I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Schu called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m.

II. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS

A. Commissioner of Finance

1. Stop Loss – Mrs. Hurd-Harvey requested authorization to change the carrier on our health insurance stop loss coverage from Sun Life to Excellus. Our benefits consultant, Gallagher has been shopping for our stop loss coverage for our self-funded health insurance plan. Both have proposed identical coverage. Both have the $800,000 self-insured retention. Both have a cap of 50 percent on 2023; they will both go no higher than an additional 50 percent of premium. Additionally, neither will do laser claims for 2023. She explained they have the ability to say that they are not taking specific individuals, but both have agreed not to do that for 2023.

Mrs. Hurd-Harvey stated currently we have 792 contracts and we are paying $12.27 as a composite rate for family and individual which is about $116,658 for 2021. That amount goes up and down based on enrollment. Plus we pay $.83 per contract to Excellus when we don’t use their stop loss. This is a fee Excellus charges because they have to work with the stop loss carrier. That fee amounts to $7,888 for a total cost of $124,546. The Sun Life renewal came in at $15.09 per contract plus the $7,888. The total for 2022 would be almost $159,000. The Excellus proposal came in at $13.50 and then we would not have that extra $.83 per month per contract, so that brings the total annual cost to $128,304. The cost for 2022 over 2021 is about $4,000. The cost differential between Excellus and Sun Life for 2022 is about $31,000.

MOTION: AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO CONTRACT WITH EXCELLUS AS THE COUNTY’S HEALTH INSURANCE STOP LOSS CARRIER FOR A COST OF $13.50 PER MONTH PER CONTRACT MADE BY MS. LATTIMER. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK FOR DISCUSSION.

Mr. Van Etten asked how long have we been with Sun Life? Mrs. Hurd-Harvey replied this is either our third or fourth year. Ms. Fitzpatrick asked who were we with before? Mrs. Hurd-Harvey replied prior to Sun Life we did not have stop loss on health insurance.

Ms. Lattimer asked do you have any thoughts that this might be stepping off a cliff with respect to going to this? There is a savings and I think obviously this is something that we should do. Can you see any drawbacks going forward in the future? Mrs. Hurd-Harvey replied none. The only thing we could conceivably do would be to drop the $800,000 down to $500,000 or something in between. Based on our claims, I would not recommend
that. Most of our claims are in the $100,000 to $300,000 range. We had one claim last year, 2020, that was over the $800,000. Of course that may occur more and more as time goes on because medical costs keep rising and the cost of biologics keep rising. We will approach that more and should probably look at that every year. Currently we have many that are over $50,000 - $100,000 but we are not approaching $500,000 very often.

VOTE ON PREVIOUS MOTION: ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN MADE BY MR. SWACKHAMER. SECONDED BY MS. FITZPATRICK. ALL BEING IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIES 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted by

Amanda L. Chapman
Deputy Clerk
Steuben County Legislature