

Minutes of Meeting
Budget Deliberations - Benefits
June 25, 2014
2:00 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee, Commissioner Dan Green, and Commissioner Jai Nelson met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Treasurer Tom Malzahn, Chief Deputy Assessor Richard Houser, Staff Accountant Kimberli Price, Chief Deputy Clerk Pat Raffee, Finance Director David McDowell, Benefits/Risk Management Specialist Dorothy Cross, Prosecutor Barry McHugh, Human Resources Director Skye Reynolds, and Deputy Clerk Brandie Bradley. Mercer Representatives Lois Morris and Dani Baker, and LMM Leadership Group President Wade Larson joined the meeting by telephone.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Tondee called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

B. Introductions: There were no introductions made.

C. Changes to the Agenda: There were no changes made to the agenda.

D. Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

E. New Business:

Mercer Representative Lois Morris updated the attendees on the option of renewing with Blue Cross of Idaho as compared to changing to Regence Blue Shield. Ms. Morris advised that Regence Blue Shield is competitive and has made an offer less than that proposed by Blue Cross of Idaho. The attendees discussed the benefits of staying with Blue Cross of Idaho as opposed to changing to Regence Blue Shield. Human Resources Director Skye Reynolds advised that there will be a transition period should the County elect to change to Regence Blue Shield. Ms. Reynolds outlined the steps that would be included in the transition and explained that there would be a time commitment to ensure that this transition is seamless. The Board directed the Human Resources staff to move forward with transitioning from Blue Cross of Idaho to Regence Blue Shield.

Ms. Reynolds noted that Regence Blue Shield will contribute \$15,000 to the County's Wellness Program. LMM Leadership Group President Wade Larson suggested that the County use these funds as an incentive to participate in wellness activities such as Walking Your Way. These incentives would be managed by Wellness Your Way.

The attendees discussed the LifeMap voluntary life insurance program and the implementation of Mystro Online Enrollment. The Board agreed to continue to offer this benefit to the employees without the online enrollment option.

Ms. Reynolds advised the Board that she has been working with Magnuson McHugh and Co. to renew the County's contract with them, but was recently notified that Magnuson McHugh and Co. plans to charge the County for these services. Ms. Reynolds and Ms. Morris agreed to have further conversations with Magnuson McHugh and Co. to see if this issue can be resolved.

Ms. Morris advised that Mercer is requesting an increase of \$5,000 along with five percent (5%) commissions from LifeMap enrollment. The Board inquired about the enhanced services that would be provided in conjunction with this increase. Ms. Morris advised that Mercer is very committed to improving the benefits that are offered to the County. Chairman Tondee advised that he does not believe that Mercer has followed through with the services that they promised to provide and did not support the increase. Commissioner Green and Commissioner Nelson supported the increase for Mercer.

Ms. Morris, Mr. Larson and Mercer Representative Dani Baker exited the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

The attendees briefly discussed Open Enrollment policy changes and date change to October 17th of each year. Ms. Reynolds also noted that the Wellness Fair would be held on September 12, 2014.

- F. Staff Reports:** There were no staff reports.
- G. Public Comment:** This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

JIM BRANNON, CLERK

TODD TONDEE, CHAIRMAN

BY: _____
Brandie Bradley, Deputy Clerk
