

# CLEVELAND COUNTY BUDGET BOARD

## MINUTES

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2016**

The special scheduled meeting of the Cleveland County Budget Board was called to order at 2:30 a.m. this 28th day of September 2016 by Chairman Harold Haralson, in Judge Stephen Bonner's Courtroom located at 200 S. Peters Ave., Norman, OK 73069, due to a scheduling change in meeting rooms, signs were posted to meet in the Law Library on 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Cleveland County Courthouse; however, without prior knowledge or warning the room was occupied by individuals having a court ordered mediation session. Deputy County Clerk Linda Atkins stood at the door to direct everyone to Judge Bonner's courtroom which was previously reserved as a backup in case there was a conflict in using the Law Library. Tammy Belinson, County Clerk/Secretary, called roll and those present were:

Harold Haralson, Chairman  
Jim Reynolds, Vice-Chairman  
Tammy Belinson, Secretary  
Rod Cleveland, Member  
Sheriff Joseph Lester, Member  
Darry Stacy, Member  
David Tinsley, Member  
Marilyn Williams, Member

Others present were: Assistant District Attorney Jim Robertson, Assistant District Attorney Heather Darby, Linda Atkins, Melinda Duke, Teri Cox, Jacob McHughes, Jerry Guy, Darena Smith, John Roberts, Melanie Casillas and Todd Gibson.

### **A. Items of Business:**

1. Chairman Harold Haralson called for **presentation and recommendation** by Gallagher Benefit Services and County Health Insurance Review & Oversight Committee regarding Employee Insurance Plan for the calendar year 2017.

Chairman Haralson said that several meetings were had about this before coming to the Budget Board to present this information to find what the pleasure of the Budget Board is. After their meeting last night, which was the second after two rather long meetings, it was decided to present the information to the Board to decide what to do or to ask any questions.

After their meeting last night with Jerry Guy, they came up with a list of pros and cons. They hope the information will address some issues that were brought up. A copy of the list was given to each one present. He said that staying with OMES; the pro side is stability and no potential to have transitional care issues. The county is looking at an annual 8% increase in cost going forward. By taking a look at the national scene, it isn't going to decrease much. Benefits will decrease due to cost increases. Potential "Cadillac Plan" surcharges; again, there is no way of knowing what is going to happen there. That may or may not happen. OMES have less staffing, less work, and less management

involved. There is little benefit from the Wellness Programs to recoup any potential decrease charges from Health Choice, if the county continues down that path.

Self-insured: The County has a potential for \$200,000 in initial savings in the first year. This could be reinvested for additional programs for employees. Retainable savings for additional employee benefits; self-control of the benefits long-term becomes somewhat of a potential for liability. There are insurance coverages for that however. More local control; self-control of costs spikes; ability to leverage Wellness Programs; ability to change plan design; self-determination of new and improved benefits; enhanced dependent care via managed clinic; maintain reserves; direct influence on local network benefits; and potential for integrated flexible savings account program (FSA).

Both of the Third Party Administrators (TPAs) have agreed to administer the exact same benefits as the current 2017 OMES offerings with the same premium structure as is currently available.

Both TPAs have their own provider network offerings that are 95-98% mirrored to the most utilized providers in the current network.

If the Board decides to go self-insured the primary difference between the two TPAs is a consideration of flexibility versus name brand network.

2. Chairman Haralson called for discussion, consideration and/or action in approving a recommendation by the **Budget Board to present to the Board of County Commissioners** regarding the Employee Insurance Plan for the Calendar year.

He explained that the next steps in the self-insurance process is, if a decision is made to go self-insured, is to select the TPA; formalize the direct contracts for dental, vision and life insurance and begin the implementation process.

Tammy Belinson said she did have a lot of questions yesterday, only because she was feeling rushed, but has gotten some answers since that time. Most of all she wanted to know numbers and what the county is looking at to budget. There is a concern about asset liability as well. If the county remains with the state all of the liability is on the State.

Jim Reynolds discussed his concerns and concluded that more information is needed such as a contract for legal counsel to review.

Darry Stacy said that his biggest concern is that he wants all of the departments to do this together and be on the same page because this is a big change for every employee and looks forward to move in this direction.

Darenda Smith said the TPA has to have time to implement, but ultimately, as Darry Stacy said, “We should do it together”.

Jerry Guy said he can get some information back to the Board in a week.

Tammy Belinson said that more time is needed to work on this.

Jerry Guy said this is a major endeavor and everyone should feel comfortable about doing this.

Following discussion, Darry Stacy moved to **table** Item No. 2 - **Budget Board to present to the Board of County Commissioners** regarding the Employee Insurance Plan for the Calendar year until a later date.

Rod Cleveland seconded the motion.

The vote was: Harold Haralson, yes; Jim Reynolds, yes; Tammy Belinson, yes; Rod Cleveland, yes; Sheriff Joe Lester, yes; Darry Stacy, yes; David Tinsley, yes; Marilyn Williams, yes.

Motion carried.

**B. No Board Members** discussion was had about **County Business**.

**C. No comments** from the **public** were made.

**D.** There being no further business to come before the Board, Darry Stacy moved that the meeting be **adjourned** at approximately 4:13 p.m. Sheriff Joe Lester seconded the motion.

The vote was: Harold Haralson, yes; Jim Reynolds, yes; Tammy Belinson, yes; Rod Cleveland, yes; David Tinsley, yes; Marilyn Williams, yes.

Motion carried.

(Clerk's Note: Agenda was posted on September 23, 2016 @ 2:26 pm.)

**BUDGET BOARD**  
CLEVELAND COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

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Harold Haralson, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

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Tammy Belinson, County Clerk and Secretary to the Board

Minutes Prepared by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy County Clerk

