

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners met in special session on Monday, April 29, 2013, at 5:30pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina. The purpose of this meeting is for insurance/budget discussions.

Present: Chair Larry Cox, Vice-Chair Tom Smith, Commissioner Larry Davis, Commissioner Karen Leys, County Manager Don Adams, and Clerk to the Board Karen Evans. Commissioner John Goudreau was present but arrived late.

Chair Cox called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

County Manager Don Adams explained the purpose of the meeting is for Mark Browder with Mark III to present employee health insurance proposals for the Board's consideration.

Mark Browder reviewed a PowerPoint presentation showing information about Mark III, their customers, Alleghany County's experience for 2011-12 and 2012-13 through November 2012, renewal calculation based on claims showing a possible 32% increase, companies that the medical plan was marketed to, CIGNA's proposals ranging from 26.78% to 13.26%, BCBS's options with option 7 of a 13.13% increase being their recommendation.

County Manager Don Adams explained that these options were discussed with the department heads, and the 13.13% increase option was the preferred option, as a whole. He further explained that one BCBS option which was the closest to CIGNA significantly changes the benefits. He said if the Board chooses to go to this level it takes away this option for next year. He reiterated this recommendation allows enough room for conversations next year and provides two years to try to improve claims. He asked Mark Browder how to improve so the County doesn't see 20-30% increases annually.

Mark Browder answered to reduce the claims and improve the health of the population.

Chair Cox and Mark Browder talked about it takes a couple of years for a wellness program to have an impact on the renewals.

Commissioner Smith and Mark Browder talked about BCBS puts emphasis on wellness, and they start with a wellness strategy.

Commissioner Goudreau arrived at 5:53pm.

Commissioner Leys and Mark Browder talked about who other entities use for their wellness program.

County Manager Don Adams reiterated that going with the 13% plan it buys the County two more years.

Commissioner Leys and Mark Browder talked about how many of their current customers use BCBS.

Commissioner Leys talked about it was an excellent job on the comparison presentation. She said that option 7, 13.13%, is the best option. She asked if there is anything on the downside to this plan.

Mark Browder stated that the downside would be the 4th tier of specialty medicines.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the costs for option 7, 13.13% increase; General Fund \$108,714 after the reimbursements; Transfer Facility \$5,059, Transportation \$2,480, E-911 \$992. He stated that total Alleghany County funds are \$117,245 or \$132,918 without the reimbursements.

Commissioner Goudreau said that he has reviewed the information and thinks that option 7 is the best. He stated his appreciation for the hard work.

Commissioner Davis stated that option 7 is a good deal.

Chair Cox and Mark Browder talked about the healthcare reform requires 60 days before changes are made and employers must notify employees.

Commissioner Leys made a motion to approve option 7 with BCBS for health insurance for County employees. Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Being no further business, Commissioner Smith made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05pm. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans, Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Larry Cox, Chairman