

May 15, 2023

Board met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. Members present Jeff Tindle, Diana Dawley, and Jason Roudabush.

Chairman Roudabush led the pledge of allegiance.

Moved by Tindle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dawley to approve agenda. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Dawley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tindle to approve May 11, 2023 board minutes. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Tindle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dawley to approve cigarette/tobacco/nicotine/vapor permit renewal application for Pilot Travel Center #495, Brooklyn. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Moved by Dawley, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Tindle to approve utility permit #23-38U to MidAmerican Energy Company for work in Section 35, Pleasant Township and Section 2, Union Township. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

Board reviewed and discussed three options provided by North Risk Partners for the 2023 Poweshiek County Employee Health Plan renewal with Wellmark. The first option was to keep with the current Wellmark PPO with no changes in benefits, staying in grandfathered status, by renewing “as is”. Option two provided a change to Blue Access HMO, staying in grandfathered status. The current PPO plan would still be offered for the difference in the County’s cost share based on the HMO plan and members would be offered to buy up on the PPO option. The Blue Access HMO plan covered doctors and facilities within Iowa but would not cover an individual preference to obtain care out-of-state. It would still cover emergency care out-of-state. Chiropractic care would still be covered but there are some chiropractors that are not a member on the HMO plan. If an employee is utilizing a chiropractor not a provider under the HMO plan, they could buy up to the PPO plan in which the chiropractor participates. The third option references the second option with the adjustment to allow for a 90-day supply on retail maintenance drugs. The HMO plan carries a 9.96% increase in funding costs and the PPO plan carries a 19.75% increase in funding. Board reviewed a chiropractic disruption report from Wellmark which contains the current utilized PPO providers vs. the disruptions that might occur if the county adds Blue Access HMO plan. There would be a disruption in some members’ claims for chiropractic care, but they could continue to use the non-network provider but would be responsible for the charges. Chiropractors are probably the biggest issue when changing from PPO to HMO network. Wellmark has advised they are not adding providers to the HMO network. The key to this change is going to be educating employees.

The board discussed and felt with the cost savings, the Blue Access HMO option with the 90-day drug limit on retail maintenance drugs would be best for the county at this time. The cost savings is 10% for the county and depending on the agreed funding by the county, this would generate anywhere from \$130,000 to \$180,000 in cost savings for the county. Board advised Auditor to contact North Risk Partners and advise of the decision and to schedule employee educational meetings and correspondence.

Dawley stated she has a meeting Tuesday with City of Grinnell and Interstate Crush representative.

Tindle stated he attended the May 10 middle Iowa river watershed management authority formation meeting. The watershed organizers believe federal funding will become available, due to recently passed federal legislation, for members of the watershed to use. The watershed area includes most of the northern half of Poweshiek County. Each government entity located within the watershed will be asked to sign a 28E agreement with the watershed authority in order to draw on any available federal funds.

9:35 a.m. Moved by Tindle, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dawley to adjourn. 3 ayes. Motion carried.

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Melissa Eilander, Poweshiek County Auditor

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Jason Roudabush, Chairman