potential changes being considered and ask for feedback on the issue.

The committee reviewed the executive session minutes dated:
12-7-07, 9-7-09, 6-12-09, 6-5-09, 5-8-09, 4-3-09, 3-6-09, 2-6-09, 1-9-09, 11-5-10. A motion was made by Rasmusson, seconded by Steele to not release the executive minutes. Motion carried. Kasper is to check with the States Attorney's office to see if these executive session minutes have to be reviewed due to the nature of the content.

A motion to adjourn was made by Steele, seconded by Welter. Motion carried.