



BENEFITS COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 7, 2010

A meeting of the Benefits Committee was held on Wednesday, April 7, 2010, at 3:00 p.m., in SU-18.

A. Call to Order

John Tortarolo called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Members Present: Sheila Atkins, Dr. Andrea Bell, Dr. Ken Burns, Jayne Conway, Dr. Bonnie Dowd, Sherry Gordon, Lee Hoffmann, Lisa Hornsby, Phyllis Laderman, Becky McCluskey, Jean Ruff, Dr. Omar Scheidt, , John Tortarolo, Dr. Rocco Versaci

Ex-Officio Members Present: Lucy Nelson, Tammy Reed (JPA)

Members Absent: Jim Bowen, Dave Forsyth, John Goldsworthy, Cheryl McCarron, Josie Silva

Ex-Officio Members Absent: None

Guests: None

C. Minutes

The March 3, 2010 meeting minutes were approved with one correction. Sandy Nanninga is no longer representing PACRA, and Jean Ruff has taken her place. This was not correctly noted in the March minutes.

D. Old Business

None.

E. New Business

1. Tammy started to review the Rolling 12's, but as the report was incomplete, it was decided to wait until a complete report could be obtained. Tammy will send an electronic copy of the report and it will be disseminated to all committee members by email.
2. John discussed the need for additional meetings and the problems encountered with coordinating schedules and finding meeting space. Another attempt will be made for a meeting the week of July 12, 2010. All committee members are asked to respond when they receive an email regarding this. In the meantime, discussion documents will be circulated electronically to keep everyone informed. Whatever is discussed at the July meeting will be sent out promptly via email.
3. John reviewed information as we have it at this time regarding changes effected by the health care reform bill passed by Congress. There are still a number of unknowns, but we will communicate additional information as it becomes available.
4. John made a correction to one point made at last month's meeting. It is his understanding that if one is already retired and has benefits with the District, coverage and out of pocket costs at the time of retirement remain in effect. He will follow up with legal counsel on this issue.

5. Tammy Reed reported on the progress so far with plan design changes. The actuaries are still working on these changes. A "risk pool" with two or three plan designs is being researched, and all districts are invited to meetings to discuss the designs. There will likely be higher levels for out of pocket and deductibles, but will include new wellness items.

She also updated the committee on the issue of obtaining quotes for business from three well-known insurers. Two of them, BlueCross and United Healthcare, have declined to quote our business. BlueShield had requested additional information and we are waiting on their response. BlueCross and United Healthcare cited excessive claims and a high retiree population as primary reasons for declining to quote.

Discussion and comments:

- The conflict of interest with the FBC continuing to act as a broker as well as plan provider
- The need to get an update from the actuary
- The proposed excise tax within the health care reform bill
- Medicare supplemental coverage plans

6. A request was made to convert monthly premiums for *voluntary* products from 12 monthly payments to 10. This will alleviate the summer double billing process for those employees who are on a 10- or 11-pay cycle. The premiums would not increase on an annualized basis, but would be divided by 10 instead of by 12. The result would be a slightly higher premium during the 10 months, but with no premium taken at all during June and July. The committee requested a list of the products involved and will discuss with their constituent groups, reporting back at the May meeting.

F. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 5, 2010 (SU-203)