

Cochise Combined Trust
Minutes of Wednesday, April 20, 2016
Quarterly Trust Meeting

Trustees Present:

Julie Morales, Vice Chairperson/Treasurer
J.D. Rottweiler, Trustee
Jim Vlahovich, Trustee

Trustees Present by Telephone:

Wendy Davis, Chairperson

Others Present:

Wendy De La Cruz, Cochise County
Linda Nichols, Cochise College
Ed Gilligan, Cochise County
Stephanie Moore, ECA

Other present by Telephone:

Erin Collins, ECA
Karla Anderson, Navitus
Laura Phillipson, Navitus

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Vice-Chairman/Treasurer Morales.

2. Approval of the January 26, January 27 and March 2, 2016 Trust Meeting Minutes.

There were two corrections to the January 7, 2016 minutes to item 7. It was clarified that the \$1.00 PEPM received by ECA for dental was originally initiated in July 2008 when the Trust members changed to a self-funded Dental plan as specific data has to be compiled and reported for each entity to receive an accurate bill for services. The second correction to item 7 was that it was Trustee Rottweiler that seconded the motion not Chairman Davis. Chairman Davis asked for a second for the motion.

Trustee Vlahovich made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Trustee Rottweiler seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the December 2015, January 2016 and February 2016 Financials

Chairman Davis made a motion to approve the December 2015, January 2016 and February 2016 Financials. Trustee Vlahovich seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Prescription Appeal

Stephanie Moore summarized the information that had been submitted on behalf of the member and described the Prior Authorization process that is in place through Navitus to provide access to non-formulary prescriptions. Stephanie recommended that the Trustees deny the appeal based on the failure of the Physician/Member to fulfill the Prior Authorization process. Stephanie invited the Trustees to ask questions of Karla Anderson and Laura Phillipson from Navitus who were attending the meeting telephonically. There was discussion regarding why the medication in question is not on the Formulary. Navitus Clinical Pharmacist Anderson replied that they had not seen increased efficacy over the current formulary so it was not added. Trustee Rottweiler asked for verification that the Physician understood the requirements to fulfill the Prior Authorization process. Stephanie Moore stated that she had communicated this several times to the Physician and that he indicated to proceed with the appeal without either trying a formulary ACE inhibitor or finding out from the prior physician if one of the formulary ACE inhibitors had been prescribed or tried through samples.

Trustee Rottweiler made a motion to deny the appeal based on the information provided by ECA and Navitus, Trustee Vlahovich provided a second and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Vendor Reports

- AmeriBen – It was reported a slight decrease in membership and a 10.2% increase in overall claim costs. There was a discussion about the air ambulance claims and how these are processed pursuant to the Plan Document as well as why each member may have a different amount of co-insurance to do meeting the out-of-pocket maximum. It was also noted that there were approximately 127 avoidable ER visits and that with the opportunity to try Teladoc without a risk this may decrease.
- Ameritas – It was reported that this year is basically flat compared to last year but with an increase of approximately 3% in PPO utilization. There was also a discussion regarding the communication issue with Ameritas and Stephanie reported that she is confident the staff from Ameritas, AmeriBen and ECA now all have the appropriate contacts for communication to prevent claims or eligibility be “turned off” for members.
- EAP Preferred – EAP reported that 21 participants utilized the service through 29 activities and 1 unique user utilized the Work-Life Services. It was decided to produce a mailer to be sent to the members’ homes to educate on the services available and encourage utilization.
- EyeMed – The report indicated that utilization and membership was running similar to last year’s numbers.
- Minnesota Life – The approvals, pending application, denials and death claims number were reported.
- Navitus – It was reported that the utilizing members and prescriptions filled had increased slightly in the first quarter of 2016. The specialty medication approved on appeal by Trustees accounted for \$162,389 of the first quarter 2016. Antivirals increased due to 2 members undergoing Hepatitis C therapy. These members should complete their therapy in the second quarter. Specialty prescriptions represented 63.37% of total plan paid and generic utilization is running at 82.5%.
- Teladoc – The report provided shows low utilization for the first quarter of 2016. Stephanie shared with Trustees that she had discussed the two \$0 consultation fee visits

with the Cochise College members at the recent benefits fair. Most were pleased to hear about Teladoc and were looking forward to trying it risk free. Stephanie reported that the marketing campaign for the “Two Free Consultations” and Medical History completion drawings will begin in May and that she will procure the items for the giveaways.

- Humana Vitality – Stephanie communicated that Humana Vitality stated that this report did not have much information to report as the information from the Health Risk Assessments and Biometric data had not yet been loaded into the system. They did report that as of the end of March 2016, 357 members had completed a Health Risk Assessment and 432 members had earned points.

6. Reinsurance Renewal

Trustee Rottweiler made a motion to allow ECA to work directly with the Trust Chairperson, Wendy Davis, to negotiate and bind the Trust on the reinsurance offering that is in the Trust’s best interest, seconded by Trustee Vlahovich and passed unanimously.

7. Administrative Update

It was announced that Bethany would be leaving ECA near the end of the month and ECA would be recruiting for a new Group Benefits Specialist but that Elena would be assisting until someone is hired and trained. It was also suggested that the Trustees select their renewal meeting dates now to obtain the best selection and pricing of venues. January 25, 26 and 27, 2017 were selected. Stephanie shared that Chairman Davis had asked for some refinements in the future minutes and indicated that this would be done. She also asked Trustees and staff to be sure to share if there was anything they would like to see done differently. Stephanie offered to add a suggested motion to each item memo. It was decided to include a “Staff Recommendation” to each memo in bold print.

8. Future Agenda Items

There were no items submitted for future agenda items.

9. Set Next Meeting Date

The next Regular Trust Meeting was scheduled for August 3, 2016 at Cochise College.

10. Call to the Public

There were no members of the public present.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Stephanie Moore
Recording Secretary