Group Benefits Estimating Conference Minutes  
Wednesday, September 25, 2019  
10:00 AM  
Department of Insurance  
Poydras Building Hearing Room  
1702 N. 3rd Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

I. Call to Order
   a. Roll Call

   **PRESENT:**
   Nick Albarens  
   Travis McIlwain  
   Chas Nichols  
   Bill Guerra

   **ABSENT:**
   Manfredo Dix  
   David Dillon

II. Approval of Minutes from August 27, 2019 Meeting
   a. Motion to approve Minutes was made by Mr. McIlwain and seconded by Mr. Albarens. Motion was unanimously approved.

III. Public Comment
    None.

IV. Discussion of Medicare Market Exchange with HRA Contract

Mr. Teague advised that the Office of State Procurement ("OSP") previously issued an Invitation to Bid ("ITB") for OGB’s Health Reimbursement Account ("HRA"). Via Benefits, the holder of OGB’s current HRA contract, submitted the only response. The contract proposed is for a three year term, with the option of two additional 12-month extensions.

In its response, Via Benefits objected to certain provisions within the ITB required by OSP, and proposed other provisions which are objectionable to OSP. Negotiations continue. If an agreement is not reached by September 27, 2019, 764 plan members will be affected, which may require that they choose coverage under another OGB sponsored plan.
In response to Mr. McIlwain’s question, Mr. Teague advised that the Medicare Market Exchange contract, if agreement is reached, will be effective January 1, 2020.

Motion was made by Mr. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Albares, to accept and present the information provided by Mr. Teague as official information to OGB’s Policy and Planning Board. Motion was unanimously approved.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Adjournment
   a. Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Nichols, seconded by Mr. Albares, and unanimously approved.

Approved by Conference:  
Date Approved: 7/20/2020