

MINUTES
POLICY AND PLANNING BOARD MEETING
OFFICE OF GROUP BENEFITS

January 26, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Aubrey Temple, chairman, called the meeting of the Policy and Planning Board to order.

ROLL CALL

Members Present

Dr. Merline Broussard
Mr. Russell Culotta
Dr. James Calvin*
Dr. Barbara Cicardo*
Mr. James Donelon*
Mr. Buford Huckleberry
Mr. James Lee
Mr. Hubert Lincecum
Representative Tank Powell
Mr. William Quinlan
Mr. Jackie Self
Mr. Aubrey Temple

Members Absent

Mr. Mark Brown
Senator James David Cain
Mr. Charles Lazare
Mr. Jimmy LeBlanc

Roll call indicated nine board members present, representing a quorum.

*Dr. Calvin, Dr. Cicardo, and Mr. Donelon arrived after roll call.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 15, 2004 AND OCTOBER 28, 2004
BOARD MEETINGS**

The minutes of the October 15, 2004 and October 28, 2004 meetings were presented for approval. There being no objections, the minutes were approved as presented.

FY 2005-06 PLAN OF BENEFITS

Mr. Wall advised the Board that the Division of Administration made no changes to the FY 2005-06 Plan of Benefits. He also stated that United Healthcare will administer the statewide EPO for the 2005-06 plan year. He also cautioned that plan members that reside out-of-state should consider enrolling in the EPO to have access to a broader network. Mr. Lincecum stated that the PPO covers benefits for out-of-state, but the benefits are drastically reduced. OGB pays 70% of OGB's fee schedule, and the member must pay the 30% plus the difference in the OGB's fee schedule and the total of his or her bill. He also stated that the PPO has a contract with MD Anderson for cancer services only. Mr. Wall added that if you are retired and under Medicare and the hospital accepts Medicare, then you will not have this issue, because OGB coordinates benefits with Medicare.

Mr. Temple stated that every effort needs to be made to educate the plan members regarding out-of-state benefits. Mr. Lincecum stated that this information will be provided at annual enrollment meetings, as well as put in the newsletter that goes out quarterly. Mr. Wall also stated that a presentation will be put on the OGB website which will stress these types of issues.

The MCO will remain for the 2005-06 plan year with a possible change in its formulary. Humana, as well, may have changes to its formulary. Mr. Wall stated that the premiums will be increasing for all of the plans.

Mr. Wall advised the Board that in October 2005, OGB would start the bidding process for contracting for plan administrators for effective July 1, 2006.

Mr. Wall reported that OGB would be doing HR training for agencies in March for the upcoming annual enrollment period.

LIFE INSURANCE

Mr. Wall reported that OGB received cancellations for the life insurance program from many of the St. Tammany Parish School Board employees. The St. Tammany Parish School Board has another vendor offering employees a life insurance program. Mr. Wall reported that if the cancellations continue and other school board members cancel their life insurance policies, this would have a dramatic effect on the life insurance offered by OGB.

After further discussions, Mr. Temple appointed Mr. Culotta, Mr. Self, Mr. Quinlan, and Rep. Powell to a committee to work with OGB staff to review the options for the life insurance program and to report back to the Board on their findings. Mr. Culotta will chair the committee.

CEO REPORTS

Mr. Wall reviewed an article from the *Wall Street Journal* regarding the price increases on popular drugs. The article reported that the majority of top selling medications cost more since elections, and they have risen between 2.9 and 5 percent. OGB's drug program has been level for the last three years, but is up this year approximately seven million dollars from last year.

Mr. Wall presented two articles, one from *Business Insurance* in which he was quoted and another in *Oracle* on the OGB computer program.

Mr. Wall also discussed an e-mail he received from someone from another state on issues of how she has the same problem about getting employees educated and interested in the annual enrollment benefits information process.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Temple asked about the status of the building lease. Mr. Wall stated that the building lease issue is still under review at this time.

Dr. Cicardo asked about the health savings accounts issue. Mr. Wall stated that no new plans will be offered this year, but may be offered the following year.

Mr. Wall reviewed the benefits of a flexible spending account for plan members.

Mr. Donelon asked about the school boards that were in arrears with their premiums. Mr. Wall reported that the Bogulsa City School System has paid its premiums. Pointe Coupee Parish School Board is paying as per their corrective action plan. Franklin Parish School Board has requested an additional time extension for their corrective action plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No request for public comments.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Temple adjourned the meeting, with no opposition.

Mr. Aubrey Temple, Chairman